The following matters and events have occurred since the report of October 15, 2009:

**Green Careers Open House**
The Green Careers Center open house at Natural Bridges High School was an informative introduction to the many programs offered under the Alternative Education/ROP collaborative venture. The full academic program is enhanced by green classes including Alternative Energy and Construction, Bay Watershed Education, Sustainable Agriculture, Cooking, and a bike repair program. Currently featured on the SCCOE home webpage are videos of the *Food - What?* and the *Watershed Education* classes both of which were filmed for sequences on the national TV program Eco Community.

**OASIS Open House**
The Alternative Education staff hosted an open house at the OASIS Independent Studies program last month to introduce their services and progress to parents, students and the community.

**ROP Rountree Open House**
I attended the open house rededicating the Rountree Detention Center ROP Auto Body Shop hosted by ROP and the Sheriff’s Office. The program teaches detainees how to weld, prep, paint and detail vehicles and prepares them for the tests to become certified in auto body repair. The facility was renovated during the hiatus to be eco-friendly.

**Inside Education/ Your Future is Our Business Education Luncheon**
Inside Education staff and participants visited several Regional Occupational Program class sites the morning of October 21st. They ended the Inside Education session as guests of Your Future is Our business, a non-profit that operates out of Cabrillo College to support career development activities for students, for their annual luncheon. Successful student graduates of career education programs addressed the audience.

The November session, conducted yesterday, introduced participants to the small school districts. Site visits to Mountain School, Happy Valley School, Pacific School and Bonny Doon School provided the opportunity to take part in individual classroom activities and featured the many Life Lab, nutrition and environmental programs offered at these schools, including lunch prepared by the students of Pacific School.

**COE Internal Grants Project**
We are launching an internal office grants program to be funded by ARRA SFSF funds. Staff who apply for a grant to fund an innovative project in the categories of academic improvement, teacher quality, effectiveness and retention, the arts, and other areas will be
awarded a funding grant. Projects must be sustainable beyond the scope of the grant funds.

**Cabrillo Foster Youth Event / Career Night**
I attended an event at Cabrillo College conducted prior to and in conjunction Cabrillo’s College and Career Night. The event offered foster and disadvantaged youth an opportunity to speak with career representatives and assist them as they explored the opportunities of continuing their education as provided at the College and Career Night exhibits.

**PVUSD Student Services Extended Learning Programs**
I visited the PVUSD Extended Learning Programs with Joe Trautwein, Director. The District provides a number of excellent supplemental programs to their students. Programs included under the Extended Learning umbrella include After School Academic and Enrichment Program (ASAEP) which focuses on academics and arts enrichment as well as physical fitness; the Literacy and Instructional Technology Program develops technology use in support of reading, writing, English language development and math. The Family Literacy Program reaches out to parents to develop the skills and knowledge needed to guide their children’s academic success. Supplemental Educational Services provides extra academic assistance to students attending Title I schools to improve academic performance. Parents make the choice of a program that best fits their child’s needs.

**Second Harvest Nutrition Summit**
I attended the Nutrition Summit which addressed, among other nutrition and health issues, the child obesity and diabetes epidemic. Second Harvest is taking a leading role in the community to educate and involve individuals in combating malnutrition and associated illnesses.

**Community TV Appearance**
I participated in a panel discussion on the Teacher Speak Out program on the subject of administrator salaries and responsibilities at the County Office of Education. Teachers representing two districts also participated.

**Tannery Arts Event**
I attended the event celebrating Tannery Arts receipt of $2 million funding support from the Hewlett Foundation.

**Watsonville/Aptos Adult Education Advisory Council Meeting**
I attended the PVUSD Watsonville/Aptos Adult Education (WAAE) Community Advisory Council meeting this month. Positive reports were given relative to programs provided by WAAE in Lifelong Learning Art classes, English as a Second Language and General Educational Development (GED). WAAE challenges center on the shrinking budget and WASC accreditation.
**Boys and Girls Club**
The Boys and Girls Club invited me to be keynote speaker on the topic of education at the Boys and Girls Club Business Partnership Luncheon.

**Leadership Santa Cruz**
The November session of Leadership Santa Cruz was conducted at Dominican Education Center. The focus was on home and health care. Participants had the opportunity to be educated on robotics surgery, Medivac, H1N1 prevention and emergency preparedness and healthcare reform.

**Morgan Autism Center**
I attended a reception hosted by the Morgan Autism Center, our partner in establishing the Chrysalis Center. The reception at San Jose City Hall, showcased student art.

**Harlem Children’s Zone Conference**
I attended the Harlem Children’s Zone Conference in New York as part of a community team that was awarded an attendance scholarship. The Santa Cruz team consisted of Poki Namkun, County Public Health Officer, Leslie Goodfriend, County Public Health, Christina Cuevas, the Community Foundation, Madeline Noya, County Human Services, Nicole Lezin and Leslie Conner, HIP, and myself. The conference, attended by similar teams from throughout the country, were introduced to the Harlem Children’s Zone model of an innovative community-based organization offering education, social-service and community building programs to children and families.

**Local Governments for Sustainability – STAR Community Index Program**
STAR Community Index is a new national framework for improving the livability and sustainability of U.S. communities. The STAR Community Index will provide a national, consensus-based system with indicators and metrics that will help local governments set priorities and maximize investments in strategic actions. Local governments will benefit through more robust local commerce and healthier communities. I was selected as a representative for education on one of eight Technical Advisory Committees. The advisory committee meets monthly at a minimum by conference call.

**Meeting with Senator Tom Torlakson**
I met with Senator Torlakson who has announced his 2010 candidacy for State Superintendent of Schools.

**Managers’ Goals and Accountability**
Due to a busy schedule the past month, I have not completed my meetings with all managers and evaluation of goals, measurements and accountability in time to make a report to the Board this month. My report will be on the December agenda.
**Regularly Scheduled Meetings**
Steinbeck Board
PVPSA
Tannery Arts Board
CCSESA Quarterly Meeting
First 5
Children’s Network
Workforce Investment Board