

Superintendent's Staff Report



José Banda, Superintendent

September 5, 2014

Welcome to the 2014-2015 School Year!

The start of a new school year is always exciting, a time when staff, students and parents alike move from confident preparation to nervous anticipation to happy relief. Even after 34 years of first days, I still enjoy the rush of the first week of school. This year was no different. As I visited schools, I saw smiling children and welcoming staff. Thank you for your hard work to make the transition to 2014-2015 as smooth as possible.

As this is my first staff newsletter, I'd like to share a little about what kind of leader I am and what you can expect from me. Some leaders operate in solitary fashion, developing a vision and asking people to follow. I'm not one of those. I strongly believe in building consensus. I strongly believe in the concept of servant leadership. And I strongly believe that relationships lie at the heart of what we do. I won't create the vision and ask you to come with me. I want to engage you and the community to build and implement a vision with me.

Because relationships are important, I will commit to listening to you, understanding your challenges and working to mitigate those across the system. I will commit to being a continuous learner. We ask that of our students, and I will model it for our students. Finally, I will work hard to seek funding for our work and to provide the resources we need to support every student.

Thanks again for a great first week.

Superintendent José L. Banda

Site Leadership Changes

At the end of last year and over the summer, we had a number of site leadership changes. Please join me in congratulating and welcoming:

- Shannon Henry, Principal, John Bidwell Elementary
- Samantha Holmes, Principal, John Cabrillo Elementary
- Eric Chapman, Principal, Leataata Floyd Elementary
- Isabel Govea, Principal, Harkness Elementary
- Nate McGill, Principal, Phoebe Hearst Elementary

Important Dates

September 8, 9 a.m.-11 a.m.

Serna Center, Kansas Room
CELDT Training

September 9, 3:30-5 p.m.

Serna Center, California Room
New Administrators Meeting

September 10, 3:30-5:30 p.m.

Serna Center, Tennessee Room
Special Education/Inclusive
Practices: Co-Teaching 101

September 10, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Hiram Johnson High School
Bond Oversight Committee

September 11, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Serna Center, Kansas Room
CAHSEE Coordinator Trainings

September 15, 3-5:30 p.m.

Serna Parent, Community Rooms
EL Site Coordinator Training

September 16, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Serna Center, Tennessee Room
Community Advisory Committee
for Special Education

- Lynne Ruvalcaba, Principal, Susan B. Anthony Elementary
- Soledad Gutierrez, Assistant Principal, Elder Creek Elementary
- Rachel Cooper, Assistant Principal, Pacific and Parkway Elementary
- Bao Moua, Assistant Principal, John Still K-8
- Chase Tafoya, Assistant Principal, John Still K-8
- Denise Lee, Principal, Martin Luther King K-8
- Andrea Egan, Interim Principal, California Middle School
- Ygnacio Zarate, Assistant Principal, California Middle School
- Frank Maestas, Assistant Principal, Sam Brannan Middle School
- William Jones, Assistant Principal, Luther Burbank High School
- Maida Garboushian, Assistant Principal, John F. Kennedy High School
- Leise Martinez, Interim Principal, Sacramento New Tech High School
- Liz Vigil, Interim Principal, Rosemont High School
- Steven Jones, Assistant Principal, Rosemont High School
- Jeremy Predko, Assistant Principal, Rosemont High School
- James Eder, Site Instructional Coordinator, Rosemont High School
- Cory Jones, Interim Principal, American Legion

Infinite Campus Update

Thank you for your patience as we continue the transition to our new student information system. While most of the daily functions of the product are working as expected, there are of course some issues that we are still working to address. As we said since the beginning of this transition, there are always challenges with large implementations like these and ours is unfortunately no different.

- We are working with IC staff to solve the issue that prevents us from calling staff with Infinite Campus Messenger.
- Registering new students takes longer because of the complexity of data input fields and because staff must create connections of data to accurately record student information. The good news is that our data will be more robust moving forward. The bad news is that we run the risk of falling behind with registrations if all steps of the process are followed with every new student. To mitigate this problem, we have advised school office staff to use a “quick registration” protocol for now, with the full registration to be completed later.

TB Testing

To allow school nurses to spend more time at schools serving students, Health Services will no longer provide tuberculosis (TB) testing to employees and volunteers. This change will allow nurses to better meet the rising health care demands of students in high-needs neighborhoods, which will make campuses safer and healthier for everyone. Employees and volunteers needing to update TB results should contact their health care providers.