



OCSBA
Orange County School Boards Association

**Orange County
School Boards
Association**

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2008-2009

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SPOTLIGHT ON NEWS

May 2009 Edition

A Message from the OCSBA President – Susan Henry



As the school year comes to an end I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Board of Directors for their service to the Orange County School Boards Association and their continued commitment to public schools in Orange County.

It has been a frustrating and painful year for all school board members and I have great respect and understanding for the difficult choices you have had to make and will continue to have to make over the coming months.

Having just returned from the California School Boards Association (CSBA) Delegate Assembly in Sacramento I can tell you that although there is recognition that substantive reform of the budgetary process is necessary, there remains disagreement on the direction these reforms should take. In frustration one speaker from the floor asked, "At what point do we just say no, we can't cut anything else?" The Delegate Assembly listened to presentations from California Forward and the Bay Area Council regarding reform efforts including a call for a Constitutional Convention. Both organizations urged elected school board member attendance at the CCS (Cities, Counties, and Schools Partnership) summit slated for July 17 and 18 at the Hyatt Regency in Sacramento. Please contact Marguerite Noteware at CSBA at (916) 371-4691 or mnoteware@csba.org for more information and registration.

Susan Henry

Economic Need in Immigrant Families

A new research brief from Child Trends and the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis shows child poverty rates disproportionately higher among immigrant families. It is widely agreed that the official U.S. poverty measure is too low and an inaccurate reflection of economic hardship. The Economic Policy Institute has created estimates of the family budget needed across the country to pay for housing, food, health care, and other basic expenses. Building on this basic budget poverty measure, researchers calculated poverty rates among children in immigrant families and children in U.S.-born citizen families across the states.

Using a budget poverty measure that includes the costs of child care and early education they find that children in immigrant families have a national estimated poverty rate of 47 percent, compared to their official poverty rate of 21 percent. Children of U.S.-born citizens have a national estimated budget poverty rate of 28 percent, compared to their official poverty rate of 13 percent.

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2008-2009 Marian Bergeson Award Winners

Judy Edwards and Suzie Swartz

The Marian Bergeson Award recognizes an Orange County School Board member who has provided outstanding governing Board service and community service to promote and enhance public education. The award serves as a tribute to Marian for her exemplary leadership.

This year we have two Marian Bergeson award recipients. Each recipient demonstrates exemplary dedication and commitment to their school districts and community.

This year's first Marian Bergeson Award recipient, Judy Edwards, is serving her third term in office in the Fountain Valley School District. She has served on the CSBA Delegate Assembly representing Region 15 for the past six years and is currently seeking reelection for a 4th term as a CSBA delegate. She is a past president of OCSBA, also having served as Treasurer and Vice President of Programs. She has participated on the CSBA Conference Planning Committee, is presently on the CSBA Governmental Relations Group, and has completed the CSBA Masters in Governance.



Judy Edwards, Marian Bergeson, Suzie Swartz



Judy is warm and approachable, always displaying a graceful poise and professional elegance. Congratulations to 2009 Marion Bergeson Award winner Judy Edwards!

This year's second Marian Bergeson Award recipient, Suzie Swartz, is a valued Board of Trustees member and a member and immediate past president of the Saddleback Valley Unified School District Board of Education. Since she was first elected in 2000, Suzie has provided an energetic, passionate voice as a strong advocate for our public schools. She is a member of the Steering Committee for the Orange County Education Coalition, and her priorities are to raise awareness on the state's budget impact, the need for full and stable funding and to pursue additional resources for our public schools. She has also served many terms on the Orange County School Boards Association Board of Directors, Coastline ROP Board, Saddleback Valley PTA Council Executive Board and on School Site and Education Councils.

Suzie continually works to build on the strengths of teachers, parents, staff and students in an effort to provide the best possible education for all students in our community. Congratulations to 2009 Marion Bergeson Award winner Suzie Swartz!

