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REGISTER

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE COALITION FOR ADEQUATE SCHOOL HOUSING

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Monterey Ridge Elementary School

See page 10 for details

Message From The Chair

Second Cohort of the C.A.S.H. School Facilities Leadership Academy is ready to get to work

As we presented to you in last month's edition, the second cohort of the C.A.S.H. School Facilities Leadership Academy has been selected. We have now confirmed and matched mentors with the participants and everyone is ready to get to work.

The Steering Committee met to review and discuss curriculum for the
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The CASH Register is published eleven times a year (January through November) by the Coalition for Adequate School Housing (C.A.S.H.) and distributed to C.A.S.H. members. Over 1,000 rapidly growing school districts, county offices of education, architects, attorneys, bond counsel, financial institutions, developers, contractors, consultants, inspectors, licensed professionals, manufacturers of portable classrooms, maintenance suppliers and others who are concerned about school construction issues hold C.A.S.H. memberships.

The CASH Register solicits articles on school facility-related topics from the membership. If you are interested in submitting an article, please send it or a letter of inquiry to: Editor, CASH Register editorial office, 1130 K Street - Suite 210, Sacramento, CA 95814. Sorry, we are unable to return or acknowledge unpublished manuscripts. The views expressed herein are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the Coalition for Adequate School Housing, its board, staff or general membership.

C.A.S.H. School Facilities Leadership Academy 2007-08 Mentor Pairings

Participant

Leslie Alexander
San Bernardino Superintendent of Schools

Bibi Alvarado
Montebello Unified School District

Mary Baker
Kern County Superintendent of Schools

David Burson
Sierra Sands Unified School District

Teri Castaneda
Pasadena Unified School District

Michael Coleman
Fairfax School District

Joe Dixon
Capistrano Unified School District

Sharon Dobbins
Cajon Valley Unified School District

Steve Doyle
Keppel Unified School District

Jenny Hannah
Kern County Superintendent of Schools

John Heredia
Chula Vista Unified School District

Glynn Hoekstra
Barnhart Inc.

Richard Huston
Butte County Office of Education

Shannon James Jauch
Las Virgenes Unified School District

David Keil
San Luis Obispo County Office of Education

Sharon Kurtz
Hollister School District

Jimmy LeGrande
Woodland Unified School District

Shawn Lohman
Capistrano Unified School District

John Messick
Sundt Construction

Gerry Mulligan
Hanford Elementary School District

Philip Nelson
Conejo Valley Unified School District

Jaime Quintana
Merced County Office of Education

Tom Rizzuti
Anaheim City Schools

June Francis Rono
Eastside Union High School District

Mike Sattley
Lake Elsinore Unified School District

Richard Thompson
Chaffey Joint Union High School District

Mentor

Sandra Lee Lepley
Pleasanton Unified School District

Kathleen Moore
CDE/School Facilities Planning Division

Steve Hartsell
North Coast Schools Legal Consortium

Leigh Coop
Vacaville Unified School District

Pamela Johnson
Montebello Unified School District

Gary Mekeel
Round Valley Joint Elementary School

Gene Hartline
California Financial Services

Dennis Dunston
HMC Architects

Michael Bishop
Paramount Unified School District

Bill Cornelison
Lake County Office of Education

Wayne Oetken
Cajon Valley Union School District

Kathy Tanner
San Marcos Unified School District

Jim Bush
School Site Solutions

Mike Vail
The Planning Center

Russell Miller
San Luis Coastal Unified School District

Jeff Baratta
UBS Securities LLC

Constantine Baranoff
Elk Grove Unified School District

Kelvin Lee
Dry Creek Elementary School District (Retired)

Dave Doomey
Dave Doomey & Associates

Terry Bradley
Clovis Unified School District

Curt Pollock
Consultant

Mamie Starr
San Joaquin County Office of Education

Nina Boyd
Orange County Department of Education

Margie Brown
San Ramon Valley Unified School District

Lynn Murphy
Chaffey Joint Union High School District

Paul Reed
Newport-Mesa Unified School District

School Facilities Bills Get Closer to the Governor's Desk

Over 2,800 bills were introduced by the Legislature in 2007. C.A.S.H. has been tracking over 190 school facilities-related measures, many of which have been temporarily parked and likely will be readdressed in 2008 when the Legislature convenes the final year of its two-year session.

