



Synergies

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CLASSROOM OF THE FUTURE FOUNDATION

ISSUE 33

"To meet the needs of our students, we must change the way we deliver education. The vision CFF brings, coupled with the business community commitment, have been invaluable tools."

Janice Cook,
Superintendent
Cajon Valley School
District

Board Retreat Sets Course for 2012

The recent Classroom of the Future Foundation's annual retreat held at the School of Leadership & Education Sciences, USD, (pictured here) included an assessment of current initiatives and establishment of priorities for the coming year.



SDCOE's Chief Technology Officer, Steve Clemons explained at the CFF Retreat how local school districts are using a variety of technologies to advance teaching and learning. (See slide above).

The CFF's acclaimed STEM programs in the Lemon Grove and Cajon Valley School Districts will remain a priority. In addition, its commitment to project-based learning programs in Santee will continue, as well as the development of online curriculum by the USS Midway Museum.

The Foundation also will continue working with the San Diego County Office of Education's Collaboratory, in addition to its cloud computing, broadband expansion, and STEM initiatives.

A new effort, still in the exploratory phase, could become a partnership with the San Diego Children & Nature Collaborative which focuses on incorporating the local environment (playgrounds, canyons, community gardens, open spaces) into project-based learning programs. Exploratory meetings with teachers have seen an enthusiastic response and early-phase evaluation is continuing.

CFF Advisory board member Tom Dillon has been instrumental in early discussions between CFF and the San Diego Children & Nature Collaborative.

Foundation Designates New Chair, Adds Four New Board Members



Longtime CFF board member Drew Schlosberg has been named Chairman of CFF's Board of Directors for 2012. Schlosberg is Community & Public Relations Director at The San Diego Union-Tribune.

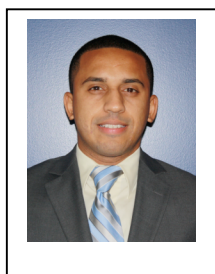
"Drew has outstanding community contacts throughout San Diego and the Union-Tribune is well-known for its support of public education," noted Executive Director Bruce Braciszewski.

"While the financial pressures on K-12 education mount, the opportunities to inspire, innovate and collaborate abound. The CFF staff and Board look

“We wouldn’t be as far as we are in creating a state-of-the-art school without CFF, and we are incredibly thankful for its time, talent and resources.”

Kathy Skube, Ed.D
Principal
Emerald STEM
Magnet Middle
School,
Cajon Valley

forward to building upon past successes, such as the Midway Model Classrooms, the project-based learning programs, and the annual Innovation in Education Awards event. We are looking forward to leveraging the diversity of the Board to explore new strategies and initiatives that will enhance teaching, learning, and measurably improve academic achievement,” said Schlosberg.



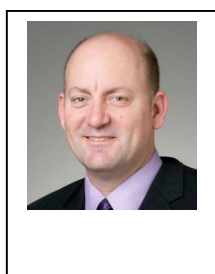
Gustavo Duarte

“I’m looking forward to continuing the momentum generated by former Chair Colleen Peterson whose creation of the CFF Visionary and Leadership Award was just one of her many accomplishments during her tenure,” he added.

In addition, Apple’s Ritz Sherman has been named incoming Chair, assuring leadership continuity over the next two years.



John Sipe



Michael Verdesca

New board members include Gustavo Duarte, Account Executive at Time Warner; John Sipe, Senior Vice President, National Sales at Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, a leading textbook and e-textbook publisher; Michael Verdesca, Chief Information Officer for Jack in the Box; and Sally Bowen, Senior Sales Representative for Cox Business Services.



Sally Bowen

All four bring to CFF outstanding community contacts and a rich understanding of technology’s potential for the classroom.

EETT Grant Fuels Lemon Grove, CFF

A \$267,300 federal Enhancing Education Through Technology (EETT) grant will enable the Lemon Grove School District to significantly expand technology in the classroom, fund teacher training, and enable CFF to conduct research and evaluate outcomes.

Lemon Grove was one of only 27 districts in California that received funding and it was the only district in San Diego County to receive a grant. The funding will purchase new equipment for fourth-grade students.

