



**Orange
County
School
Boards
Association**

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2004-2005

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SPOTLIGHT ON NEWS

May/June 2005 Edition

2004-2005 Marian Bergeson Award Winner Karin Freeman

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. Our 2005 Marian Bergeson award recipient demonstrates dedication and commitment by her tireless eighteen years of service as a trustee of the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District. Board of Trustee Member Karin Freeman exemplifies the qualities of an active OCSBA member, a participant in school board organizations, a leader that is visible in the community and engaged in civic and business organizations, and a school board member that always focuses on students. Karin's school board experience has included challenging issues such as boundary changes, budget cuts in the early 1990s and again today, a county bankruptcy, a local bond referendum, a school district merger, and state accountability measures. Karin is a past president of the Orange County School Boards Association and has also served on PAGE and the County's Nominating Committee on School District Organization.



Karin Freeman with her family after accepting the Marian Bergeson Award

Karin is equally committed to the community. She is an active 19-year member of the local Chamber of Commerce. Karin is also a member of the community's Historical Society, member of the St. Jude Healthy Communities Advisory Board, current docent of the Yorba Linda Heritage Museum, and Board Member of the North Orange County Regional Occupational Program. During Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District school board meetings, she shares updates of upcoming news and current "happenings" in these organizations, all of which provide the school district an added connection with the community. Perhaps Karin's best quality is her accessibility. She never avoids a question and is very visible in the community. Her professional mannerism, approachable nature, and ever-present smile speak volumes about her character. Karin Freeman certainly epitomizes all of the qualities that make good school board members great!



In Memory of
Robert Lindsay
Long time board member of the Centralia School District
✦
Marian Bergeson Award Winner

SAVE THE DATE

September 21, 2005

Orange County
School Boards Association
Dinner Meeting

Look for more information to be mailed in August!

Farewell from the
2004-2005 OCSBA President
Meg Cutili, Los Alamitos Unified School District



It doesn't seem that long ago that I was introducing myself and wishing everyone a great school year. I was optimistic about what we could accomplish and confident that we were working for the best educational experience we could provide for our students. We all are striving to provide a quality program with ever shrinking resources. We have had to look at some very difficult issues and decide what is best for our districts.

Countywide, we have organized and rallied in support of education. We have let Sacramento know that education should be the priority of the state budget and we aren't going to forget what is due us. The Orange County School Boards Association has offered opportunities for professional growth through networking, hot topic discussions, and guest speakers. We have done this to reach out to all school board members and administrators so we are better able to perform our jobs. I couldn't have done any of these things alone. This past year, the Orange County School Boards Association had a board of dedicated people who took their responsibilities seriously and approached their jobs with knowledge, expertise, and enthusiasm. To say that I couldn't have done anything without them may sound like the usual comment, but in this case, it is absolutely true! I want to applaud the people who made my year as president enjoyable and productive: Sue Kuwabara (IUSD), Suzie Swartz (SVUSD), Sheila Benecke (CUSD), Judy Edwards, (FVSD), Bill Dunton (FJUHSD), Alexandria Coronado (OCBE), Jerry Silverman (ACSD), Donna McDougall (CYSD), Judy Franco (NMUSD), Karin Freeman (PYLUSD), Susan Henry (HBUHSD), Marcia Milchiker (SOCCCD), Sharon Wallin (IUSD), Martha Fluor (NMUSD), and Mary Fuhrman (BPSD).

I also want to thank the OCSBA's liaisons from the Orange County Department of Education, Ellin Chariton and Catherine Graham, for all their help, support, and attention to detail that kept our board working so smoothly.

I know that Sue Kuwabara and her board will provide a great year of leadership for all of Orange County school districts. We should all look forward to next year and the wonderful events already in the planning stages. Enjoy the celebration of education that the end of the school year brings! The kids deserve it! The staff deserves it! And we deserve it!

NEW ORANGE COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Roberta DeLuca – Huntington Beach City School District

On April 4, 2005, Dr. Roberta DeLuca assumed her duties as the new Superintendent of Huntington Beach City School District. She came to Orange County from her previous position as the Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services in the Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District in Los Angeles County. Her responsibilities there included curriculum and instruction to 18 elementary schools, 7 middle schools, 4 high schools and an adult school.

Prior to this, Dr. DeLuca served as the Administrator of Human Resources, an elementary school principal, a reading specialist, and as a classroom and special education teacher. She has taught at UCLA and California State University, Long Beach. Currently she is teaching in the Administrative Credential Program at the University of La Verne.

Dr. DeLuca earned her Bachelor of Science Degree in Education at the University of Nebraska, her Masters in Educational Administration at Cal State University, Long Beach and her Doctorate in Institutional Management at Pepperdine University.

In addition to her appreciation of the arts, Dr. DeLuca enjoys traveling, reading, and gardening.



