~ December 2013 ~

Organizational Goals 2013-2014
1) Implement Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF)
2) Transition toward implementation of the Affordable Health Care Act (AHCA)
3) Plan and implement Destination Graduation
4) Support high quality teaching and learning to ensure students are college and career ready, including successful implementation of Common Core
5) Continue to support implementation of Superintendent’s Initiatives - Character Education, Career Technical Education, Civic Education and Parent Involvement/Family Education
6) Continue to improve practices and policies to better ensure SCOE staff and student safety

Stanislaus County Board members, staff, elected representatives and contractors cut the ribbon at the newly remodeled Margaret L. Annear School.

Early Intervention Staff Show Off Remodeled Site at Grand Opening

SCOE employees and community members toured the newly renovated Margaret L. Annear Early Intervention campus at its Grand Opening on Tuesday, November 12. Staff conducted tours in the morning, followed by a short program and the regular meeting of the Stanislaus County Board of Education.

Operated by the Stanislaus County Office of Education (SCOE), the Margaret L. Annear Early Intervention Program serves children with special needs from birth through five years of age.

SCOE began the three-year project to renovate and replace the patchwork of special education facilities located at Stonum Road in Modesto in the spring of 2011. Funding came from the State Allocation Board for construction and modernization purposes from bonds passed years ago, including Propositions 1A, 1D, 47 and 55. The bond money could only be used for construction and modernization projects as outlined in the original measures. In addition to the newly renovated Margaret L. Annear Early Intervention School, the new John F. Kennedy School (located next to Annear) opened last year.

SCOE Early Intervention Programs are provided to children (infant through age 5) in the following areas:
- Early Start Infant-Toddler Program: 82
- Preschool Special Day Classes: 42
- Autism Preschool Special Day Classes: 42
- Early Intervention Resource: 23
- Readiness Program: 30
- Deaf & Hard of Hearing Special Day Class: 5

SCOE's Directory is available online: www.stancoe.org
Become a Mentor!

The Stanislaus County Office of Education (SCOE) launched the new Destination Graduation initiative at the beginning of the 2013-14 school year focused on increasing graduation rates in Stanislaus County. Called Destination Graduation, SCOE is working in collaboration with local agencies to frame activities and involve the community.

Outreach efforts currently being discussed include mentoring programs, summer camps for at-risk students, summit meetings to focus on best practices and parental involvement programs.

SCOE’s Mentor Program is currently seeking volunteers for this year’s program. Teams of three and four people can sign up to mentor a student. Contact Deborah Stauss at 238-1425 for more information about mentoring a child.

The goal of the new county-wide initiative is to increase graduation rates in Stanislaus County.

Staff Reach Out During the Holidays to Support Others in the Community

SCOE departments are celebrating the season by reaching out to those in need. The Human Resources Department will be gathering toys for the foster children within CASA of Stanislaus County. Throughout the year staff strive to raise funds out of their own pockets by doing raffles, silent auctions and small fundraisers within their division to serve functions such as birthday celebrations and the annual Christmas Giving Tradition. This year they will be taking a portion of those funds and dispersing them to each Human Resources representative to go shopping and purchase a toy to give to these children as a Christmas gift. If the employee would like to donate more and purchase a bigger present, they are invited to do so.

Community agencies are reaching out to Petersen Alternative Center for Education (PACE) families. PACE is a registered food distribution site for families in need through the Salvation Army year around. During this holiday season, PACE received over 20 grocery bags of food that they distributed to families who were most in need. El Concilio will also provide five families from the PACE school site with a complete basket of food this Christmas holiday season.

Child/Family Services (CFS) is serving as one of the distribution points for the county-wide Toys for Tots. They will be handing out packets of toys to needy children throughout the county. CFS has also chosen the Gospel Mission as their charity to support this holiday season, and staff will be making several craft items for the children at their annual Winter Gathering.

Margaret L. Annear Early Intervention Resource Specialist Lynn Hardy (pictured above) made a quilt for Joshua’s Hands - an organization that makes and delivers quilts to servicemen and women in hospitals overseas. “My sister’s son received one of their quilts when he was sick in a hospital in Afghanistan,” said Hardy. “My sister wanted to return the gift to the organization, so she organized a quilting retreat. When deciding what pattern and fabric I wanted to make into a quilt, I thought that handprints of our Early Intervention students would be perfect. It was an incredible experience.”

HERO OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to Terri Corbeil, Business Services, who was recognized by a co-worker for being a team player and always having a positive attitude. Terri will receive two tickets to Regal Cinemas.

SCOE’s Hero Program gives staff the opportunity to recognize their peers. All employees nominated are entered into a monthly drawing. Hero cards are available on SCOE’s employee website.

(Call 238-1709 to claim your prize.)

Other heroes nominated:

- Pedro Abril
- Kimbra Berry
- Brittany Blankenship
- Tony Boatner
- Nicol Bryant
- Chris Bunow
- Sam Cerpa
- Daniel Vannest
- Jim Hiett
- Staretta Kent
- Amber Laugen
- Joelle McCarthy
- Kathy McKibben
- Jannie Perez
- Kendra White-Lyon
- Leonard Rodrigues
- Amrit Sandhu
- Christine Sisco
- Carole Shaffer
- Kym Wood
Bob Gausman to Retire in December

After more than 40 years in education, Bob Gausman, Division Director of Technology and Learning Resources (TLR), will retire in December. Gausman began his educational career in 1968 in Libya, where he was a teacher in the Peace Corps. Over the years he taught in Chicago and San Francisco before moving to the Ceres School District. Gausman joined SCOE in 1989 as a Coordinator, Educational Services. Through the years his duties changed when he became a member of the Curriculum and Instruction team and then Director of CTAP before being promoted to Division Director of TLR in 1999.

