The following matters and events have occurred since the report of September 8, 2011:

**State Superintendent Tom Torlakson**
The Santa Cruz County Office of Education hosted Superintendent Tom Torlakson for a visit which began by talking with students in regards to mentoring programs for high school students. He then met with approximately 90 educators, trustees and business leaders. He spoke only for a few minutes than answered questions from the audience for the majority of the time.

**SPIN (Special Parents Information Network) Workshop**
The County Office partnered with SPIN to provide a workshop on Preventing, Recognizing, and Surviving Compassion Fatigue. It was a workshop for parents of special needs children who often have very strenuous schedules due to their children’s disabilities.

**Bocce Ball**
Along with trustees Aaron Hinde, Gina Locatelli, Vic Marani, and Jack Dilles, I participated in a Bocce Ball fundraiser for Scotts Valley Education Foundation.

**Agri-Culture Board**
I attended the quarterly meeting of the Agri-Culture and am thrilled to report that the Santa Cruz County Agriculture Video/DVD has been selected for a national award from the America Farm Bureau Federation and will be featured at the National Convention in January 2012 in Honolulu, Hawaii. This is an unprecedented two year in a row win for our farm bureau.

**Central California Migrant Headstart Programs**
The U. S. Department of Health & Human Services Administration for Children & Families has named our Migrant Headstart Program as one of ten Centers of Excellence in Early Childhood. Programs must have long standing and consistent (see attached article)

**Positive Discipline Workshops**
The Santa Cruz County Office of Education is co-sponsoring Positive Discipline workshops for those who work with special needs students and another series of workshops intended for the parents of at risk youth. The first workshop is aimed at teachers, aides and parents. A second set of workshops will be held for parents of at risk youth.

**Williams Reports**
In November I will be making presentation before the Pajaro Valley Unified Board, the Live Oak Board and the Santa Cruz City Schools Board.
Workshops on Cyberbullying & Student Fees
The County Office of Education has the following workshops on tap:

November 1, 2011  Associated Student Body
                   -Elementary Session in a.m.
                   -Secondary Session in p.m.
Free to districts

November 2, 2011  Cyberbullying
Superintendents & School Administrators

November 10, 2011 School Fees
Superintendents & School Administrators
(see attachments)

Your Future is Our Business Luncheon
I gave the welcome at the annual Your Future is Our Business Luncheon. It was a well-attended with over 100 business leaders, educators and students. The student speakers were very impressive.

County Office of Education Survey
Over 200 employees have responded to the COE Employee Survey. The results are being tabulated and will be presented at the November Board meeting.

Inside Education
The Inside Education cadre met for the first in the series on September 8th as they were introduced to the world of preschool. Just yesterday, they met again and learned more about Career Technical Education and Regional Occupational Programs. They are a great group and very excited about learning more.

League of Woman Voters
On September 16th, I spoke to the League of Woman Voters on Confronting Issues and Creating Solutions for Schools in the 21st Century. It was a great audience who were very receptive and asked good questions.

CCBE (California County Boards of Education) Social
I attended the CCBE Social at the conference in Monterey and was able to meet many trustees and Board members to discuss current issues in education.

Classified Staff Professional Development Series
We have had overwhelming response from our classified staff to an opportunity to attend a professional development series of eight sessions meeting once a month. Due to the great response, we have had to add a second session each month. The topics provide information that can be used both in relationships in the workplace as well as enriching your personal life.
(schedule attached)

Region V Superintendents/Assistant Superintendents Meeting
Associate Superintendent Theresa Rouse and I attended the Region V meeting at the San Benito County Office of Education to discuss the ways in which we can collaborate and leverage resources. We are fortunate to have outstanding cooperation and sharing of information in our Region.

School Employers Association of California
I have been appointed to the School Employers of California Board of Directors. They are an organization offering education and professional development to school administrators on collective bargaining, building and protecting fiscal integrity with a focus on putting the interests of students first.
Dominican Hospital 70th Year Anniversary
I stopped by the celebration held to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the founding of Dominican Hospital. Our community is fortunate to have such a caring and stable hospital to serve our healthcare needs.

Pajaro Valley Shelter Services
Annette Melendrez, Program Manager, and Bert Post, Board President gave me an overview and a tour of the Pajaro Valley Shelter Services. They are a much needed and amazing resource for women and children in the Watsonville area. We will be partnering with them to provide after-school tutorial support for homeless youth.

