

SAUSD Board Highlights Page – June 14, 2011

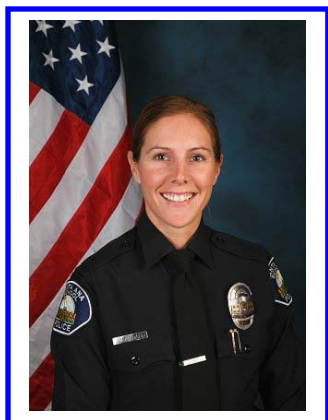
Board Says Farewell to SAUSD Leader – The Board of Education members individually thanked and recognized Superintendent Jane Russo for her leadership over the five years at the helm of the Santa Ana Unified School District. Superintendent Russo, who was recently selected as the 2011 Alumnus of the Year by the University of Arizona's College of Education, received words of praise from each Board member. The Board then presented her with a red marble apple bearing the SAUSD logo and inscribed with the words "in recognition of Jane A. Russo, SAUSD Superintendent. Success is the Standard!" This was Superintendent's final Board meeting before retiring on June 30.



Awards/Recognitions:

- The Superintendent's Report included several recognitions and achievements on the part of the student body and staff. Harvey Elementary, Muir Fundamental, Thorpe Fundamental and El Sol Science and Arts Academy and their principals were honored for being named Title I Achieving Schools for 2010-11. Title I Achieving recipients are those that have high levels of academic performance despite having high populations of low-income students.
- Seventeen Simon Scholars from the class of 2013 were presented by Dawn Miller, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education. This special group includes nine from Saddleback High School and eight from Segerstrom High. These students will receive six years of stipends, and scholarships in excess of \$30,000 each to help fund their college education.
- Sixteen intermediate students accepted into A Better Chance (ABC) program this year were also presented. These eighth grade students will receive a full scholarship to attend a prestigious high school on their way to achieving higher education goals. Maria Colmenares, a retired counselor from Villa Intermediate School, has continued her service voluntarily to coordinate the program.
- Superintendent Russo shared a of SAUSD's Top 100 Seniors from the Class of 2011, and showcased 16 Middle College High School students who've not only received their high school diploma, but who have also concurrently earned their associate of arts degree.
- Cathy Martinez, an AA degree recipient, won a brand new Chevy Cruze for having Perfect Attendance for the entire school year. She is the second student from Middle College High to win the grand prize in the high school perfect attendance contest in existence for the 5th year, courtesy of Guaranty Chevrolet.





A tribute to Century High School Resource Officer Jaime Randall rounded out Superintendent's final recognition. Officer Randall was recognized by the Board on her selection as the 2010-11 School Resource Officer of The Year by the California School Resource Officer's Association. Officer Randall was recognized for her excellence in school based policing and safety. She collaborates with students, parents, schools administrators and neighboring law enforcement agencies to create a safer school environment at the Century High campus and the surrounding Santa Ana community. She also mentors fellow officers to aid them in their development. To her credit, Officer Randall has proactively investigated a number of incidents resulting in positive outcomes. She will be formally recognized by the California School Resource Officer's Association on August 5, 2011 in Montebello.

Public Hearing/Board Presentation on Adoption of the 2011-12 Budget

- **The Board of Education approved the adoption of the 2011-12 budget presented by the Business Services Team. (Agenda Item 7.0)** SAUSD ends the 2010-11 school year on sound financial footing as it heads into the upcoming school year, according to Associate Superintendent Michael Bishop. Budget reductions for 2011-12 have amounted to \$31.5 million, most of which were realized through one-time funds as opposed to being ongoing reductions. The good news is that SAUSD has had no layoffs, or furlough days, and has maintained a 180-day school year unlike many of its counterparts in Orange County. Aside from ensuring fiscal solvency, which is required by law, ongoing Board priorities include:
 - Preserving staff, continuing to provide elementary support staff
 - Maintaining integrity of programs, protecting services to the most vulnerable students
 - School safety, health and well-being
 - Maintaining athletics and music programs
 - Reduced class sizes in grades 1 and 2
 - Maintaining 180 day instructional calendar.

Board Approvals

- **Approval of Submission of Orange County Department of Education Advancement Via Individual Determination Districtwide Initiative Grant for 2011-12 School Year – (Agenda Item 4.0)** Board approved \$24,000 grant for AVID teacher training and development at the secondary level. Cross training and development is critical to the program's preparation of students for college.
- **Adoption of Resolution No. 10/11-2884 – Renewal of Charter School Petition for El Sol Science and Arts Academy (Agenda Items 8.0)** The Board approved renewal of El Sol Science and Arts Academy's charter for a five-year term beginning July 1, 2011 and expiring June 30, 2016.
- **Authorization to Award Contract for Bid Package No. 15 for Site Work and Street Improvement at Santa Ana High School Under Overcrowding Relief Grant Program (Agenda Item 13.0)** This item grants Facilities staff permission to continue with renovations to improve the historic Santa Ana High School, the oldest high school in Orange County founded in 1889. Log on to www.sausd.us and click on the Board of Education or Facilities page to view artists' renderings of the improvements.

For all Board meeting results and presentations refer to the School Board Meeting Agendas and Minutes section of the school district's website at www.sausd.us, and click on the Board of Education tab. The next regularly scheduled **Board of Education meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 28, 2011.**