There are, however, key pieces of legislation that are making their way to the Governor's desk, including two C.A.S.H.-sponsored bills on the Joint-Use Program and the design-build construction delivery method. The other facilities bills that have survived the throng and attention of policy and fiscal committees are held commonly together by the thread that they in some fashion address issues of funding eligibility, overcrowding, and drops in student enrollment.

Because the Legislature is grid-locked on the state budget, the Senate has been working through the traditional summer recess while the Assembly, after sending its budget proposal to the Senate in mid-July, will return from the break on Monday, August 20, and immediately prepare to hear bills that have costly provisions. Once bills pass out of the Senate and Assembly Appropriations Committees by the last day of August, the house floors have until September 14 to send measures to the Governor. The Governor then has until October 14 to sign or veto legislation. A little known fact is that if the Governor takes no action on a bill, it becomes law by default.

The following is a summary of key facilities bills that C.A.S.H. has been following and that may be presented to the Governor.

C.A.S.H.-Sponsored Bills

SB 35 (Torlakson): Joint-Use Program, Sponsor

- Expands the types of allowable joint-use projects to include career-technical education, science and technology laboratories, science centers, historical and cultural centers, performing arts centers, and site development for physical education and outdoor recreational areas;
- Authorizes joint-use projects to be built on property adjacent to a school site that is state-owned at the time of application;
- Allows a district to include the value of the land owned by or gifted to the district, except those funded by the School Facility Program, as part of its local match requirement;
- Allows for equipment as part of a partner(s) local contribution;
- Allows the partner(s) contribution to be less than 25% based on the needs of the district/partner or if the district passed a local bond measure that specified that the funds may be used for joint-use projects.

SB 614 (Simitian): Design-Build, Sponsor

Would reduce the dollar threshold for school districts entering into design-build contracts for projects from \$10 million to \$2 million and deletes the 2010 sunset provision established by AB 127 (Nunez), Chapter 35, Statutes of 2006. The bill also would explicitly authorize the DSA to approve plans for foundations or other building systems prior to the receipt and approval of complete building plans.

School Facility Program (SFP)

AB 818 (Krekorian): Grant Adjustments, Construction Cost Index, Support

Would authorize the State Allocation Board to adjust the New Construction and Modernization base grants, without impacting developer fees, by the construction cost index that is in effect at the time of the bid opening for the first phase of construction or nine months after the date of apportionment, whichever occurs first, if (1) the bid opening occurred after the apportionment; (2) the district has requested a fund release; and (3) the adjustment would result in an increase to the apportionment.

AB 1011 (DeSaulnier): Modernization Eligibility, MTYRE, Support

Until January 1, 2012, would reduce the time for which a district can receive Modernization funding of a district-owned 25-year-old permanent school building by one year for every three years of use on an MTYRE schedule.

AB 1014 (Bass): New Construction Eligibility, Alternative Projection Methods, Support

Would authorize the State Allocation Board to supplement the cohort survival enrollment projection (CSEP) method, which shall be available to school districts, with:

- Anticipated students yielded by valid tentative tract maps;
- Alternative weighting mechanisms to the CSEP developed in consultation with the Department of Finance;
- Birth rate data for kindergarten and first grade cohorts.

Would authorize a five- or 10-year projection and the use of student residency for districts that establish

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School Facilities Bills Get Closer to the Governor's Desk

Continued from page 3

their eligibility based on high school attendance areas for students reported in the district's CBEDS.

AB 1450 (Brownley):

Replacement Buildings, Watch

Would require the State Allocation Board to provide a supplemental grant for 50% of the replacement cost of an existing building if a school district proposes to demolish the building and replace it with a multi-story building on the same site if, among other things, the cost of the demolition of the building on the same site is less than the cost of providing a new school facility. The bill would allow school districts to reconfigure a school site to serve a different grade level (i.e., convert an elementary school site to a high school site), and would be required to adjust its New Construction eligibility by the number and type of pupils the new site serves. The bill would preclude districts from receiving funding under the new provisions if it received previous funding under the SFP or if the facility has not been used for its intended purposes for at least 30 years and received state bond funds.

AB 1545 (Parra):

Financial Hardship, Support

Would require the State Allocation Board to evaluate the eligibility criteria for Financial Hardship status, focusing on districts with low assessed valuation and provide a report to the Legislature by July 1, 2008.

