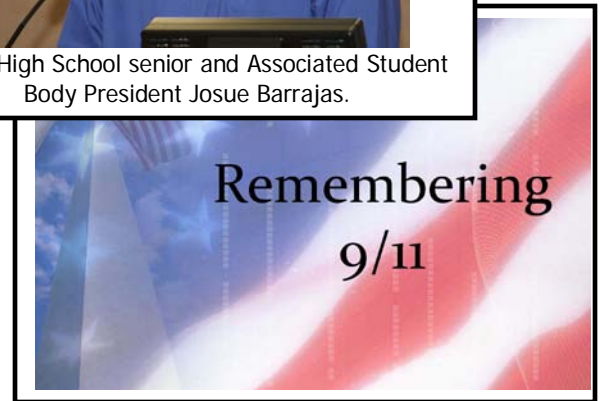


**Superintendent's Report** - Teaching and learning and community engagement/partnerships were themes woven through Superintendent Thelma Meléndez's opening report. She reported that Response to Intervention strategies in use at the elementary school level have added to academic gains of SAUSD students. Districtwide elementary readers at the first grade level have improved nearly 30% in their reading ability in just two years of RTI implementation. Teachers have undergone intensive training for this program. This summer 649 elementary teachers underwent 74.5 hours of RTI training.



Valley High School senior and Associated Student Body President Josue Barrajas reflected on events at his school in remembrance of 9/11 ten-year anniversary activities at his campus during the past week. Students created posters memorializing the event; participated in a tribute to victims and heroes including law enforcement and fire fighters; and were treated to an assembly featuring N.Y. Yankee All-star Curtis Granderson. Valley High students joined many across the school district in hosting remembrance activities. During her remarks, Superintendent Meléndez also shared some key dates for students and parents to calendar for the new school year including:



- ◆ **Thursday, September 15** – Elementary Back-to-School night
- ◆ **Wednesday, September 21** – High school Back-to-School night
- ◆ **Wednesday, October 5** – College Night Districtwide

**Employee of the Month** - Ernesto D. Lopez, night custodian at Santiago Elementary School, was recognized by the Board as September Classified Employee of the Month. "Ernesto has been nominated by his peers this year due to his constant efforts to make the Santa Ana Unified School District and Santiago



From left: Director of Classified Personnel Art Jimenez, Dr. Thelma Meléndez de Santa Ana, Ernesto D. Lopez, Debbie Prieto, Principal of Santiago Elementary School and Dennis Ziegler, Director of Building Services.

Elementary excel in maintenance and safety for the students and staff," said Dennis Ziegler, Building Services Director. "Our Goal in Building Services is to provide a safe, effective, well maintained learning environment for all students. With an employee like Mr. Lopez this goal has been accomplished at Santiago Elementary School. Ernesto has demonstrated leadership, character, and initiative to ensure the students and staff have a campus to be proud of. Ernesto always gives 110 percent and exceeds expectations. We are grateful for his contribution to the Santa Ana Unified School District," Ziegler said.

Dr. Meléndez pointed out that SAUSD this month joins with its sister partner, Santa Ana College, in proudly hosting the third annual Closing the Latino Achievement Gap Orange County 2011 Summit. The day-long conference will be held on Friday, September 30, 2011, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Santa Ana College's Phillips Hall. The conference will feature several informative sessions that will explore solutions on improving academics of English learners and closing the achievement gap for Hispanic students. The event will be made available by webinar for participation over the Internet. For more info call 714-558-5855, or log on to [www.ocachieves.org](http://www.ocachieves.org).

**Closing the Latino Achievement Gap  
Orange County 2011 Summit**

**Friday, September 30, 2011**

*Opening Speaker*  
**Juan Sepúlveda**  
Director, White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanic Americans

*Keynote Speaker*  
**Patricia Gándara, Ph.D.**  
Leading UCLA researcher on educational equity and access for low-income and ethnic minority students:  
*Addressing the Needs of the Long-Term EL*

*Data Presentation*  
**José Moreno, Ed. D.**  
Associate Professor,  
California State University, Long Beach

**Santa Ana College**  
Phillips Hall

[www.ocachieves.org](http://www.ocachieves.org)

For additional information call 714.558.5855

### Board Presentations

Staff gave the following presentations. To view a copy, visit the Board of Education webpage for 9/13/11.

- Chief Business Officer Michael Bishop presented the District's unaudited actual budget for the previous school year, which shows we are close to our predicted finances as we start the 2011-12 school year.
- Joe Dixon, our Assistant Superintendent of Facilities, gave an electrifying update on summer projects and new facilities which opened at the start of school year. His leadership team responsible for overseeing and supervising the effort was recognized by the Board for their outstanding results in support of school improvement and academic achievement.

### Public Hearing

Reopen Santa Ana Unified School District's Initial Bargaining Proposal for 2011-12 School Year to California School Employees Association, Chapter 41. There were no comments.

### Board Approvals

- Ratification of memorandum of understanding between Santa Ana Unified School District, THINK Together, and Promise Neighborhoods Initiative Partners for implementation grant II, pending grant award. **(Agenda item 3.0)**
- Approval of District's unaudited actuals for 2010-11 school year **(Agenda Item 4.0)**
- Board Policy (BP) 7400 Parking and Administrative Regulation (AR) 7400 – Parking (New: for adoption and implementation.) This Board policy establishes a Districtwide policy in an effort to provide a safer environment for students and staff. **(Agenda Item 10.0)**
- Approval to reopen Santa Ana Unified School District's Initial Bargaining Proposal for 2011-12 School Year to California School Employees Association, Chapter 41. **(Agenda Item 11.0)**

For all Board meeting results, refer to the Meeting Agendas and Minutes section of the Board webpage at [www.sausd.us](http://www.sausd.us). The next Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 27 at 6 p.m.