United State Coast Guard Academy
We received a letter of commendation for Alternative Education teacher Tracy Schultz who has given of his time as an Admissions Partner to the Coast Guard Academy. He has volunteered his time and energy to attend college fairs and congressionally sponsored service academy events; developed relationships with his local high school educators and coaches; provided guidance to prospects, appointees, and their parents; and conducted applicant interviews and screenings.

Regional Occupational Medical Assisting Program
The Regional Occupational Programs has been testing applicants for the Medical Assisting Program classes for next year. They have close to 100 students testing for 1-2 classes of 30 each that will be taught out of the 399 Encinal ROP building.

CREEC Grant Funding
For the second year in a row, the Region 5 CREEC (California Regional Environmental Education Committee) Program, is one of eleven regional programs to receive a grant from the Environmental Education Programs of the California Department of Education. They will be receiving $31,890 to further the education of environmental education in the schools of Santa Cruz, Santa Clara, Monterey and San Benito Counties.

Board Policies
California School Boards Association recently returned to us copies of the policies we submitted for their review based on our Board and staff’s recommendations. Our task now is to review those policies for relevancy and accuracy. We will be asking the Board and staff to review the policies that relate to their duties. Once they have been reviewed, they will come to the Board for approval and posting to our web site.

Superintendents Meeting with Michael Fullan, Ben Levin, and Tom Torlakson
I was honored to one of a select number of superintendents invited to attend a dinner and all day meeting with Michael Fullan, Professor Emeritus, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education at the University of Toronto and renowned authority on education reform, as well as, Ben Levin, Professor and Canada Research Chair in Education Leadership and Policy, along with State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson. The discussion centered on essential partnerships between the CDE and local education agencies allowing for system wide improvement in education.

Santa Cruz Education Foundation
I participated in a Community Assessment Survey for Santa Cruz City Schools Education Foundation
California County Superintendents Educational Services Association (CCSESA)
I attended the quarterly meeting of CCSESA in Long Beach. Topics of discussion included Migrant Education, California Collaborative for Educational Excellence, Common Core Implementation, Preschool and Child Development, Special Education, Mental Health, Federal Advocacy, State Board of Education update, and the 3 R’s Project among others.

Write Start Back Pack Program
Our Write Start Back Pack Program has begun the annual campaign to collect school supplies for children whose parents are unable to afford the annual expense of preparing their students for school. All types of supplies from back packs to binders, paper and pencils are welcome. Donations of cash are also accepted. The only requirement is that back packs cannot be blue or red. The smiles on children’s faces when they receive their school supplies are priceless. The United Way is assisting our program with their ‘Stuff the Bus’ promotion.

Budget Workshop
Capitol Advisors Group, LLC from Sacramento presented a follow up budget workshop as more details of the new LCFF funding are released and deciphered. The workshop is free and brought in around 40 attendees from local school districts and surrounding counties. They will return again in the fall to further update everyone on developments.

United Way CAP Steering Committee
I attended the annual review of goals and objectives for the United Way Community Assessment Project. We also reviewed the nominations for the 2013 Community Heroes and selected finalists.

Project Zero Classroom
This next week, I will be joining a team of educators at a weeklong Project Zero Classroom Program at Harvard Graduate School of Education in July. The purpose of the Institute is to infuse public education leaders across our state, with the inspiration, knowledge, tools, strategies and relationships to lead for a creative and responsive teaching and learning system that will support the success of each and every child in school, career and citizenship.

Going Paperless
Research was done to evaluate a system for the Board to have Board agendas and packets on a mobile device instead of hard copies. Attached is the information. It would cost $700 per Board member and would require that all members agree to have their information provided in this manner and to use it in place of the current hard copies.

Monthly Meetings
Migrant Head Start Videoconference   School Employers Association of California
Agriculture Board   CCSESA Quarterly Meeting Prep Call
School Employers of California Board Meeting (SEAC)

Upcoming Events:
CCBE Fall Conference: September 27-29, Hyatt Regency, Monterey, CA (contact Cindy)
Orientation Day: Monday, August 26th, 8:30 a.m., location to be determined
Annual CSBA Conference: December 5-7, San Diego Marriott, San Diego (early registration by August 6th – contact Cindy)