SB 121 (Romero):

MTYRE Operational Grants "Hit", Support

Beginning with the 2007-08 school year, would authorize school districts that receive MTYRE Operational Grants in the 2006-07 school year to maintain New Construction eligibility by exempting an increase in their existing building capacities by the number of students reported to the SPI.

The districts would be required to demonstrate how facilities funding is reducing their dependence on multi-track year-round education and would authorize a district to continue receiving MTYRE Operational Grants for a period of three years after it received an apportionment under the SFP.

SB 465 (Lowenthal):

MTYRE 6% "Hit", Support

Would repeal the statute that reduces New Construction eligibility by 6% for districts that do not operate MTYRE schools beginning January 1, 2009.

SB 658 (Romero):

New Construction Eligibility, Support

Until January 1, 2013, would allow a district that has experienced at least two consecutive years of declining enrollment of less than 10 percent in each year to freeze its eligibility for a period of five years after it was approved by the State Allocation Board if by January 1, 2008 it meets all of the following criteria:

- The local board has adopted a plan that substantiates the need for new facilities and that includes specified information;
- CDE has reviewed the plan and notifies the State Allocation Board that the plan contains the elements adopted by the local governing board;
- The district has received either Final Site Approval by CDE or a determination by CDE that the site is the best alternative in the event the site will require at least six months of hazardous mitigation or the district has received Financial Hardship status by the OPSC.

SB 704 (Ducheny):

Special Education Grant Adjustments, Support

Would require the State Allocation Board to increase the Special Education grants by six percent and to provide subsequent increases to Special Education grants whenever the New Con-

struction base grants are increased. Would provide retroactive adjustments for projects that received apportionments on or after July 1, 2006.

Labor Compliance Programs (LCP)

AB 306 (Eng):

Third Party Entities, Watch

Would add a section to the Labor Code that specifies the duties to be performed by a private entity that is contracted to initiate and enforce a labor compliance program on a public works project, including the handling of allegations of violations, the creation and maintenance of a list of contractors and subcontractors, site visitations, collection of certified payroll records, audits, and annual reporting.

SB 18 (Perata):

Proposition 1D, Watch

Would extend the requirement of school districts to initiate and enforce labor compliance programs for projects that are funded by the 2006 bond.

SB 191 (Padilla):

Third Party Entities, Request Amendment

Would authorize public entities, employees, or contractors to file complaints with the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) against third party providers of labor compliance programs if the third party provider is allegedly failing to perform its duties as required by state law and regulation. DIR may suspend, and subsequently revoke, approval of the third party LCP. C.A.S.H. has contacted Senator Padilla's staff about amending the bill to require notice to awarding bodies of complaints filed against its third party administrator and immediate notice of the suspension and revocation of the LCP. Furthermore, we have requested that any disruption of LCP operation due to the suspension or revocation of the LCP does not result in a material inaccuracy for the school district.

Miscellaneous


AB 373 (Wolk): Mello-Roos Community Facilities Act, School Facilities Improvement Districts, Watch

Would make various changes to the Mello-Roos Community Facilities Act and repeals the Education Code Section governing bonds issued under School Facilities Improvement Districts and makes conforming changes to the Government Code.

AB 1368 (Mullin): School Bonds, Support

Would require the principal of the bonds to be payable not more than 40 years from the date of the bonds and would make conforming changes. Would authorize a district to issue notes that mature within a period not to exceed 5 years, rather than one year. The prohibition on the fiscal officer of a school district or a community college district issuing a renewal note that would have a maturity date later than five years from the date of the original issuance of the note would be restated. The total amount of the notes or renewals of notes issued and outstanding would be prohibited from exceeding the amount of the unsold bonds.


SB 784 (Torlakson): State Infrastructure Bonds: Reports and Audits, Oppose

Would establish new and additional reporting and audit requirements for districts that receive Proposition 1D funding in an effort to ensure transparency and public accountability. C.A.S.H. testified in opposition to the bill stating that districts currently undergo thorough audit review and processes by the OPSC and their own local, independent auditors. The bill, which applies to all of the 2006 infrastructure bonds passed by the voters last November, is co-sponsored by the State Treasurer and State Controller. We have requested that the bill be amended to exempt Proposition 1D, and therefore school districts, or to use the existing auditing and reporting procedures of the OPSC. 

