



**OCSBA**  
Orange County School Boards Association

**Orange County  
School Boards  
Association**

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# SPOTLIGHT ON NEWS

**September 2010 Edition**



## *A Message from the OCSBA President – Shirley Carey*

### *“Change” Benefits of OCSBA*

As we start the 2010-11 school year, it is apparent that trustees and governance team members are facing big changes at the local, county, and state level. Since we know that each of you will face ongoing changes, the members of OCSBA want

to extend a warm welcome and share with you some of the benefits of being an active participant in OCSBA.

At the district level almost every one of the 31 governance teams in Orange County is facing the changes brought on by an election in their district. It is during these times of adjustment that we can be thankful for the training received in the CSBA’s (California School Boards Association) Master of Boardmanship program and, more recently, the Master of Governance program. Districts that have adopted and practiced the Professional Governance Standards, developed protocols for interaction, a governance calendar, and a handbook for the district, are better prepared to help elected officials and staff members work with a unity of purpose. Newly elected trustees should be encouraged to attend the Orientation for New Trustees on Wednesday, December 1, at the CSBA Education Conference in San Francisco.

At the county level, also known as OCSBA (which encompasses CSBA Region 15), you will find excellent resources to help adapt to the changes ahead. Hopefully you have already benefited from the insight of Kevin Gordon, president of School Innovations & Advocacy, whose September presentation focused on “California Education Politics: The Impact of the Elections, Policy and Finance on the State’s Schools.” The dinner speaker on October 13, Sherry Skelly Griffith, a Legislative Advocate for ACSA (Association of California School Administrators), will highlight “Are You Ready for a Federal Education System?” Our thanks to SchoolsFirst Federal Credit Union for subsidizing the dinners for all participants so that governance team members will be able to attend these educational opportunities.

At the state level, the CSBA Annual Education Conference and Trade Show in San Francisco, is another excellent resource to help governance team members adapt to change. The planning committee focused like lasers on key issues that members of our governance teams need to understand, selected dynamic speakers like Pedro Noguera and Ian Jukes, and then set up follow-up sessions so that participants can interact with them. Jim Spellos will do four sessions regarding technology with titles like “Way Cool Tools” and “Google-licious: How to find anything on the Internet.” Of course, the budget issues will be covered from many angles.

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## ***Message from the OCSBA President – Shirley Carey*** ***“Change” Benefits of OCSBA***

*(Continued from Page 1)*



Check the program for details on other critical issues, and encourage members to attend. Since times “are a-changing,” trustees need to consider new approaches to old challenges!

Here in Orange County your colleagues are another great resource. Whether you have questions about the future of CSBA, rumors you have heard about OCSBA, or challenges with relationships with members of your governance team, your colleagues from OCSBA are but a phone call away. Developing a strong network that includes these experienced, respected leaders and OCSBA’s staff at the Orange County Department of Education will be an asset as you address future changes that will impact over 500,000 students in Orange County public schools. Keeping these half million students as a priority is everyone’s goal.

*Shirley Carey*



### ***2010 Education Statistics from the Census Bureau***

The U.S. Census Bureau does far more than count people. Prior to the beginning of each school year, it compiles a report highlighting interesting statistics related to students and teachers. Here are a few of the facts we found of interest:

- Approximately 53% of three- and four-year olds were enrolled in preschool, up tenfold from 6% in 1964.
- 72% of kindergarten students are enrolled in full-day programs, up from 20% in 1974.
- Nationally, 43% of elementary and high school students are minorities, which compares to 21% in 1970.
- Nearly 80% of students ages 12 to 17 were academically on track in 2006, up eight percentage points from 1998. (Students were considered to be academically on track if they were enrolled in school at or above the grade level appropriate for their age.)
- 52% of 12- to 17-year olds reported being highly engaged in school in 2006, up five percentage points from 1998. For 6- to 11-year olds, the respective increase was from 56% to 59%.
- 41% of 6- to 17-year olds participated in sports in 2006, up from 34% in 1998. Participation in sports was the most popular extracurricular activity.
- The average annual salary of public school teachers in California was \$63,640 as of the 2007-08 school year-the highest of any state. The national average was \$50,758. Nationally, high school principals earned on average \$97,486 in 2007-08.
- It pays to stay in school. The average annual earnings of workers age 18 and over with an advanced degree was \$83,144 in 2008. This compares to \$58,613 a year for those with bachelor's degrees, \$31,283 for those with a high school diploma only, and \$21,023 for those without a high school diploma.

