



**Orange
County
School
Boards
Association**

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2005-2006

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SPOTLIGHT ON NEWS

November 2005 Edition

A Message from the OCSBA President - Sue Kuwabara

The California School Boards Association promotes excellence in education by annually recognizing outstanding programs in school districts and county offices throughout California with a Golden Bell Award. Districts in Orange County receive many of these awards each year. I have enjoyed the honor of serving as an evaluator for the program finalists in our County for the last three years. Each year, I have walked away with an appreciation of the commitment districts in Orange County have to serving their students' needs.

It's exciting to see strong programs that could be of value to my district, and to talk to other evaluators that share my enthusiasm. Of the many programs evaluated in Orange County this year, there are three that I would like to share with you. Harper Preschool in Newport-Mesa has a collaborative preschool program where every class has special education and general education students working together. There is a program in Anaheim Union High School District that helps middle school students understand personal and school goals in addition to the importance of increasing their API scores and passing the STAR exam. I was able to personally observe Capistrano Unified School District's program, Teaming for the Learning of Children. It combines protected scaffolded reading and math programs, collaboration of professional learning communities, and layers of academic support for all students at five elementary sites. This program serves the diverse needs of each child during the instructional program under the umbrella of the regular education program.

The three programs mentioned are just the tips of the iceberg. Districts across Orange County are doing great things for kids. I encourage you to volunteer to be an evaluator next year so that you too will have the opportunity to observe great programs in other districts.

**ORANGE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION
2005-2006 CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

December 1, 2005

OCSBA Reception at CSBA Annual Conference
San Diego Marriott Hotel - Look for Room Posting

February 8, 2006

OCSBA /ACSA XVII Joint Dinner Meeting
PAGE 5:30, Social 6:00, Dinner 6:30 pm
Speaker – Dr. Marvin Marshall

May 3, 2006

OCSBA Annual Meeting/2005-2006 Board Elections
PAGE 5:30, Social 6:00, Dinner 6:30 pm



WILLIAM M. HABERMEHL
County Superintendent of Schools

Wendy Benkert, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent Business Services, O.C.D.E.

Declining Enrollment Orange County Experience

Each year, during the first week of October, student enrollment is counted for all districts throughout the state. A preliminary survey of the total county-wide enrollment indicates that 14 of 27 Orange County school districts will experience a decline in enrollment for the current year, which is down from 15 districts in the previous year. Although there is one less district projected to decline in 2005, the total enrollment decline is projected to be greater than the previous year.

There is some protection in current law that provides funding based on the current or prior fiscal year average daily attendance (ADA), whichever is greater. However, for a declining enrollment district, this is a one year protection only. The subsequent year's funding will be based on current year actual ADA, therefore districts experiencing declining enrollment will have to make reductions in the current year to deal with the decline in revenue in subsequent years. Declining enrollment is not unique to Orange County; currently almost half of the school districts statewide are facing enrollment losses in the current year.



Mark your calendars for the OCSBA Reception at the Annual Conference:

Thursday, December 1, 2005
San Diego Marriott – Look for Room Posting
5:30 pm to 7:00 pm



This is a great opportunity to network and enjoy the camaraderie of your fellow OCSBA members. See you there!

To register for the CSBA Annual Education Conference, please go to www.csba.org



Welcome to OCSBA On-line



In the board's efforts to cut costs and save trees, we are beginning our new on-line delivery of the OCSBA newsletter. Many thanks to all of you who returned your postcard with your email address. Some of you may wish to have information emailed to your district office and then forwarded to you. Remember, the notices for the dinner meetings will be coming on-line also.

If you prefer, newsletters and OCSBA information will be sent to your district via interoffice mail. You can email your contact information to echariton@ocde.us

Orange County Chosen for National Study

A very special distinction has been bestowed on Orange County, California (OCCA). Orange County has been chosen as a Vanguard Location and will be one of the first six communities in the country to begin participating in the National Children's Study, the largest long-term study of the environment's effects on human health and development ever conducted in the United States. The study is funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

By evaluating environmental factors, study researchers hope to determine the root causes of many major childhood and adult diseases. In your community, and in more than 100 diverse communities across the country, local study teams will observe a total of 100,000 children from before birth to age 21 to determine how these factors – such as air, water, and dust, as well as what children eat, how they are cared for, and the safety of their neighborhoods – affect their health and well-being.

The OCCA Vanguard Center is a collaborative effort headed by James Swanson, Ph.D., of the University of California, Irvine. Local teams from the Center, which include collaborators from several UCI groups, Children's Hospital of Orange County, the Orange County Health Care Agency, the Children and Families Commission, and other community organizations, will begin inviting families to participate starting in mid-2007 as part of this decades-long research effort.



The 11th Annual Report on the Conditions of Children in Orange County is now available. If you wish to order a copy, please contact the Children and Families Commission of Orange County, at 714-834-5310 or the Center for Community Collaboration, CSUF at 714-278-5681. The Report and links are also available at www.ohealthinfo.com/csc/report or at www.ccc.fullerton.edu





Political Action Group Efforts
November 16, 2005
5:30 to 6:00 p.m.

*“The Sacramento Scene
Post Special Election”*

Presented by

**Michael Kilbourn, President
Legislative & Management
Strategies, Inc.**

Michael Kilbourn will provide insight to the changes we can expect in Sacramento and the impact to education. After 23 years of lobbying activity for the Orange County Department of Education and various school districts, Mike established Legislative and Management Strategies, Inc., to provide legislative advocacy services for districts and county offices of education throughout California.



**OCSBA/ACSA REGION XVII DINNER
MEETING**

November 16, 2005
6:00 Social – 6:30 Dinner

Guest Speaker

**Bill Beacham, Ph.D.
Executive Director
Center for Drug-Free Communities**

Speaking on

*The Artificial Athlete
at What Price?*

Citius – Altius – Fortius

The increasing use of performance enhancing drugs and supplements by professional, college, and high school athletes is alarming. The risks/benefits of steroid use and the impact on the individual, the team, and the community will be explored.

Dr. Beacham, the former Director of Training/Clinical Services for Care Unit Hospitals is an international consultant who has trained educators, law enforcement personnel, and parents in substance use, abuse, prevention, and treatment. He is a prevention/treatment specialist, educator, author, trainer, and a consultant to the Los Angeles Police Department DARE Program and the U.S. Olympic Committee in Colorado Springs. Bill teaches at the University of California, Irvine and directs the Peer Assistance Leadership PAL® Camps for elementary/middle/high school students and advisors.

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Board of Directors
2005-2006**



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