Smooth Construction Jobs – A CM'S Perspective *By Dick Cowan*

A group of us at the Association of California Construction Managers (ACCM) were swapping construction problem stories and decided to share some simple but important tips to avoid problems from the past.

1. Be sure the plans and specs are what you want. Take the hard time to discuss what you need and want with the teachers, staff, Principal, parents, Superintendent, custodian, maintenance staff, local fire marshal, and DSA. Take the time to get consensus (I know it's not easy in education) and then sell everyone on the value of living with the decisions.
2. Be sure the plans and specs show what is underground and behind the wall. A high quality soils investigation and destructive investigations of structure and systems behind walls are cheap insurance. Call in some carpenters and scaffolding if you need it. Don't start the job and then "discover" what the custodian says he knew was there all along – dry rot, old plumbing, underground tanks, etc.
3. Solve problems; don't get trapped into playing the blame game. If plan problems create change orders, or surprise existing conditions create change orders, or specified products out of production create change orders, work with your designer and builder together to solve the problem. If you need cost savings ideas to balance out extra costs, challenge your builder and designer to come up with them. They are glad to help.

4. Pay builders fast and fair. The faster and more fairly your contract payment terms are, the more bidders you will attract, and the more money you will save.
5. Don't let your attorney and architect write a contract that is so protective of the District that it's unfair to the builders. They will stop bidding you or price your work to cover the risks they see.
6. Encourage competition in materials and equipment. Very high prices result when the specs are written around only one product. Some architects write a spec around one brand as a standard of quality and then say any other brand has to come in as a substitution request. This drives up competitive prices. If you need a certain brand for maintenance purposes, call it out as the preferred brand but allow alternates. Then ask your bidders how much premium you are paying for that sole source brand.
7. When it's time for final close-out paperwork to get retention released, see that the builder, District and designers all man up and keep up. Too often the team drives like crazy for completion, and then everyone is too busy to punch the job, or do reviews of closeout paper in a timely way, so closeout drags on. 

– Dick Cowan is with Clark & Sullivan in North Highlands, California and the treasurer of the Association of California Construction Managers.

July 25 State Allocation Board Meeting Notes

The July 25, 2007 SAB began at 2:30 p.m.

Executive Officer Statement

1. Effective July 2, 2007 the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) approved the Career Technical Education and Emergency Repair Program regulations.
2. The High Performance Schools Grant Program proposed regulations will be discussed at the August 3 SAB Implementation Committee meeting.
3. The Attorney General has assigned an attorney to review the SAB's request for a legal opinion related to last year's SB 1415 (surplus property: use of proceeds) asking whether contributions to the district's retirement account are considered one time or ongoing.

Status of Funds

There's approximately \$3 billion in new construction, \$2.9 billion in modernization, and \$290 million in ERP funding.

The SAB approved (conditional on the adoption of a State budget) \$18.3 million in administrative costs for fiscal year 2007/2008 for the various State agencies involved in administering the school facilities bond funds. OPSC would receive \$13.9 million; CDE would receive \$2.6 million; California School Finance Authority would receive \$866,000; and the State Controller's Office would receive \$929,000.

The item passed, however, Senators Scott and Margett requested that at the next SAB meeting OPSC provide a summary line item budget reflecting how they will spend their \$13.9 million.

Val Verde Unified School District

With virtually no discussion (since the issue had been thoroughly discussed at the two previous SAB meetings) the SAB voted 9 to 0, with the chair abstaining, to approve the staff recommendation that the COP revenue (currently \$89,234,421) be deemed available as local matching contribution toward future SFP projects; and to bring back to a future SAB meeting an item to address potential discrepancies discovered during the review of the District's projects for their appeal.

Joint-Use Program Approvals

The SAB approved 38 Joint-Use projects totaling a little more than \$30 million. One project recommended for approval, Roseland School District, was pulled from the approval list at the request of Assembly Member Mullin because he wanted a legal opinion on the non profit status of charter school Joint-Use Partners.

Senators Margett and Scott questioned representatives from the Santee School District about their Joint-Use Partner, a non-profit foundation established to assist the district in providing arts training to its teachers. The two senators questioned whether the Joint-Use Law intended to recognize "foundation" partners. The SAB agreed that they couldn't change the rules in the current round of Joint-Use Funding, but before the next round of Joint-Use Funding they will have a discussion regarding what is expected of the Joint-Use Partners and who are acceptable Joint-Use Partners.

