Subject: Superintendent’s Monthly Report to the Board – July 16, 2015

The following matters and events have occurred since the Report of June 18, 2015

CRUZIO SANTA CRUZ COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

The Santa Cruz City Council unanimously voted to partner with local service provider Cruzio to investigate building an exponentially faster, cutting-edge, gigabit fiber-optic communication network throughout the city and for schools. The project’s infrastructure costs, preliminarily estimated at $52 million would likely be paid for through a city-issued bond. The early project time line estimates primary infrastructure completion by late 2018.

CCSESA ACCOUNTABILITY TASK FORCE

I attended a conference call on June 24, 2015 for the CCSESA Accountability Task Force. The major topics during the call were: CAHSEE suspension bill by Senator Liu; LCFF Evaluation rubrics; LCAP review and SBAC implementation.

CCSESA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

I attended the CCSESA Board of Directors and General Membership Meeting in Pasadena from June 28, 2015 – June 30, 2015. Highlights from the meeting included: 2015-16 Revised LCAP Approval Manual; How are county Offices Organizing to do the LCAP Work?; What the 2015-16 State Budget means to the County Superintendents and a special presentation by guest speaker Bernard Kinsey on the importance African American art, history and culture and the relevance for our schools.

BRIGHT BYTES

I along with Mary Anne James, Johnny Rice, John Armstrong and Adam Wade met with Sarah Skinner from Bright Bytes. Bright Bytes is an educational research organization that provides solutions for measuring the impact of technology on learning predictive early warning dropout prevention and measuring the impact of educational leadership traits on student success.

CAPITOL ADVISORS BUDGET PERSPECTIVE WORKSHOP

Barrett Snider and Abe Hajela from Capital Advisors Group, LLC gave a Budget Perspective Workshop here at the COE. Highlights of their presentation included: elimination of apportionment deferrals; the LCFF gap closure may take longer than 2021; one-time discretionary money dropped in the Governor’s final budget from $601.00 per ADA to $530.00; $40M in additional money to be given to COEs for LCAP/LCFF training to districts and $550M for certificated staff development training ($1,200.00 - $1,500.00 per teacher).
**SILICON VALLEY REGIONAL DATA TRUST**

I met with Rodney Ogawa from UC Santa Cruz and a select group of representatives from health/social service agencies and county counsel on July 2, 2015 to develop a presentation to County Supervisors to get their support. The purpose of the Data Trust is to create a regional integrated data system. The data system, while respecting privacy, would allow data sharing between county agencies, non-profits and school districts to inform regional policy, research and practice and improve the outcomes for the Valley’s children.

**CALIFORNIA COUNTY BOARDS OF EDUCATION (CCBE) CONFERENCE CALL**

I attended a conference call on July 6, 2015 with Kenn Young, Superintendent, Riverside COE and Peter Birdsell, Executive Director, CCSES to discuss the role that the County Office will play in support of low-performing school districts. A full presentation will be made to the CCBE in Sacramento on August 6, 2015.

**COLLEGE BOUND BROTHERHOOD AND IMPROVE YOUR TOMORROW**

I attended a CAAASA-sponsored event on July 14, 2015 in Sacramento. The event was to introduce two innovative programs aimed at increasing the number of African American males who have successfully completed high school and want to matriculate to college. College Bound Brotherhood is a multi-organizational collaborative aimed at increasing college access and the success of African-American young men who attend institutions of higher learning. Improve Your Tomorrow is a tuition-free college prep program specifically designed for young men of color.

I also attended a collaborative planning meeting between ACSA and CAAASA to go over the upcoming events (Health and Equity Leadership Institute and the CAAASA Annual Round-up) and legislative involvement for the rest of 2015.

**MAIA FOUNDATION**

I attended a fundraiser for the MAIA Foundation on July 16, 2015 at the Green Valley Grill in Watsonville. MAIA began in 1979 to improve the quality of life for all people of the Pajaro Valley. Historically, they have provided assistance in education and health by supporting innovative projects that benefit families who work the land and creating opportunities for underrepresented low income students to attend college. Since 2006, more than $750,000.00 in scholarship aid has been awarded to PVUSD graduating seniors.

**COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANT**

The Community Foundation of Santa Cruz County notified us that they have approved a one year grant of $25,000.00 to the COE to improve the knowledge and skill development of high schools students in Career Technical Education (CTE) and Core Academic subjects.

**GATES GRANT**

The Steering Community of the Santa Cruz County College Commitment (S4C) has been invited to submit a Planning Grant followed by a 3 year Comprehensive Grant to the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The Planning Grant could be approximately $150,000.00 and the Comprehensive Grant closer to $1M.
MCKINNEY-VENTO HOMELESS ASSISTANCE ACT

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act of 1987 is a United States federal law that provides federal money for homeless shelter programs. The Act also ensures homeless children transportation to and from school free of charge, allowing children to attend their school of origin (last school enrolled or the school they attended when they first became homeless). The SCCOE has administered this grant since 1989.

Our Students in Transition program began in 1995 to provide a myriad of services to homeless children. Our service strategies have been identified as best practices in the USDE Planning and Evaluation Service and made media headlines during the summer of 2004 with the success of students enrolled in the Alternative Education’s Vista Transition Program, and also for the Write-Start Backpack Project.

Unfortunately, 19 County Offices of Education were not funded to continue their support of homeless youth. Our County Office was one of those offices not funded. We will work to transition our activity to other non-profits determined to support this student population.

MANAGERS RETREAT

This year’s Managers’ Retreat will be held on Tuesday, August 18, 2015 at the De Anza Club House, 2395 Delaware Avenue. Breakfast will be at 8:30 with the retreat starting at 9:00. Board Members are invited from 8:30 – 10:00 to hear the departments’ visions for the 2015-16 school year.

Regular Monthly Meetings
Special Education Coordinating Agency Meeting  Agriculture Board Meeting
Migrant Head Start Videoconference  Children’s Network
Criminal Justice Council  S4C Steering Committee
CCSESA Executive Board  CCSESA Board of Directors
CCSESA Agenda Committee  CCSESA Accountability Task Force
Manager’s Meeting  Superintendent’s Council