*Source: The Fiscal Report, School Services of California, Inc., Volume 30, No. 14*



## **State Schools Chief Jack O'Connell Applauds California Schools Receiving National Honor**

On September 9, State Superintendent of Public Instruction Jack O'Connell applauded the achievement of 21 California public schools named by U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan as 2010 National Blue Ribbon Schools. The Orange County recipients of the prestigious prize are Sunnyside Elementary in Garden Grove, Capistrano Valley Christian School in San Juan Capistrano, Richard Henry Dana Elementary in Dana Point and Carl Harvey Elementary in Santa Ana. The schools were among 304 schools nationwide to receive the prestigious award during the announcement in Washington D.C.

The Blue Ribbon Schools Program (BRSP) recognizes elementary and secondary schools that are both academically superior and have demonstrated dramatic gains in student achievement while serving an economically disadvantaged population of students. Schools so recognized are national models of excellence that other schools may emulate. All of the 2010 recipients were either previous California Distinguished Schools or Title I Academic Achieving Award schools.

The 2010 schools were initially nominated last fall on the basis of their achievement history for 2005 to 2009, but in order for final Blue Ribbon certification, the schools had to make all of their 2010 Academic Performance Index state targets and all Adequate Yearly Progress federal accountability targets.

California's 2010 National Blue Ribbon Schools will be honored on November 15-16 at a ceremony in Washington, D.C. Two people from each school, the principal and a teacher, are invited to participate. Each school will receive a plaque and a flag to signify its Blue Ribbon School status.

The U.S. Secretary of Education has recognized more than 6,000 outstanding schools in the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program over the past 28 years. To obtain further information on the program and review a list of 2010 winners nationwide, please visit the U.S. Department of Education Web site at: <http://www.ed.gov/programs/nclbbrs/awards.html>.



## **GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ANNOUNCES SANTA ANA SCHOOL WINS LIVE POSITIVELY FITNESS CENTER**

**The Coca-Cola Company Donates Fitness Centers to Eight California Schools**

California Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports Chairman Jake Steinfeld announced on September 15 that Andrew Jackson Elementary in the Santa Ana Unified School District is one of eight California schools selected as the winner of a brand new Live Positively Fitness Center, thanks to a donation from The Coca-Cola Company.

More than 2,000 schools and 1.3 million students statewide participated in the Governor's Fitness Challenge last year. Andrew Jackson Elementary, Santa Ana Unified District School, represents one of eight winning schools in California that will receive a Live Positively Fitness Center this fall. The winning honor was bestowed upon Andrew Jackson students for their successful completion of the 2010 Governor's Fitness Challenge and their cumulative achievement of 154,229 active days, while parents and teachers added another 115,090 active bonus days, which is more than any other school in the district.

Live Positively Fitness Center award-winning schools were recognized at the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Spotlight Award Ceremony in Sacramento on September 17. The Spotlight Awards, which are presented by the Anthem Blue Cross Foundation, honor individuals, organizations, and events that positively impact the physical activity, fitness, and well-being of California children and youth.

## *Welcome New District Superintendents / Chancellors*

### **ELIZABETH I. NOVACK, Ph.D. – Anaheim Union High School District**

Dr. Elizabeth I. Novack assumed the top spot in the Anaheim Union High School District on September 13, 2010. Dr. Novack had been assistant superintendent of Human Resources for the Newport-Mesa Unified School District. She began her 34-year career in education as an elementary teacher. She has worked as a secondary science and health teacher, as assistant principal, as principal, and as associate superintendent. She also has served as an adjunct professor in the teacher preparation and credential programs at Cal State Long Beach and UC Irvine.

### **KIM THOMASON – Capistrano-Laguna Beach Regional Occupational Program**

The Capistrano-Laguna Beach ROP Governing Board proudly announces the appointment of Kim Thomason as Chief Executive Officer. She has been employed by Capistrano-Laguna Beach ROP since 1989, with the last 15 years as Director, Instructional Services. She earned her masters degree in Public Administration in 1998 from National University, and a bachelor of arts degree from California State University, Fullerton in 1989.

### **DING-JO H. CURRIE, Ph.D. – Coast Community College District**

Dr. Ding-Jo H. Currie has been a nationally and internationally recognized leader in education for more than 30 years. Before becoming chancellor, Dr. Currie was the president of Coastline Community College headquartered in Fountain Valley. Dr. Currie had served as Board Chair of the American Association of Community Colleges—an honor bestowed upon her by peer CEOs nationwide. She is also called upon to serve in many other leadership roles, such as Chair of the Community College Advisory Panel for the College Board, Board Member for American Council of Education, Center for Global Integrated Education, and many other organizations.