The Executive Officer stated that in addition to the projects on this agenda being recommended for Joint-Use

Funding there were an additional 18 applicants that OPSC will bring back next month for funding consideration. The Executive Officer stated that there was a technical glitch in the processing of the applications related to OPSC's interpretation of local bond language pertaining to Joint-Use Projects. OPSC will try to work it out administratively so those 18 applicants don't have to pursue the issue as an appeal before the SAB. The Executive Officer stated that there was sufficient Joint-Use Funding available to approve the additional 18 applications.

Grant Increase Worksheet

OPSC staff presented a worksheet to be used to gather data to determine the annual increase or decrease to the New Construction Base Grant that the SAB was authorized to apply beginning January 1, 2008 per Proposition 1D. Districts would be required to complete and submit the worksheet with the Fund Release Authorization and/or the Expenditure Report. Proposed regulations approved by the SAB at their September 2006 meeting regarding the grant increases were withdrawn from the OAL by OPSC and cannot be resubmitted until a method to capture the current costs to build schools is approved by the SAB.

Tom Duffy, representing C.A.S.H., testified that while C.A.S.H. supports the collection of data to assist the SAB in determining an appropriate base grant adjustment, the proposed worksheet would not provide the right kind of information needed to reach that conclusion. He further stated that the fund release should not be tied to submission of the worksheet. The SAB voted to have the Implementation Committee and members of the OPSC Grant Adequacy Task Force review, comment, and revise the worksheet, and to bring the revised worksheet back to the August 22 SAB meeting.

Santa Maria Joint Union High School District

The SAB approved staff recommendation to permit a one-time exception to the use of costs associated with the construction management related services to be applied to the Fund Release Authorization submittal requirements. Staff recognized that there might have been at one time some ambiguity related to the OPSC policy. The SAB also approved staff recommendation to establish a grace period for audit purposes, only for the fund release certifications made by school districts starting from January 1, 1999 through December 31, 2003 to permit staff to accept the use of construction management contracts for the purposes of meeting the 50 percent Fund Release Authorization requirements. After January 1, 2004 only "at risk" construction management contracts will be deemed acceptable construction management contracts in meeting the 50 percent Fund Release Authorization requirements.

Labor Compliance Program Grant

This item only addressed the reduction in the new construction and modernization LCP grants. The item did not address the issue of providing a LCP grant to districts that voluntarily initiate and enforce a LCP for projects apportioned from Prop 1D funds. Assembly Member Mullin asked that the item be withdrawn until both issues could be addressed together by the SAB. The SAB had previously requested an Attorney General Opinion on whether the SAB had the authority to provide the LCP grant augmentation to districts that voluntarily initiated and enforced a LCP. The SAB attorney stated that the AG informed him that they will "try hard" to provide an opinion in the next 4 to 8 weeks. The SAB postponed action on this item.

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Federal Funding for School Facilities – On the Radar

By Anna Ferrera/CSF

Three items will top the Californians for School Facilities (CSF) agenda at our upcoming Washington D.C. meeting this September 17 and 18 – there is still time to register and join us!

21st Century High-Performing Schools Act

On July 12, Congressman Ben Chandler (D-KY) introduced H.R. 3021, the 21st Century High-Performing Public School Facilities Act, a bill that the CSF had been actively involved in during our visits to Washington, D.C.

The bill would direct the U.S. Secretary of Education to make grants and low-interest loans to local educational agencies for the construction, modernization, or repair of public kindergarten, elementary, and secondary educational facilities, and for other purposes.

It would authorize \$32 billion in grants and loans over a 5-year period for school repair and modernization. Additionally, the bill would authorize \$1 billion for school technology infrastructure in FY 2008.

The bill is co-sponsored by Congressman George Miller (D-CA) Chair of the House Education and Labor Committee and Dale Kildee (D-MI) Chair of the Early Childhood, Elementary and Secondary Education Subcommittee.

America's Better Classrooms Act (ABC)

Senator Jay Rockefeller (D-WV) has introduced S. 912 the America's Better Classrooms Act (ABC), which will provide for \$22 billion in new

school construction bonds through the use of a tax credit mechanism for financing.

