



**Orange
County
School
Boards
Association**

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2003-2004

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SPOTLIGHT ON NEWS

September 2003 Edition

Welcome to Orange County's New District Superintendents

Craig Haugen, Ed.D., District Superintendent Anaheim Union High School District

Craig Haugen was appointed Superintendent of the Anaheim Union High School District effective July 1, 2003. He has served in that district since 1968 as teacher, coach, counselor, assistant principal, principal, Director of Alternative Education, and Assistant Superintendent.

The new Superintendent grew up in Glendale where he played varsity football and baseball at Hoover High School. He obtained his BA and MA at Whitworth College in Spokane, Washington. At Pepperdine University he completed his doctorate in institutional management.

Dr. Haugen's community involvement has included the Anaheim Prep Sports/Activities Foundation, Kiwanis Club of Greater Anaheim, and coaching youth sports teams.

He has been married to his wife for 35 years, since their senior year in college. They have two children, Holly and Justin.

Dr. Haugen plans to "bring accountability to students, work on building programs, and work on the budget."

Van W. Riley, Ph.D., District Superintendent Huntington Beach Union High School District

The Huntington Beach Union High School District selected Van W. Riley as their new Superintendent commencing on July 1, 2003. Superintendent Riley previously served as Superintendent in Ojai Unified and Carpenteria Unified School Districts. He previously served in the San Dieguito Union High School District as teacher, assistant principal, principal, Director of Pupil Services, and Assistant Superintendent of Personnel.

Dr. Riley is a native Californian, born and raised in the San Jose area. He obtained his bachelors degree from UC Santa Barbara and teaching credentials from UCLA. His MA in Education Administration was completed at San Diego State University and his Ph.D. at UC Santa Barbara.

Dr. Riley and his wife Mary have been married 31 years. They have two children, Matt and Sarah, both of whom are married and living in the Santa Barbara area. They are proud grandparents of Isabella, who turns four this summer.

The new superintendent has specialized training in strategic management and interest-based bargaining. He plans to spend his first few months getting to know the Huntington Beach community. He will focus on "fostering positive, open relationships with staff and the community, enhancing the curriculum and instructional programs, and working to improve school facilities."

A Message from the OCSBA President – Bill Dunton

This is my first opportunity to communicate with my peers since being elected Orange County School Boards Association president. Your OCSBA Board met last June to establish the groundwork so we could assist you in dealing with the new educational challenges we all face. We are determined to be proactive, not reactive. Given this year's budget crisis, the impending budget crisis of 2004, a new State Superintendent of Public Instruction, and the recall of Governor Davis, OCSBA must articulate with one voice the mantra, "We will do what is best for the kids we serve, and we will not be swayed from that objective regardless of what is politically correct or what the current voter *plat du jour* might be." Paraphrasing Ben Franklin, to accomplish that requires all of us hanging together or we shall surely hang separately!

I started teaching in 1949 and remember long discussions then at staff and Trustee meetings about such "vital" educational problems as "What should the penalty be for chewing gum?" or "Is the skirt indecently short if the knee shows below the hem?" The very thought of a teacher (or indeed an entire district) being held responsible for pupil learning was anathema. It was an accepted truth that the bell-curve meant no matter how adept the instruction was, a certain percentage of students would fail! (And, oh yes, that same percentage of students would receive an "A" grade.) "Not to worry," we were told, "that's how things are!"

But now we have to deal with the plethora of alphabet soup, i.e., AYP, AMO, NCLB, CAHSEE, BDEDS, API, NCES, STAR, etc. Those acronyms plus a myriad of their brethren, spell success or failure in the eyes of the public and the media. Something even more dangerous—they are the basis on which individual schools will be judged! The difference between a local District losing complete control of a specific campus to the State can be a mere point or two on test results.

A good many of the people we represent keep referring to the "good old days" when they complained about today's education. I don't think there were any "good old days" – except perhaps, in the warm fuzzy memory pouches our psyches use to camouflage an activity that was once believed to be gospel! We were taught those things that were "good for us" and we would need the knowledge imparted for "our future" and "to succeed at college and the world of work."

Oh really! I remember spending hours learning how to "do" square root, only to be told by our instructor after we had finished that quagmire of educational pedagogy that NOBODY "did" square roots anymore – they just used the available tables! Come to think of it, we actually had to look up the tables instead of pushing a computer button to get that data in a heart-beat!

In closing, I'd like to convey two quotations for your reflective process: (1) "Even though you're on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there" . . . Will Rogers; and (2) "Education is the ability to listen to almost anything without losing your temper or your self-confidence" . . . Robert Frost.