### **SHERINE SMITH – Laguna Beach Unified School District**

The LBUSD Board of Education is pleased to announce the appointment of Sherine Smith as the new Superintendent of Schools effective July 1, 2010. Ms. Smith was the assistant superintendent, education and assessment in Fullerton Joint Union High School District. She provides leadership and support in the areas of curriculum and instruction, assessment, professional development, and special education for seven high schools. Recently, Ms. Smith served as deputy superintendent of education in Capistrano Unified School District. Ms. Smith's background includes services as assistant superintendent, secondary education; as executive director, secondary education/operations; as principal and as a teacher.

### **RAÚL RODRIGUEZ, Ph.D. – Rancho Santiago Community College District**

Raúl Rodríguez, Ph.D., was appointed as the chancellor of Rancho Santiago Community College District on August 9, 2010. Dr. Rodríguez most recently served as the superintendent of the San Joaquin Delta Community College District (SJDCCD) and president of San Joaquin Delta College (SJDCC) in Stockton, CA. At SJDCCD, Dr. Rodríguez initiated new strategic planning methods, implemented new processes to bolster employee engagement and participation, and created a new collaborative budget process. In the area of instruction, Dr. Rodríguez increased the College district's online course offerings, increased student enrollment, and developed programs to support the success and transfer rates of students enrolled in science and mathematics courses.

### **CLINT HARWICK, Ed.D. – Saddleback Valley Unified School District**

Dr. Clint Harwick became the Saddleback Valley Unified School District Superintendent on September 1, 2010. Dr. Harwick has served in education for 22 years with the last seven as superintendent at Charter Oak Unified School District and Rim of the World Unified School District. Prior to his service as superintendent, he held several positions at Claremont Unified School District, including director of classified personnel and alternative education, principal, assistant principal, dean of students, activities director, and high school teacher. As superintendent, adjunct professor and community volunteer, Dr. Harwick has listened to the voices of parents, community members, and, most importantly, students.





**Joint OCSBA/ACSA Region XVII  
Dinner Meeting**

Wednesday, October 13, 2010  
Irvine Marriott Hotel



**PAGE ~ 5:30 p.m.**  
**Social Hour ~ 6:00 p.m.**  
**Dinner ~ 6:30 p.m.**



**Dinner Speaker**

**Sherry Skelly Griffith**

Legislative Advocate  
Association of California School Administrators

*presents*

***"Are You Ready for a  
Federal Education System?"***

Sherry Skelly Griffith has more than 25 years of education policy experience in both Sacramento and Washington D.C. She is principal advocate for ACSA before the State Board of Education, California Department of Education, and the U.S. Department of Education. Her policy expertise includes No Child Left Behind implementation. She has also served as a staff member in the California Legislature as well as Legislative Director for the California Children's Lobby.

**PAGE Meeting**

***"Post-Storm" Commitment to Excellence***  
presented from the California School Boards Association (CSBA) by

**Don Sedgwick**

CSBA Director Region 15  
and

**Susan Swigart**

Principal Director of Member Services  
and Media Relations, CSBA

After a recent series of highly publicized criticisms surrounding its executive director, CSBA has renewed its focus and deep commitment to students and the boards who serve them. Don Sedgwick will outline what happened at CSBA headquarters to cause the stir, why it happened, and what steps have been taken at CSBA going forward! He will be followed by Susan Swigart to detail and describe the benefits that school districts derive from their membership.

***Thank You, SchoolsFirst!***



*We extend our sincere gratitude to SchoolsFirst for their ongoing support of public education. Through partnership with SchoolsFirst Federal Credit Union, OCSBA and ACSA are able to discount dinner prices from the usual \$51.00 per person to \$31.00 (tax, tip, self-parking included).*



**SAVE THE  
DATES!**



**ACSA XVII/OCSBA Joint Dinner Meeting**

Wednesday, October 13, 2010 – PAGE 5:30, Social 6:00, Dinner 6:30 PM

**New Board Members Reception**

Wednesday, January 26, 2011 – 5:30 to 6:45 PM

**ACSA XVII/OCSBA Joint Dinner Meeting**

Wednesday, March 9, 2011 – PAGE 5:30, Social 6:00, Dinner 6:30 PM

**OCSBA Annual Dinner Meeting/2010-2011 Board Elections**

Wednesday, May 4, 2011 – PAGE 5:30, Social 6:00, Dinner 6:30 PM