Senator Rockefeller's legislation will also call for expansion of the Qualified Zone Academy Bond (QZAB) program. California would receive an allocation of \$2 billion under the formula in the ABC Act.

Congressman Charles Rangel (D-NY), the Chair of the House Ways and Means Committee, and the original author of the QZAB program, has introduced the House version of the ABC bill, H.R. 2470.


Emergency School Repair Program

Senator Tom Harkin (D-IA) is seriously considering reviving the Emergency School Repair program that was well-used by many California school districts in 2002.

On our D.C. visits, CSF has been specifically encouraging Congressional members to re-open this program that worked so well for us a few years ago.

We will encourage Senator Harkin to introduce this bill and spread the word in our meetings with key congressional members to support this idea.

There are many other actions impacting schools and districts that are taking shape in Washington. Please feel free to contact me regarding these, or any other, federal issues. You may reach me at aferrera@m-w-h.com.

For registration information about the upcoming CSF trip to our nation's capitol in September, please contact Shannon Brady at sbrady@m-w-h.com. 

Process of State Allocation Board

OPSC staff provided an information item to the SAB regarding the format and process of the SAB agenda, including what criteria staff uses to place items on the Consent Agenda, Consent Specials, Specials, Appeals, Regulations, Reports, and Information.

Well into the agenda, and after the Consent Agenda had been approved, Senator Margett and Assembly Member Mullin separately requested to revisit two items that the SAB had approved on the Consent Agenda.

Senator Margett requested details on the Riverside County Office of Education's request for reimbursement under the Rehabilitation Excessive Cost Hardship Regulations. He didn't request that the SAB approval of the item be changed, but he did want more information about the item. Staff will bring back the details at the next SAB meeting.

Assembly Member Mullin requested more information about the proximity of a pipeline to the Pittsburg Unified School District's project requesting funds for the replacement of the school site under the Facility Hardship Program. Kathleen Moore from CDE explained the CDE policy regarding the proximity of school sites to pipelines. Mr. Mullin wanted more information about the mitigation measures the district was taking.

The SAB adjourned into closed session.

The next SAB meeting will be August 22. 

~C.A.S.H. Staff


C.A.S.H. Meets with Executive Director of State Water Resources Control Board

In early July Ian Padilla represented C.A.S.H. at a meeting with Dorothy Rice, Executive Director of the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), and key state board staff to outline school districts' concerns with the preliminary Draft General Construction Storm Water Permit.

Mr. Padilla expressed concern that the preliminary draft permit, which includes requirements for active treatment and hydromodification, would add time and expense to school construction projects. Specifically, Mr. Padilla stated that schools have been successfully implementing the Best Management Practices (BMP) required by the current permit, and a change at this point would be counter productive. Ms. Rice indicated that the SWRCB gave a "totally different impression" in characterizing the preliminary draft permit as eliminating BMPs and replacing them with requirements for active treatment. Ms. Rice clarified that it was the SWRCB's intention to retain BMPs that are effective, and enhance them with active treatment where necessary. Although the devil remains in the details, this statement seems to

indicate some flexibility on the SWRCB's part.

To ensure that the final permit reflects the concerns of school districts, C.A.S.H. will now request a follow-up meeting with Ms. Rice to discuss the specific challenges that the preliminary draft permit poses for school districts.


This meeting was organized by Californians for Improved Water Quality, which C.A.S.H. has joined, which is a coalition of local government, business groups, labor, school districts, transportation and others that have concerns about the preliminary draft permit. Other organizations represented at the meeting were the California Association of Counties, California Alliance for Jobs, home builders, the California Chamber of Commerce, and the California Association of Realtors. If school districts are interested in joining this coalition, please contact Kathy Fairbanks or Kara Palmer at (916) 443-0872 or via e-mail at kfairbanks@bickerassociates.com or kpalmer@bickerassociates.com. 

– Ian Padilla

Message From The Chair

Continued from page 2

upcoming year. A draft agenda for the Opening Institute to be held September 4-6 at the Hawthorn Suites in Sacramento was devised. The session will include time for the participants to get to know each other right up front as they hear about program objectives, receive an introduction and history on C.A.S.H., and partake in an ice-breaker activity. The next part of the program

will include an overview of school facilities, updates from leadership and a kick-off luncheon with state dignitaries. Mentors will be orientated and will do an exercise with participants on key strengths. Ken Hawkins, a motivational and conflict resolution speaker, has been invited to return. The last part of the program will give participants a toolbox session which will include topics on time management, written communication, how to prepare presentations and leadership. 