The OCSBA Officers and Directors, stand ready to support you in every way possible. All you have to do is ask.

Orange County School Boards Association Board of Directors 2003-2004 (Effective July 1, 2003)

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LEGISLATORS' REPLIES

Those of you at April's dinner meeting remember the letter signing room, where we signed letters to all the Assemblymen and Senators who cover Orange County urging them to protect school funding in the budget and to pass it on time. We received three replies.



Lynn Daucher hand wrote a message stating her goal was to sign a budget on time and protect the Base Revenue Limit. She doubted there would be a resolution to the problem of school funding this year and stated she is interested in suspending some of the mandates. She is serving on a committee addressing mandates.

Rudy Bermudez, a new Assemblyman, wants to minimize the impact of budget cuts on education. He is looking for an approach that is fair and balanced, and does not put the greatest burden on those who can least afford it. He hopes any cuts in education will be as far from the classroom as possible.

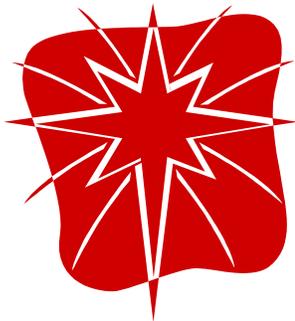
Senator Dick Ackerman referred to the May Revise of the Governor as papering over the problem with borrowing, gimmicks and tax increases. He quoted the Legislative Analyst's Office in saying, "A significant operating deficit would indeed still exist in 2004-05 in our view, close to \$7 billion." He wants "real reform and real solutions" to attack the structural deficit.

OCSBA Dinner Meetings

Irvine Marriott, 18000 Von Karman Avenue, Irvine
5:30 p.m. PAGE Meeting, 6:00 p.m. Social, 6:30 p.m.
Dinner

September 17, 2003
November 19, 2003*
February 18, 2004*
April 21, 2004

*Joint ACSA Dinner Meeting



A Tribute to Joanne Stanton

The Orange County Board of Education and the Orange County School Boards Association suffered a loss with the death of Joanne Stanton. Joanne served on the county board since 2000. She exemplified a zest for life, advocacy for children, commitment to real world experiences for youth and love of learning. Joanne will long be remembered for her service on multiple boards including Anaheim Union High District, North Orange County Regional Occupational Program, CBSA delegation, and the Governor's Advisory Committee for School to Career. She was selfless in giving her time and brought wisdom to every setting. She was most proud of the recognition she received from the PTA Golden Oak Award, the Marian Bergeson Award, and the Maureen DiMarco Award for Exemplary Leadership of Youth. We will miss Joanne's quiet but influential style.

OCSBA Dinner Meeting
September 17, 2003
Guest Speaker



Ron Bennett

President
School Services of
California, Inc.

“Riding California’s Roller Coaster - Part II”

Mr. Bennett will forecast the thrills and spills of the E-ticket ride of the decade. What happens this year - and the next? Is there an end in sight?

Ron will share his insight as the president of School Services of California, Inc., as a negotiator, a fact-finder, a director of the Coalition for Adequate Student Housing, and as a former school district chief financial officer.

PAGE Meeting
September 17, 2003
Guest Speaker



Jacqueline Price

Asst. Superintendent, Admin. Services
Capistrano Unified School District

**Surviving in Our Challenging
Educational Marketplace**

Today public schools face the same kinds of issues as any other large or small business. Our challenges grow more enormous each year, and the competition for who will educate our communities' school children continues to increase.

Therefore, it is critical for us as school leaders to assess what our customers want and need and then set about meeting those demands. That's called quality, responsible customer service, and it is essential to our survival as an institution. In these fiscally difficult times, providing such service is more important than ever before.



Board Member Changes

Centralia School District

Dennis Salts has replaced Bob Lindsay,
who retired after 38 years of board service.

Rancho Santiago Community College District

Alfredo Amezcua has replaced Enriqueta Ramos.
Enriqueta will be moving to Texas after 11 years of board service.

Orange County Board of Education

Dr. John W. Bedell has been appointed to represent District IV due to the passing of Joanne Stanton.

**CALIFORNIA SCHOOL
BOARDS ASSOCIATION**

2003 ANNUAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE
AND TRADE SHOW

DECEMBER 11 – 13, 2003
SAN DIEGO

Now, more than ever: Be an informed leader!

PLEASE CALL (800) 266-3382 x 3275 TO REGISTER

In Memory of

Dr. Robert Peterson

*Orange County Superintendent of Schools
from 1966 to 1991*

Dr. Peterson passed away in August in North
Carolina. We remember with fondness his
commitment to fostering academic excellence
for Orange County Students!