**Political Action Group Efforts
Sharon Wallin, Chairperson
Meeting Points from April 20, 2005**

The implementation of the Williams Litigation Settlement is going extremely well in Orange County. The Orange County Superintendent of Schools is charged with the responsibility to fulfill the terms of the litigation settlement as enacted through SB 6, SB 550, AB 1550, AB 2727, and AB 3001. These new laws seek to ensure that all students have equal educational opportunities focusing on three key areas: textbooks, school facilities, and teacher assignments. All school districts must fulfill requirements concerning certification of the sufficiency of textbooks, expanding the scope of both the Uniform Complaint Procedure and the School Accountability Report Card (SARC). In addition, all Orange County decile 1, 2 and 3 schools (103 schools in 17 districts) must be visited by Orange County Department of Education (OCDE) staff to ensure the sufficiency of textbooks and instructional materials in the core content areas (reading/language arts, history/social science, and math with foreign language and health added for middle and high schools); that there are no urgent or unsafe facility conditions as well as assessing the good repair of these sites. The legislation requires that 25% of the visits are to be unannounced. The monitoring of teacher credentialing is conducted by OCDE staff at the district office.

OCDE is working closely with district and site staff to ensure the terms of the Williams Litigation Settlement requirements are successfully met. The legislation specifies the timeliness and process for the site reviews and required reporting. Site visits must review 20% of classrooms for elementary schools and 20% of courses for middle and high schools. All ancillary areas are to be visited to ensure the site is in good repair and that no emergency conditions exist. These visits are conducted by OCDE staff with as little disruption to the learning environment as possible! Quarterly reports are required to be submitted to each school district governing board via the district superintendent to reflect the findings of the reviews. An annual report from the county superintendent must be presented to each school district governing board as well as the county board of supervisors. Visits for the 2005/2006 school year will begin in July and must be completed within the first four weeks from the time each school begins.

Consistently, the district superintendents, administrators, and site staff have demonstrated their commitment to ensure a productive process. It is through this collaborative work that compliance with the requirements of the Williams Litigation Settlement will be achieved with the ultimate goal of promoting student achievement.

For more information, see the California County Superintendents Educational Services Association (CCSESA) website at www.ccsesa.org.

**Orange County School Boards Association
Board of Directors
2005-2006**

OFFICERS

- President**..... Sue Kuwabara, IUSD
- President – Elect** Suzie Swartz, SVUSD
- Vice President, Programs**..... Judy Edwards, FVSD
- Secretary**..... Sheila Benecke, CUSD
- Treasurer**..... Sharon Wallin, IUSD



DIRECTORS

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- Unified**..... Judy Franco, NMUSD
- Unified**..... Karin Freeman, PYLUSD
- High School**..... Susan Henry, HBUHSD
- Community College**..... Marcia Milchiker, SOCCCD
- PAGE Chairperson** Donna McDougall, CypSD
- CSBA Region 15**..... Martha Fluor, NMUSD
- Newsletter Editor** Mary Fuhrman, BPSD

California Teachers of the Year

Recognizes exemplary teachers who best represent all of California's teachers
and symbolize the profession's contributions to quality education

In January a celebratory dinner was held in Sacramento honoring the California Teachers of the Year. State Superintendent of Schools Jack O'Connell spoke, along with the five exceptional teachers. A video about each teacher was also shown to highlight their accomplishments.

The five winners were from all over California. Eric Burrows teaches U.S. and European History at San Marcos High School in Santa Barbara School District. Kim Labinger is a fourth grade teacher at Thomas A. Edison Elementary School in Glendale Unified School District. Stanley Murphy teaches Social Studies at San Diego High School in San Diego Unified School District and is also one of the ten finalists for the National Teacher of the Year Award. Alan Siegel teaches History, Civics, Economics, and Media at W. C. Carle' High School (a two-time Model Continuation High School for the state of California), in the Konocti Unified School District. Last, but not least, is an Orange County teacher. Ray Williams teaches sixth grade at Steve Luther Elementary School in Cypress Elementary School District. Mr. Williams has a goal setting meeting with each child and his parent so that each child can see the team work that is involved in educating a student. According to Ray, discipline, structure, and communication are keys to classroom success. Williams insists that students accept personal responsibility. Mr. Williams' classroom is an exciting place to be and it is said that once you visit his classroom you will want to return. It is filled with an array of activities to perform and objects to examine, from conducting science experiments to handling pet snake, and a tarantula. His positive attitude, enthusiasm, and love for teaching shows in everything he does.

Following is a quote from Mr. Williams to help us understand what made him an award winner:

One of the things I stress to my students is that they must accept personal responsibility and those (who) are willing to do that will certainly be the best - and most influential - adults of tomorrow.
—Ray Williams

IDEA PUBLIC MEETINGS

Provided by Dr. Alexandria Coronado, Vice President of the Orange County Board of Education

A series of public meetings have been scheduled to seek input and suggestions after developing and publishing proposed rules to implement programs under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004.

Friday, June 17, 2005

1:00 PM to 4:00 PM and 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM
Nashville, TN

Wednesday, June 22, 2005

1:00 PM to 4:00 PM and 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM
Sacramento, CA

Friday, June 24, 2005

1:00 PM to 4:00 PM and 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM
Las Vegas, NV

Monday, June 27, 2005

1:00 PM to 4:00 PM and 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM
New York, NY

Wednesday, June 29, 2005

1:00 PM to 4:00 PM and 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM
Chicago, IL

Tuesday, July 12, 2005

1:00 PM to 4:00 PM and 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM
Washington, DC

OSERS

Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services

OSERS will provide specific location information through the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) to be published in the Federal Register in the spring of 2005.

Questions can be directed to OSERS' main number, (202) 245-7468, or, if a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) is needed, individuals may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

For a copy of the law and other pertinent information, please visit the U.S. Department of Education's Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 Web page.

<http://www.ed.gov/policy/speced/guid/idea/idea2004.html>