Economic Need in Immigrant Families

(Continued from Page 1)

While poverty rates vary from state to state, children in immigrant families experience higher rates of poverty in all but nine states, with gaps in rates from immigrant and native families as large as 27 percent in Arizona and Minnesota and 25 percent in Texas.

A range of supports targeted to immigrant families, including access to child care and early education, could help alleviate this disparity in children experiencing poverty. This new data should encourage policymakers to think about using new Economic Recovery Acts funds to further support immigrant families in their states.



Overview of the National Children's Study Orange County Vanguard Center



The National Children's Study is a highly ambitious, unprecedented effort to learn about and improve the health of children.

About the Study

- It is the largest long-term study of the effects of social, behavioral, biological, community, and environmental factors on human health and development ever conducted in the U.S.
- The goal is to recruit 100,000 children who will represent all children in the U.S. Mothers will be asked to be in the study as early as possible in pregnancy, or even before they get pregnant, and their children will be followed to adulthood (21 years).
- The information collected in the study will help researchers explore the causes of a variety of health problems including obesity, injuries, asthma, autism, and developmental delays.

Selection of Orange County, CA

In September 2005, the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) funded seven Vanguard Centers to start this study. Researchers selected Orange County as one of these centers. The study will eventually include 105 locations in the U.S.

Selection of Neighborhoods in Orange County

The selection process was based on birth rates from 2000 to 2005. Orange County was divided into 1,850 neighborhoods with same birth rates, of those, 15 neighborhoods were randomly selected for recruitment, which represent diverse populations based on ethnicity, socioeconomic status and family structure.

Phases of the Study

Planning – Started October 2005

- The Vanguard Centers are working with NICHD to develop study procedures and practices before the study begins at other sites.
- Study activities will begin at the seven Vanguard Centers then expand to the other locations.

Recruitment-Estimated Start in 2009

- Women from the 15 selected neighborhoods in Orange County will be invited to participate in the study once study procedures are in their final form.
- The goal is to recruit 250 children each year for five years.

Study Activities for Women and Children:

Activities for study participants will include:

- A series of interviews
- Collection of health data
- Clinical evaluations

Study staff will work directly with the participants to complete these activities.

Study staff will also collect environmental samples such as air, tap water, and dust in and around the homes of study participants where children spend a lot of time, and from the community at large.

In addition, health care providers and hospital staff will be asked to help us with other study activities related to deliveries.

For details of the national-level activities, see the National Children's Study website:

www.nationalchildrensstudy.gov

Local contact: Ofelia Sandoval, Outreach and Engagement Coordinator, (949) 824-4672, ofelia.sandoval@uci.edu



School-Based Medicaid Reimbursement Regulations Rescinded

Provided by School Services of California

We are pleased to report that the new administration of the federal Health and Human Services Division (HHS) has announced that regulations that would have eliminated school-based Medicaid administrative and transportation service reimbursement for students with disabilities are now proposed to be rescinded.

To view the rescission regulations, signed by HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius, go to http://www.federalregister.gov/OFRUpload/OFRData/2009-10494_PI.pdf

After years of school agencies dealing with temporary extensions of moratoriums to the regulations, the proposed rulemaking notes that “rescinding these provisions will permit further opportunity to determine the best approach to further the objectives of the Medicaid program in providing necessary health benefits coverage to needy individuals.” For California, this is estimated to preserve more than \$130 million in reimbursements to school agencies.



Orange County School Boards Association 2009-2010 New Board of Directors

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SAVE THE DATES!

ACSA XVII/OCSBA Joint Dinner Meeting

Wednesday, October 14, 2009, PAGE 5:30, Social 6:00, Dinner 6:30 PM

OCSBA Reception at CSBA Annual Conference

Thursday, December 3, 2009, San Diego Convention Center

ACSA XVII/OCSBA Joint Dinner Meeting

Wednesday, March 3, 2010, PAGE 5:30, Social 6:00, Dinner 6:30 PM

OCSBA Annual Dinner Meeting/2010-2011 Board Elections

Wednesday, May 5, 2010, PAGE 5:30, Social 6:00, Dinner 6:30 PM

