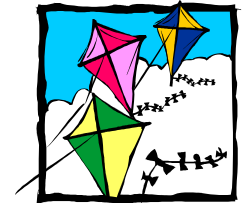


Santa Clara County _____ _____ *School Boards Association*



Board-A-Gram **March 2010**



1290 Ridder Park Drive, MC 202, San Jose, CA 95131-2304
Phone: (408) 453-6515 Web: www.sccoe.org/sccsba E-mail: Savgmom@aol.com FAX: (650) 964-2243

President's Corner

By Frank Biehl

I was surprised to learn of the sudden death of the state constitution convention initiative. Organizers have suspended activities due to a lack of funds. Apparently the special interests were not willing to bankroll any possible change in the status quo.

Had the money been raised, it was apparent that California-based firms that supply professional signature gathers were not willing to participate, fearing that their lucrative niche industry might be threatened by any reform of the initiative process that might emerge from the convention.

Today, the initiative process is a business available to the highest bidder. That is part of the problem.

Sadly, I was right when I wrote last September that, although I wasn't against a constitutional convention, I just didn't think it would work. I expected the proposal to get on the ballot and the voters to approve, each expecting their own personal version of reform. I then predicted that the document drafted at the convention would die a death of a thousand cuts by every narrow special interest when it was ultimately presented to the voters for approval.

So the reformers were preempted. Stopped before the first vote was cast.

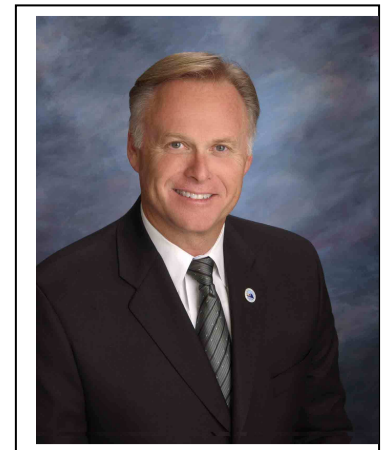
I don't think reform is dead. I just think it is going to take longer than any of us would like. Incremental reform is a long-term strategy. We didn't get into this mess overnight. It is going to take a few years to find our way out.

One such proposal is the **Local Control of Local Classrooms Funding Act**. This initiative changes the voter approval requirement to 55% from two-thirds for local education parcel taxes. Our Executive Board unanimously passed a resolution in support of this initiative at our February meeting. Additional information can found at: www.improveschoolfunding.com

The state PTA has endorsed this initiative and is actively gathering signatures.

We need to change the rules of the game. Channel your anger and frustration in a positive direction by circulating a petition.

**Please join
County
Superintendent
Dr. Charles
Weis**



**For the State of
The County
Schools**

Wednesday, March 24
Oak Grove Room
2nd Floor South
SCCOE

All school board members and administrators are welcome to join us for his annual report!

2010 Executive Board

Officers

President, **Frank Biehl**
Vice President, **Dana Tom**
Treasurer, **Pam Parker**
Awards Co-Chair, **Esau Herrera**
Awards Co-Chair, **Nancy Newkirk**
Past President, **Leslie Reynolds**
Region 20 Director, **Jo Lucey**

District Representatives and Delegates

Alum Rock USD **Dolores Marquez**
Berryessa USD **Linda Chen**
Cambrian SD **Karen Chung**
Campbell UHSD **Pam Parker**
Campbell USD **Danielle Cohen**
Cupertino USD **Ben Liao**
Cupertino USD **Phyllis Vogel**
East Side UHSD **Frank Biehl**
East Side UHSD **Patricia Martinez-Roach**
Evergreen SD **Sylvia Alvarez**
Franklin-McKinley SD **George Sanchez**
Fremont UHSD **Nancy Newton**
Gilroy USD **Tom Bundros**
Lakeside Joint SD **Bryan Loomas**
Loma Prieta JT.Union **Diane Matlock**
Los Altos SD **Doug Smith**
Los Gatos USD **Chris Miller**
Los Gatos/Saratoga **Cynthia Chang**
Los Gatos/Saratoga **Michele van Zuiden**
Luther Burbank SD **Antonio Perez**
Metro ED/CCOC **Marsha Grilli**
Milpitas Unified SD **Daniel Bobay**
Moreland SD **Karen Whipple**
Morgan Hill Unified SD **Peter Mandel**
Morgan Hill Unified SD **Kathleen Sullivan**
Mount Pleasant SD **Bob Ramirez**
Mtn. View/Los Altos UHSD **Judy Hannemann**
Mtn. View/Los Altos UHSD **Susan Sweeley**
Mountain View Whisman SD **Ellen Wheeler**
Oak Grove SD **Dennis Hawkins**
Oak Grove SD **Mary Noel**
Orchard SD **Sheryl Shirley**
Palo Alto Unified SD **Barbara Klausner**
Palo Alto Unified SD **Dana Tom**
San Jose Unified SD **Leslie Reynolds**
SCC Board of Ed **Leon Beauchman**
SCC Board of Ed **Anna Song**
Santa Clara Unified SD **Albert Gonzalez**
Saratoga USD **Michael Gipe**
Sunnyvale SD **Nancy Newkirk**
Union SD **Cindy Goodsell**

Executive Director, Rose Filicetti

Always available at my
Office@Home

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Executive Director's Report

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

At the **March 24th Executive Board meeting**, we will hold the **Election of Officers for the 2010-2011 School Year**. Thanks to past presidents, **Judy Hannemann** (Mountain View/Los Altos UHSD), **Jo Lucey** (Cupertino) and **Leslie Reynolds** (San Jose Unified), for their nominations!