“SCOE has such dedicated staff, and it’s all of the people working here that I will miss the most,” said Gausman. During his first year of retirement, Gausman and his wife Martha plan to travel. “We’ll be spending three months in Europe and then a month or two touring the United States,” he said. “After that I’ll have to reinvent myself - perhaps I’ll clean my home office (lol).”

“Bob’s leadership and guidance in technology, his emcee talents, and his upbeat personality will be greatly missed,” said Superintendent Tom Changnon.

Also retiring from TLR in December is Marianne Pack, Director of the California Technology Assistance Project (CTAP). Marianne started at SCOE on July 10, 2000.

It was recently announced that Sally Savona has accepted the position as Division Director of TLR and will begin her new assignment in January. Sally has worked for SCOE as Director of Information Technology since January 4, 2011.

SCOE Awards Diplomas through Operation Recognition

At the November County Board meeting, SCOE awarded Ervin E. Richards of Newman with a high school diploma. Richards was honored as part of “Operation Recognition,” a program for World War II, Korean and Vietnam War veterans, who missed out on their high school graduation due to their military service. Since 2002, SCOE has awarded 126 diplomas to veterans in Stanislaus County.

“It is always an honor to present high school diplomas to these extraordinary Americans for their service and sacrifices they made, and to pay tribute to the legacy of freedom and peace that they have given our country,” said Superintendent of Schools Tom Changnon.

Operation Recognition is an ongoing program. Diplomas are presented once a year. Applications for high school diplomas are available at the Stanislaus County Office of Education and on SCOE’s website. For more information, call 238-1709.
December Birthdays

Misty Rash 1
Cynthia Fenech 2
Ardeth Mattison 2
Alllyson Woolworth 2
Theresa Corbeil 3
Jonathan Goodman 3
Laura Richards 4
Monique Rodriguez 4
Laurel Ruddy 5
Kym Wood 5
Cheryl Davis 6
Sandra Dieker 6
Carol Lempley 6
Karen Beckwith 8
Sandria Birdsong 8
Mary Keller 8
Domenica Escatel 9
Lynn Hardy 9
Jag Prasad 9
Susan Rich 9
Rachelle Warden 9
Debbie Wilson 9
Lisetete Felix 10
Becky Ray 10
Nidia Reyes 10
Amy Roe 10
John Zavala 10
Stephanie Douglas 11
Barbara Little 11
Jerry Passarelli 11
Renda Pound 11
Robert Weston 12
Gregory Borqquis 13
Clarice Amador 14
Nicholas Donnelly 14
Latrece Taylor 14
Tami Ingram 15
Carolina Jara 15
George Jordan 15
Arturo Lara 15
Stacie Ackerman 16
Lisa Gein 16
Joe Lastra 16
Shantel Lundberg 16
Maria Rosalez 16
Gemma Griffith 17
Emilee Gregory 18
Erikkra Perry 18
Phillip Alexander 19
Norma Aranda 19
Wilfred Vega 19
Elizabeth Lackey 20
Iris Avelar 21
Deborah Brown 21
Ismelda Cantu-Barrera 21
Breanna Lopes 22
Evangelina Sanchez 22
Devon Boyd 23
Joann Gunnarson 23
Veronica Mikhail 24
Pedro Rios 24
Tanya Vega 24
Jessica Sales 25
Richard Spratling 25
Debbie McConnico 26
Kendra Carranza 28
Karen Dell’osso 28
Bobbie Gregory 28
Alberto Lopez Velarde 28
Maryann Aguilar 29
Maureen Kelley 29
Barbara Baker 30
Aaron Crucmine 30
Noel Dickey 30
Virginia Flores 30
Tiffany Bradley 31
Paul Lukshin 31

January Birthdays

Gabriel Ramirez 1
Diane Williams 1
Korena David 2
Jonathan Kohring 2
Sandra Magana 2
Teresa Fields 3
Debra Pascal 3
Kenneth Fitzgerald 5
Patricia Lebaron 5
Alex Pimentel 5
Adalberto Aguair 8
Alicia Tamez 8
Ninavah Yonan 8
Sharlet Adamzadeh 9
Mark Hofer 10
Julie Sayad 10
Cher Yang 10
Lisa Chapteleau McKee 11

FYI

• YES (Youth Entertainment Stage) Company is gearing up for their fourth annual production of “Gift of Song,” a holiday music review and sing-a-long slated to open at the Gallo Center for the Arts in December. Tickets ($8-$15) are now on sale at the Gallo Center for the Arts Box Office and at www.galloarts.org. Performances are slated for: December 7, 2013 1:00 P.M. and 3:30 P.M.

YES Company’s Gift of Song celebrates songs and seasons of the holidays with proceeds benefiting the Costa Family Fund and dedicated to the memory of Bette Belle Smith.

• See’s Candy Fund-raiser
Staff that placed orders for See’s Candy to benefit SCOE’s Employee and Children of Employees’ Scholarship Fund can pick-up their candy beginning Wednesday, December 11, after 1:00 p.m. in the Administration Office, SCOE, 1100 H Street, Modesto (second floor). Questions? Call Hilda Meneses, 238-1711.

• Workplace Giving
SCOE’s Workplace Giving Campaign will run through December 12. A couple years ago SCOE broadened its outreach program to benefit causes and organizations that are important to employees (based on a staff survey) salas allets. For more information on the workplace giving program, or to print out a pledge form, visit SCOE’s Employee Intranet site: www.stancoe.org.

• Holiday Closures
SCOE will be closed on the following days in December and January:
• December 24, 25, 26, 31
• January 1