In addition, it will help underwrite the development of innovative school field trips to the USS Midway Museum. Midway is developing Math, Science, History and Social Studies curricula that “close the engagement gap” that some students face in the traditional classroom.

“It’s an excellent example of how different types of educational communities can work together to really benefit students in different ways,” said Sara Hanscom, the USS Midway Museum’s Education Director.

Meanwhile CFF will continue in its role of evaluation.

Technology Used for Cyber Safety

Students at Emerald STEM Academy and in Lemon Grove middle schools are using new technology to make the Internet safer for other students.

Today’s students spend an average of more than five hours per day “logged in” to technology. However, they lack the knowledge, digital citizenship, and

“Education is simply the soul of a society as it passes from one generation to another.”

G. K. Chesterton

support to know how to solve problems they encounter.

Students are writing skits, movie scripts, podcasts, Prezi's, and songs which they are now producing to help educate their peers about cyberbullying and, more importantly, how to protect themselves in our digital world.

Thanks to an SDG&E Youth Leadership Grant, students are producing podcasts that help other students avoid or cope with bullying, identity theft, privacy, and other online issues. It's a great example of students teaching students about responsible online behavior through the use of innovative technology.

SDCUE Technology Conference Set

The annual SDCUE Technology Conference will be held on Saturday, November 5, 2011 at Cal State San Marcos, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

The Conference features more than 50 sessions on innovative uses of technology in all curriculum areas. In addition, there are practical presentations, vendor exhibits, and special sessions for coordinators and administrators.

Registration discounts are available until October 21. For more information, visit www.sdcue.org.

CFF, Midway Expand Partnership

The Classroom of the Future Foundation continues to play an expanding role in the USS Midway Museum's education program. The museum hosts 40,000 students a year and now is developing online curriculum.

The first component, focusing on the Vietnam War, has been tested with local schools and evaluated by CFF. The museum plans to launch the online program in early 2012 and CFF will provide critical packaging and marketing communications expertise in the interim.

The new online curriculum, for 11th and 12th grade teachers, enables the aircraft carrier-turned-museum to become accessible to high school students whose schedules prohibit field trips.

The museum's goal is to ultimately serve 100,000 students annually through field trips and e-field trips. For more information about its education program, visit www.midway.org/youth-school.

Digital Learning News of Note

Feds Must Support Digital Learning

As schools increasingly embrace digital learning, a new report says more federal action is needed to encourage the effective use of educational technology.

The Alliance for Excellent Education hosted a recent webinar to discuss its report, which highlights examples of successful digital learning around the country and recommends several steps for the federal government to take in order to make it available across the country.

"We are moving from a predominantly print-based to a digital learning environment," said Karen Cator, Director of the Office of Educational Technology at the U.S. Department of Education. The report says the government should:

- 1) Infuse technology through all federal education programs
- 2) Restore dedicated funding streams to replace loss of EETT funding
- 3) Build on National Educational Plan recommendations
- 4) Invest in ongoing educational technology and research

iPads Replacing Textbooks

Apple reports that more than 600 K-12 school districts have launched iPad programs, two-thirds of them since July. Textbook publishers are moving quickly in response.

One publisher's 950-page algebra text (\$73) is being replaced with an iPad app and content, downloadable for about \$60. CFF Board Member and Senior Vice President, John Sipe, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, says, "the app goes far beyond a digital textbook. With "Fuse", students can watch engaging video tutorials, swipe through pages and problems, get hints and walk-throughs and use a graphing calculator. Teachers get instant feedback on student progress with a built in student response system and are able to spend more time in individualized instruction. We are seeing student outcomes go way up and yet the cost has come down. It's incredibly exciting."

If a school normally purchases 300 textbooks for a freshman class, the online version will save the district nearly \$4,000.



SAVE THE DATE

May 17, 2012

5:00pm – 8:00pm

INNOVATION IN EDUCATION AWARDS PROGRAM

Hahn University Center

University of San Diego

Synergies is a newsletter of the Classroom of the Future Foundation. For more information, contact Bruce Braciszewski at (858) 292-3685 or visit www.classroomofthefuture.org. © 2011