Current SCCSBA Vice President and former Hoffmann Awards Chair, **Dana Tom, has been nominated for President**. Dana is serving in his 5th year as a trustee for the Palo Alto Unified School District and member of the SCCSBA Executive Board. He is currently President of the Asian Pacific Islander School Board Members Association. He completed the CSBA Masters in Governance program, and is a CSBA Delegate. In his own district, he's served as Board President, been PTA President and Site Council representative at an elementary school, was on the campaign committee for a successful parcel tax measure in 2005, and is working on the campaign for a renewal. He worked for 22 years in the software industry.



Our treasurer for the past two years, **Pam Parker**, is our **nominee for Vice President**. She joined the Campbell Union High School District in 2002 and is now serving in her second term. She also serves on several district committees. Pam began her involvement with the Campbell High School District many years ago as a graduate of one of the high schools in the district and more recently by serving as the President of the Home and School Club of the newly reopened Branham High School, where her son attended. She is a Masters in Governance graduate and a Delegate.



Our nominee for Treasurer is **Michael Gipe** of Saratoga Union. Holding degrees in both engineering and business, Michael has had a thirty-five year career in the electronics industry, most of it here in Silicon Valley. He has been involved in local education since first serving as a parent volunteer at a cooperative preschool seventeen years ago. Several terms on School Site Council and a number of other volunteer positions preceded his election to the SUSD School Board, where he is now in his second term and has served three years as President. He is also a Masters in Governance graduate and a candidate for Delegate Assembly.

Members of District Boards and Superintendents
Are invited to attend – **please note changes**



LEGISLATIVE BRUNCH

SATURDAY, APRIL 24
(Note change of date)
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Michaels at Shoreline

2960 N. Shoreline Blvd. (North of Hwy. 101),
Mountain View (Note change of venue)

Generously Sponsored by



Only \$25 per person

Informal discussion will take place during the buffet brunch. At the end of the meal, legislators will be given time for their words of wisdom and responses to pre-determined topics, followed by a formal question and answer period.

All School Board Members and Superintendents
Are welcome!

Please take the opportunity for your Board and Administrators to meet with our local and federal legislators and discuss the stimulus package, the budget, its impact on education, short-term flexibility and long-term solutions.

We will ask them to focus their remarks on the proposed state budget and other issues affecting education. **If you want to be a part of forming those questions, please attend our Wednesday, March 24 meeting.**



Interested in the development of our first **SCCSBA logo**? What do you think best represents our Association? Join **Anjali Kausar** of Cupertino and work with

our graphic artist to design a new logo for SCCSBA! Contact Frank Biehl at biehl@esuhsd.org to express interest.

Calendar Dates to Remember

Friday, March 5

CSBA Institute for New and First Term board Members and the Brown Act, Salinas

Weds., March 24, 7:30 – 9:00 p.m.

Regular Monthly Meeting

Speaker: Dr. Charles Weis

Topic: "State of the County Schools"

Election of Officers

Oak Grove Room

2nd fl. South

SCCOE

Friday, March 26

CSBA Masters in Governance

Setting Direction, School Finance

SCCOE

Saturday, March 27

CSBA Masters in Governance

Collective Bargaining, Human Resources,
Governance Integration,

SCCOE



Saturday April 24

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Legislative Brunch

Michaels at Shoreline

Mountain View

Wednesday, April 28

6:00 Social Hour

7:00 Dinner

Hoffmann Awards Dinner

Arya Global Cuisine

Cupertino

Congratulations to our

five 2010 Hoffmann

Award Winners who

will be honored at our

Spring Dinner on April

28! See details on page 4.



Look for your invitation to all school board members
And Superintendents to attend:



**SCCSBA's Spring
Hoffmann Awards Dinner
Wednesday, April 28
Arya Global Cuisine
19930 Stevens Creek Blvd, Cupertino**

**Complete Persian Buffet Dinner only \$35 per person
Thanks to the generous sponsorship of**



**6:00 Social Hour with the Saratoga High String Quartet
7:00 Dinner and Presentations by the 2010 Award Winners**

**Legislative Brunch
and Spring Dinner**

At our February meeting, **Suzanne Carrig**, staff to the County Committee on School District Organization, presented information on the statewide push for **Trustee Area Elections**. In connection with the California Voting Rights Act, a Lawyers' Committee has sent letters to districts around the state warning of possible violations of fair representation, based on ethnic demographics of the communities served. This has prompted districts, such as Oak Grove, to request by resolution to establish Trustee Areas as opposed to At-Large elections. Suzanne used the acronym "WAKEUP" to prompt districts to be aware, retain experts, decide without delay and adopt a resolution for presentation to the CCOSDO.

Over 25 board members and administrators attended our joint meeting with San Mateo County School Boards Association, featuring **David Plank** of PACE, who presented information on **Alternative Teacher Compensation**. He spoke about alternatives to step and column, which reward longevity, such as position incentives for hard to staff schools, rewards for knowledge and skills, added pay for added responsibilities, and rewards for student performance. With "Race to the Top", "Investment in Innovation", and "Teacher Incentive Fund" programs, there is federal money to reward districts that adopt this collaborative effort. It must be linked to standards and goals, sold to the community, negotiated with unions, and funded with new, sustainable money.

The first five of a series of new, local **CSBA Masters in Governance** classes, starts on Friday, March 26 at the SCCOE. Please register with CSBA to reserve your space!