



Synergies

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CLASSROOM OF THE FUTURE FOUNDATION

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New Leadership on CFF Board of Directors

Board member **Colleen Peterson** of Peterson Hill Marketing, Inc., has accepted the position of chair of the Classroom of the Future's board of directors. Together with some new board members, Peterson is looking forward to advancing CFF's invaluable collaborative role between innovative technology, educators, and the business community.



"I can't think of a job more important than inspiring the minds of today's youth. This is why I am so excited about the opportunity to focus the many talents of our Board and lead The Classroom of the Future Foundation in inspiring innovative learning and student achievement in San Diego County classrooms that will prepare 21st century learners and celebrate their success," said Peterson.

As a six-year CFF Board Member, Peterson continues to be passionate about public school education and feels an urgency in bringing about reform. "In order to effectively fuse innovation and technology into our K-12 public schools we must join even closer now as business, community and educational partners to provide the validation, collaboration and financial assistance that is necessary to make change a reality in our classrooms today. We can't afford to wait."

Peterson has already kicked off strategic planning for 2010. "One of our key Board goals in 2010 will be to bring new ideas, new resources and new partners to the table who can add to CFF's mission in a fresh, and meaningful and measurable way. In the end, the number of students, teachers and overall classrooms that CFF positively impacts is the true ROI of our efforts."

"We look forward to Colleen continuing the strong tradition of leadership embodied by **Tom Dillon**, our most recent Chair of the Board, as well as all CFF leaders before him," noted **Bruce Braciszewski**, Executive Director of The Classroom of the Future Foundation. "The dedication of these individuals and the devotion of all of our CFF volunteers is truly impressive. Their collective work has gone a long way in advancing public education in San Diego County," he added.

In addition, **Mark Blankenship** of Jack in the Box became vice-chair of the board. **Laura Duzyk** of the San Diego County Office of Education is board treasurer and **Jeff Felix**, Superintendent of the Coronado School District, is board secretary.

Save the Date: May 20 for Annual Innovation Awards Dinner

CFF's 2010 in Education Awards dinner program, "Celebrating Innovation & Academic Achievement," will be held on May 20, 2010 at the University of San Diego, beginning at 5 p.m.

"Good schools, like good societies and good families, celebrate and cherish diversity."

--Deborah Meier,
Educator

“The purpose of education is to replace an empty mind with an open one.”

--Malcolm S. Forbes



USD is renowned for its forward-thinking approach to education so we're especially proud to partner with one of San Diego's finest institutions of higher learning in announcing the recipients of the Innovation in Education awards as well as recognizing this year's Academic Achievement Scholars.

A variety of sponsorship opportunities are available for our business and technology partners interested in fostering their partnership with educators and in supporting innovative learning practices.

For more information, contact Bruce Braciszewski at (868) 292-3685.

Innovation Award Nominations Open

Nominations can now be submitted now for the Innovation in Education Awards of 2010. Four awardees will receive a total of \$25,000 in four categories:

- Inspire Award
- Innovate Award
- Achieve Award
- Impact Award

For more information and an online nomination form, please visit www.classroomofthefuture.org.

New Board Members

The Classroom of the Future Foundation continues to strengthen its community partnerships through the addition of highly qualified board members.



Martha King, left, and **Kim Rohr**, right, have joined the board of directors. Most recently, Martha was Vice President, Legal and Compliance for Fidex, Inc., an online financial services firm. Kim serves as a Community Relations Specialist for Sony Electronics, which has been a longtime partner of CFF.



In addition, CFF's advisory board has been strengthened by the addition of **Adm. Mac McLaughlin**, USN (ret.) who is president and CEO of the USS Midway Museum (renowned for its education program) and **Dr. Jerry Lee**, Chancellor of National University.



Chris Baker, CFF board member from Sempra Energy Utilities, visited a project-based learning classroom in Santee recently. Sempra provided \$15,000 through CFF so Santee teachers can attend professional development classes that enable them to become classroom leaders in the latest and most effective classroom instruction techniques.

“Today knowledge has power. It controls access to opportunity and advancement.”

--Peter F. Drucker

STEM Academies Will Be Established in Two Local School Districts

CFF is fulfilling a key collaborative role with Cajon Valley and Lemon Grove School District officials as they each designate one school as a STEM Academy (science, technology, engineering, mathematics).

CFF representatives are working with principals and educators to establish STEM-related curriculum plans for the 2010-11 school year. A key component of a STEM Academy will be active participation by local business partners.

Involvement that benefits students will range from hosting field trips to providing guest speakers to more individual interaction through blogs.

For more information about the remarkable potential of STEM-based education, visit www.stemcoalition.org. For information about CFF activities, contact Bruce Braciszewski at (868) 292-3685.

CFF Continues Partnership with USS Midway Museum Education

The USS Midway Museum’s unique education program is continuing its partnership with CFF officials, jointly planning the next phase of the expanding program aboard the historic aircraft carrier.

More than 40,000 students held classes on Midway last year focusing on hands-on math, science, and social science curriculum. The program is so popular that the museum has doubled its number of classrooms. CFF played a collaborative role in that expansion, both in curriculum development and the incorporation of innovative technology on a ship built in 1944-1945.



Now CFF will play a new collaborative role, assembling curriculum specialists and teachers to help develop new civics/social studies programs with an emphasis on “service.” In addition, the new curriculum will make use of the latest technology, with an eye toward pioneering new distance learning programs via the web.

Education News of Note

A new e-book, *Revolutionizing Education: What We’re Learning from Technology-Transformed Schools*, reveals what schools that are dedicated to innovative technology are learning. The book is based on a survey of such schools and was produced by Project RED and K12 Computing Blueprint. For additional information, visit www.k12blueprint.com

A national survey of educators recently summarized what they consider to be the five foremost issues facing education in 2010.

1. In the coming months, details filling out the National Technology Plan and National Broadband Plan are expected from the U.S. Department

	<p>of Education and Federal Communications Commission, respective. Both could have profound impact on the future of education.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="522 176 1435 289">2. Federal stimulus funding continues into 2010, although less is going to education than education leaders had hoped. This comes in the face of what likely will be increased state cuts in education as states struggle to balance budgets.<li data-bbox="522 310 1435 451">3. Many believe the top education technology story of 2009 was the advent of digital textbooks, a development that assuredly will continue in 2010. Publishers are scrambling to secure e-book distribution rights to potentially millions of out-of-print books. Others are developing massive public-domain book download sites.<li data-bbox="522 472 1435 613">4. Mobile devices are now fundamental to our culture and are an increasing presence in the classroom. Google is introducing new technology to increase boot-up speeds and Apple reportedly is working on new tablet-style computers as a harbinger of new multimedia devices in the future.<li data-bbox="522 634 1435 774">5. At the federal level, no one is expecting a prompt renewal of the No Child Left Behind Act, renewal that already is three years overdue. Although achievement gaps between some schools has been closed since adoption of the Act eight years ago, much more remains to be accomplished.
	<p>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</p>