The following matters and events have occurred since the report of April 21, 2010:

**Special Education Graduation**
I spoke at the Special Education graduation last week. Nine students graduated from our program. I want to thank Trustees Arnie Levine, Gina Locatelli and Vic Marani for attending and addressing the graduates. As always, it was a very joyous occasion.

**Alternative Education Graduations**
In nine ceremonies over three days, the alternative education department is graduating a total of 201 students. We are extremely proud of this program that gives at risk students a chance at a diploma and a better life.

**Hartman School Mural**
On June 7th, the Hartman School unveiled its mural that was designed and painted by Hartman students. Precita Eyes in San Francisco, an inner city community-based mural arts organization, assisted in locating muralists in the Santa Cruz area who might be interested in working with incarcerated youth. We were given the names of Rafael Arana and Mauricio Ramirez, two art majors attending UCSC, who had worked with Precita Eyes in previous years. I was honored to be part of the dedication program. There is an article with pictures on our home page.

**SELPA Director**
Since the last Board meeting, we have hired a replacement in the position of Senior Director, North County Special Education Local Plan Agency. Harriett Maglin comes to us from Southern California and has an extensive background in special education.

**SPIN - Special Parents Information Network**
I met with SPIN personnel to talk about collaborating for the upcoming school year. The County Office of Education will once again co-sponsor a workshop for parents and others caring for handicapped children. The focus of the workshop is to help professionals and caregivers to acquire the skills and knowledge necessary to maximize their efficiency, effectiveness and impact while minimizing burnout, compassion fatigue, and stress.

**Community Corrections Partnership**
I met with various law enforcement personnel, judges, county health and human services and others to discuss the impact on county services by the return of prisoners from state prisons to county jails.

**Santa Cruz Regional Transportation Commission**
I spoke with Mark Haberman regarding a potential new transportation information system to guide the Commission and the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments’ decision on how to implement this new system.
Pajaro Valley Unified School District Student Art Show
I addressed the attendees at the reception for the 4th Annual Student Art Show at Civic Plaza. It was a wonderful to share this event with students and their families. The County Office assisted in the support of this event.

Monterey Region Climate Action Compact Summit
At the invitation of Fred Keeley, I attended the Climate Action Compact Summit to discuss how to address economic and environmental opportunity while still taking into account the effects of development on climate change.

Central Coast Education Forum
On May 25th, I attended the Central Coast Education Forum with special guest, State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson at the Steinbeck Center. In addition to Superintendent Torlakson’s address, other topics included healthy food options in schools, dual immersion an bi-lingual education and school funding.

Special Education Staff Meeting
At the last Special Education staff meeting, four staff members who were retiring were honored along with six others who were moving on to other jobs. I was able to attend to acknowledge their service to the County Office of Education.

Negotiation
Negotiations with both unions have been completed with the CTA having already ratified their tentative agreement and the classified union to ratify by the end of the month.

Math Contest
The awards ceremony was held for our annual Math Contest. It was well attended by students and parents. It was thrilling to see the smiles on the faces of students as they were called forward to receive their medals.

Santa Cruz County Reading Association Awards Ceremony
The County Reading Association met in our Board Room to hand out their annual Literacy Awards. They acknowledge both teachers and librarians in the public library system.

Esperanza Middle School Sailing Program
Our Alternative Education school, Esperanza Middle School enjoyed a day on Pinto Lake sailing the two person El Toro’s that they have refurbished over the past year. Teacher Dan McGuire leads the students through restoration of the donated boats and then teaches them to sail. Students acquire not only the skills involved but increased self-esteem.

Pajaro Valley High School Commencement
At the invitation of Principal Pancho Rodriguez, I attended the graduation ceremonies for the students of Pajaro Valley High School. I was honored to assist in the distribution of the diplomas. Of the 248 graduates, 190 are going on to community colleges with another 54 heading to four-year institutions. Four are enrolling in vocational training programs.

Beat Within Workshops
We are in discussion with Beat Within to provide a series of 1 to 1 ½ hour workshops to teach students the appreciation of various forms of literature and to develop writing skills. Journalists, writers and poets from the community will be invited to do guest presentations with the students. Older and more proficient students will be encouraged to mentor younger students.
**Santa Cruz Promise**
Meetings with other educators from all levels of education including Cabrillo College are continuing in an effort to bring about the Santa Cruz Promise: Academic and Career Success Initiative. This program will address college awareness beginning in the fourth grade with special curriculum and visits to college campuses. A public announcement is scheduled for August.

**Cabrillo’s Annual High School Principals Meeting**
Cabrillo College hosted its annual meeting of high school principals and superintendents. Discussion centered on career and technology education and introducing high school students to the college experience.

**2010 California Business for Education Excellence**
Pacific Collegiate Charter School has once again been named a California Business for Education Excellence Honor Roll School. The criteria is based on student achievement data, grade level proficiency and closing the achievement gap. Pacific Collegiate is one of 1,315 high schools recognized in California.

**ROP Young Entrepreneurs Project**
I attended the Regional Occupational Programs’ Young Entrepreneurs Project where ROP students presented their business plans.

**Model School Technology Integration**
Along with representatives from Educational Services, I met with Dorma Baker, superintendent, Pajaro Valley Unified and her director of technology, Tim Landeck to discuss ways to provide 21st Century classrooms in Pajaro Valley Unified School District.

**Retirement Events**
I have attended various retirement events over the last month including ones for Sharon Smith, superintendent, Pacific Elementary; Kathleen Howard, superintendent, Soquel Union Elementary; Curt Coleman, principal, Small Schools.

**Monthly and Regularly Scheduled Periodic Meetings**
- CCSESA Finance Committee
- Migrant Headstart Videoconference
- Tannery Board
- SECA