## SAUSD Board Highlights Page - June 28, 2011

Community Pledges Support as Tribute to Superintendent Jane Russo...The June 23<sup>rd</sup> official launch of the Santa Ana Public Schools Foundation symbolizes the illustrious 38-year education career of Superintendent Jane Russo. It also represents the ideals on which she has based her achievements over the past five years, "Success is the Standard. It's Up to Us All" in charting the course for student success. SAUSD has several accomplishments for which to thank Superintendent Russo. She has increased academic scores for five straight years; instituted a number of operational systems and efficiencies; initiated sound fiscal management practices; and built strong collaborations and partnerships to propel the school district to further greatness.



It is with this sizable lead that she passes the baton on to her successor, the next superintendent. The last great achievement before her retirement is the formation of the Santa Ana Public Schools Foundation. Her success inspired many to pledge their support for the school district. Those contributors and friends were acknowledged by the Board of Education for signing on as major inaugural donors, who by their actions "thanked" Superintendent Russo for blazing a trail of excellence and expressed their belief that our students can and will achieve to their highest potential. Major pioneers of giving, adding to the \$75,000 plus initially raised, include the following:

- ♦ Soroptimist International, Santa Ana-Tustin
- ♦ SchoolsFirst Federal Credit Union
- ◆ THINK Together, Inc.
- ♦ George K. Baum & Company
- ♦ Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo
- ♦ Law Offices of Eric Bathen
- ♦ NTD Architecture
- Robert & Donna Nelson and a host of friends & supporters, including Board members Dr. Audrey Yamagat-Noji and Rob Richardson, who served as founding Board of Director members for the foundation.

Legacy Honored with Golden Rule Award... Superintendent Jane Russo has been named the recipient of the inaugural Golden Rule Award by the Kiwanis Club of Santa Ana, an acclaim that further punctauates nearly four decades of remarkable service to students. The award will be presented at the Kiwanis banquet on September 24, 2011. Opportunities are available for those who would like to honor Superintendent Russo's educational career in the Kiwanis souvenir booklet. Please call 714-724-2221 for more info.



Matthew McConaughey

## **Deputy Superintendent's Report**

THINK Together Teams With j.k. livin to Keep Students Fit – THINK Together, our after-school partner, has joined forces with celebrity Matthew McConaughey to benefit two SAUSD high school programs — ValleyTHINK and CenturyTHINK. Randy Barth, CEO of THINK Together, attended the Board meeting to give an overview of the collaboration with j.k. livin. The foundation, formed in 2008, provides fitness activities and promotes healthy life-styles for after-school students in urban public schools.

Learning Extends into Summer...Thanks to the strong partnership between SAUSD and THINK Together, the summer learning program is now in its third year of providing academic instruction in English, math and science, physical fitness sessions, music, dance, and field trips for K-8 students. This year approximately 12,000 students will be served Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on 40 campuses through July 29, excluding July 4. Additionally, as a result of the ongoing partnership between Santa Ana Unified School District and Santa Ana College, students at Segerstrom High School and Godinez Fundamental High School will have the opportunity to attend classes for credit recovery at their respective high schools through the Bridge Program. SAUSD will be offering credit recovery classes and other enrichment sessions for Century High, Saddleback High, Santa Ana High and Valley High School students through their School Improvement Grants. Both programs will run through July 29.

Summer Nourishment for Youths...Another benefit for our students this summer includes the free summer lunch program sponsored by SAUSD and the City of Santa Ana at schools, parks and other locations throughout the summer. The federally-funded program, runs through August 12, excluding July 4 at various schools and parks. Participants must be age 18 or younger and eat all meals at the participating site. For more information, call 714-431-1900, or log on to our website at www.sausd.us.

## **Board Presentations**

To view a copy of the following presentations, visit the Board of Education webpage at www.sausd.us

- ♦ Budget Update
- ♦ Roosevelt/Walk Elementary Schools Proposition 84 Grant Application Update

## **Board Public Hearing/Approvals**

- Adoption of Resolution No. 10/11-2887 Use of Flexibility Provision for Tier III Categorical Programs and Funds for 2011-12 – (Agenda Item 8.0) The public had an opportunity to comment on the proposal by staff to use Tier III categorical funding to subsidize educational services routinely covered by the general fund. This flexibility will lessen the need for additional budget reductions.
- Approval to Increase Student Meal Prices for 2011-12 School Year (Agenda Items 9.0) Per the 2010 Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act signed into law by President Obama, school districts are required to gradually increase lunch prices until the revenue per lunch matches the difference between the cost of the meal and the paid federal reimbursement rate (Public Law 111-296). In keeping with the provision that must take effect on July 1, 2011, the Board approved an incremental increase from \$1.25 to \$1.50 for elementary students; and an increase from \$1.50 to \$1.75 for secondary students. These prices continue to be the lowest for school lunches in Orange County.
- Approval to Name Spurgeon Intermediate School's New Building "Russ Ford Hall" (Agenda Item 22.0) Russell Ford, a retired SAUSD teacher, tragically lost his life last May. Mr. Ford began his SAUSD career in 1978 as a reading specialist for Spurgeon Intermediate School. He retired on June 30, 2010 as a teacher on special assignment. This is a fitting tribute to his contributions as an educator.
- Approval of Collective Bargaining Agreement with Santa Ana Educators' Association for 2011-12 School Year (Agenda Item 38.0) The Board approved the collective bargaining agreement with the Santa Ana Educators' Association for the 2011-12 school year. The agreement was passed by a 98% vote.



Russell Ford

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. The next regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 26, 2011.