Subject: Superintendent’s Monthly Report to the Board
June 17, 2010

The following matters and events have occurred since the report of May 20, 2010:

**Retirements**
The County Office of Education is sending off some talented people to retirement. This year we have eleven retirees including:

- Bob Beach, Alternative Education, Hartman School
- Larry Tousey, Alternative Education, Highland School
- Nevenka Radich, ROP Retail Merchandising, Watsonville High
- Huve Rivas, ROP Video Productions, Watsonville High
- Annie Chapin, Visually Impaired, Special Education
- Cheryl Albert, Speech & Language, Special Education
- Judy Barbata, Speech & Language, Special Education
- Alice Talnack, Associate Superintendent, County Office of Education
- Mike James, Deputy Superintendent, County Office of Education
- Bill Sullivan, Administrative Aide to the Supt., County Office of Education

We applaud these people for their contributions to our students, staff and community. They have done an exemplary job and will be missed.

**Resignations**
Traci Hart, Director, Human Resources is leaving us to become the Director, Human Resources for the Superior Court of Santa Clara County. We thank her for her 8 years of service with the County Office of Education.

**Special Education/SELPA Director**
Interviews were held for the new Assistant Superintendent, Special Education/SELPA Director position. Salli Price-Welsh was selected to fill the position. She comes to us from Sutter County Office of Education where she served as Assistant Superintendent, Special Education. We were fortunate to find someone of her expertise. She has her Ph.D. in Educational Leadership from Berkeley and was highly recommended for her collaboration, effectiveness and support to staff.

**Retirements – Superintendents**
Along with our own retirements, two of our small schools superintendents are retiring this year. Chris McGriff, Happy Valley Elementary and Ken Miller, Mountain Elementary have just finished their last year at their respective schools. Michelle McKinney, formerly principal at San Lorenzo Elementary, will be taking over at Happy Valley. Mountain Elementary is currently working on finding a replacement.
Second Interim Report
We received a letter from the California Department of Education regarding the review of our Second Interim Report. We have again received a positive certification. I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to Mary Hart and the Business Department for all they do.

Alternative Education Graduation
Our Alternative Education Programs are doing a remarkable job of giving youth a new start. Our 17 programs had 212 graduates requiring that we hold nine graduations over three days. I was able to attend nearly all of them and was once again impressed at the perseverance of the students and the quality of teachers in our program. Thank you to those trustees who were able to attend one or more graduations.

Special Education Graduation
Our Special Education Department graduated 13 students on June 10th. It was a joyous time for students, staff and parents. I would like to extend a special thanks to the teachers who make sure that this transition is a successful one as the students move into adulthood.

Math Contest Awards Ceremony
Awards were presented to the winners of the Annual Math Contest at the ceremony on May 20th. Forty five winners, grades 5th through 8th, were presented with medals, ribbons and certificates. Congratulations to all the winners.

Esperanza Middle School Outing
Students from Esperanza Middle School had an outing at Pinto Lake where they enjoyed an afternoon away from the classroom and practiced their sailing skills on a boat built by students in the class.

SEEDS – Supporting Early Education Delivery Systems
We are working closely with the San Andreas Regional Center to address the transition of infants on the autistic spectrum to our preschool programs. Additionally, we are providing extensive training to our staff to work more effectively with children in the autistic spectrum.

Region 5 Collaboration Meeting
Tomorrow Theresa Rouse and I will be traveling to the Monterey County Office of Education to meet with our counterparts. We will be discussing ways in which we can collaborate across counties to make the best use of diminishing funds in the areas of technology, arts, math, science, business functions, and professional development. Region V consists of the county offices of education for Santa Clara, San Benito, Monterey, and Santa Cruz Counties.

Judge Joseph Irwin
I attended a celebration held by the Trial Lawyers Association honoring Judge Joe Irwin for his work with at-risk adolescents.

Leadership Santa Cruz
I completed my year with Leadership Santa Cruz. The last day was devoted to Agriculture in Santa Cruz County and consisted of visits to local farms. This program provides a great experience for attendees and culminates this evening with a dinner for participants. I will be attending the annual awards dinner.

**Aptos/Capitola Rotary**
The Aptos/Capitola Rotary invited me to speak to the state of schools in Santa Cruz County. I also introduced members to Inside Education and invited them to join in for the next year’s program.

**Alianza Elementary School**
I was pleased to attend a book giveaway at Alianza Elementary School sponsored by Jon Silver of Migrant Media Productions. Fifth graders were given the opportunity to select 10 books each to enjoy over the summer. With the cutbacks in summer school, this event was more important than ever.

**Broad-based Apprehension, Suppression, Treatment, and Alternatives (BASTA)**
I met with Chief Solano, Watsonville Police Department; Joe Trautwein, Pajaro Valley Unified; Linda Perez, Consultant, BASTA; and Sandy Mast, COE Alternative Education Director to plan next steps in the formation of a combined North and South County BASTA. Just this week, I met again with Linda Perez, Consultant, BASTA to monitor the progress in establishing this new collaboration, to develop a Memorandum of Understanding, and bylaws.

**COE Baseball Team**
The County Office of Education Baseball Team participated in the league playoffs on Sunday, May 23rd and finished in third place. I would like to thank Al Dixon and Johnny Rice who coordinate the season for employees. (The expenses related to playing are shared by the members of the team.)

**Upcoming Events**
**Santa Cruz School Boards Association** – will be meeting this evening, June 17th at New Brighton Middle School. The meeting will feature Senator Joe Simitian, sponsor of SB1381 Kindergarten Entry Age, as the keynote speaker. A fact sheet on this bill is available at Senator Simitian’s web page. The meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m.

**Board/Managers Retreat** – We are tentatively scheduling our annual Board/Manager’s Retreat for the morning of August 11th. I invite the Board members to participate in the annual review of the mission and goals and decisions regarding the direction of the County Office of Education for the next school year.

**Monthly and Regularly Scheduled Periodic Meetings**
- PVPSA
- Workforce Investment Board
- Migrant Head Start Board of Directors
- SECA Board
- Children’s Network -Executive Board
- Steinbeck Board of Directors
- Tannery Arts Council