Smart on Crime Organizing Commission
I was invited to be a member of the organizing committee for Smart on Crime. This committee will work on conducting outreach to the community to engage them in the dialogue around the reduction of state prison populations by releasing prisoners back to community and county facilities.

Community Corrections Partnership
I met with representatives of law enforcement and other community members to continue the discussion of the effects of the prison/jails realignment on the facilities of Santa Cruz County. We are looking into how our office can assist with the educational needs of the population that is coming to Santa Cruz.

Linda Darling Hammond
At the invitation of the Sixth District PTA of Santa Clara County, I was able to attend an invitation only reception for Linda Darling Hammond and then later in the day, a dinner and presentation by Ms. Hammond. She is the Charles E. Ducommun Professor of Education at Stanford University and the education advisor to President Obama. She is a leader in the field of education and very well-respected among her colleagues.

Board Policy Review
I want to thank trustees for all the time they committed to reviewing Board Policies for our upcoming update. All of the policies have been reviewed by trustees and/or Cabinet members. Next steps include sending our results to CSBA (California School Boards Association), the compilation of our suggestions, a review of the results by our Board and the eventual adoption and posting to our web site.

SECA Retreat (Special Education Coordinating Council)
Along with all the North County superintendents, I attended the SECA Retreat where the previous year was reviewed and plans were made for the coming year.

Rountree Visitation
I accompanied Sheriff Wowak on a tour of the Rountree Jail Facilities and joined in a discussion of how we can provide education programs at the site as the inmate population increases with the redistribution of prisoners by the State.

Celebrate School Food
I was honored to address the attendees of the Celebrate School Food event along with State Assemblymember Bill Monning and Congressmember Sam Farr held at the Cabrillo Farmers Market. It was a wonderful event with art and contests for children and informational tables for parents and teachers. Messages were emphasizing nutrition, wellness and fitness.
New Teacher Program Administrators Breakfast
I welcomed over 50 district office and school administrators for the annual New Teacher Program Breakfast. This year’s theme was Learning to Teach; Teaching to Learn; Through Inquiry.

Second Harvest Foodbank Summit
Staff attended the Second Harvest Foodbank Summit. As a county, we are so fortunate to have this valuable resource to ensure that our lower income families are able to feed their families. They also support many of our children’s programs and our own Alternative Education programs.

Homeless Services Center & Shelter Open House
I participated in the open house for the Homeless Services Center & Shelter. It was an informational time with tours of the facilities along with informational tables, entertainment, speakers and food served.

Pacific Collegiate Charter School (PCS)
At the request of the Board, Theresa Rouse and I met with Principal Archie Douglas and Board President Sharmaine Cheleden to address the concerns voiced around the fundraising letter sent to PCS parents. As a result he will be more sensitive to this concern and will no longer be signing fundraising letters but instead they will be sent out from the Development Office.

Scott Daly, Optometrist
I met with local optometrist Scott Daly to discuss increased awareness and screening of infants and toddlers to avoid long term visual disease. We will be meeting with Susan True, Executive Director, First 5 to discuss a partnership to address this concern.

Foster Youth
Through a partnership with the National Center for Youth Law and the Stuart Foundation, Santa Cruz County is a demonstration site for Foster Ed Connect. A leadership team met to discuss implementation of this program which will support and improve conditions for foster youth.

School Mental Health Initiative
On September 26, 2011, Michael facilitated a meeting of Region V COE personnel assigned to the implementation of the new School Mental Health Initiative, which will be led by Santa Cruz COE managers, Jo Ann Allen and Michael Paytner. Regional Partners will include the Monterey, Santa Clara and San Benito COE as well as representatives from each counties mental health departments. A report of this project will be forthcoming at the November Board Meeting.

Monthly Meetings
United Way Board
CCSEA Board of Directors (videoconference)
CCSESA Legislative Committee (Phone Conf.)
CCSESA Finance Committee (phone conference)
TAC 6 Ed. Committee (Phone Conf.)
Children’s Network Executive Committee
CCSESA Executive Committee (phone conference)

Board Agenda Committee
Superintendents Council
BASTA Steering Committee
Migrant Headstart Board
First 5 Commission
Superintendents Council