The California Building Code is Changing!

The 2007 code was recently published and DSA subject matter experts have developed a class that will summarize and explain the code changes that apply to school projects.

If “knowing the code” is important for you and your business, let DSA guide you through the structural code changes in this one-day class:

“2007 CBC Amendments – Structural Safety”

Learn to:

- Identify and locate key model code provisions and amendments in the new code

- Summarize significant changes and amendments to model code provisions
All attendees will receive a Resource Guide, which summarizes the code changes and relates them to the existing code

Sign up today! DSA has just three classes scheduled for 2007:

- September 5: Sacramento
- October 2: Los Angeles
- November 15: Sacramento

DSA has also developed new “In-Depth” classes for DSA-certified school project inspectors. The intent of these classes is to give project inspectors an opportunity to get trained by DSA in subjects of interest

to them. The following two classes are available:

Project Inspector InDepth: Electrical


October 24 & 25, 2007: Sacramento

Project Inspector InDepth: Fire & Life Safety

September 20 & 21, 2007: Sacramento

December 13 & 14, 2007: Los Angeles

In the future, DSA plans to add additional InDepth Inspector classes in the fields of Mechanical, Plumbing, Accessibility and Administration.

To Register or Learn More, visit www.DSAacademy.dgs.ca.gov (Go to “Classes and Registration” then “Browse the Class Catalog”). 

Emergency Repair Program Regulations Approved

The Office of Administrative Law (OAL) has approved the Emergency Repair Program (ERP) regulations effective July 2, 2007.


This is good news for school districts who qualify to participate in the ERP, particularly in light of the fact that there is approximately \$300 million available to fund qualifying emergency repair projects to ensure that school facilities in low performing schools are clean, safe and functional.

Previously, schools that qualified for the ERP were required to perform emergency repair work and subsequently submit their costs to the Office of Public School Construction (OPSC)

for reimbursement. Under AB 607 and the approved ERP regulations, qualifying schools can now apply to OPSC for an ERP funding grant before performing the work.

In addition to providing a grant option, the ERP regulations adjust the Academic Performance Index (API) base year for deciles 1-3 from 2003 to 2006. It is important to note that the regulations allow districts who qualify for the ERP under the 2003 API to apply for funding for an additional 90 days (note: 90 days from July 2, 2007 would be September 29, 2007, but because this is a Saturday, OPSC may extend the deadline to Monday, October 1, 2007). This provision is a window of opportunity for districts

with schools that qualify under the 2003 API, but do not qualify under the 2006 API, to apply for ERP grants or reimbursements.

The last notable provision of the ERP regulations requires OPSC to develop a permanent evaluation instrument to replace the Interim Evaluation Instrument (IEI). OPSC convened a working group and developed the Facilities Inspection Tool (FIT) to meet this requirement, and the subsequent regulations were approved by the State Allocation Board on Wednesday, June, 27. C.A.S.H. will convene a working group to develop a guidebook to assist schools comprehend the details of the FIT. 

– Ian Padilla



Green Design Powers New Elementary School

Monterey Ridge Elementary School of the Poway Unified School District is the District's first solar-powered school, with over half of its energy coming from a blanket of photovoltaic panels on the school's anterior hillside. Designed by NTDSTICHLER Architecture, the new school, nestled within the 4S Ranch community of San Diego, has earned the Collaborative for High Performance Schools (CHPS) designation and exceeds Title 24 standards by 21%.

At 38 points, Monterey Ridge is 36% above the amount required for the CHPS designation. The most notable green feature of the new elementary school is the massive array of black solar panels that lie on a sloping hillside adjacent to the site. At over 20,000 square feet, the panels generate 50-60% of the school's energy and will reduce annual electrical costs by up to \$40,000. These significant numbers are a result of the panels' strategic position-

ing. A hillside placement as opposed to the usual rooftop location allowed for the use of more panels, and consequently, the generation of more energy.

Other high performance design elements include lights that turn on and off automatically, a high-efficiency irrigation system, a Cool Roof with reflective coatings, an Energy Management System that allows the District to monitor the use of lighting and equipment from a remote location, and a Central Plant featuring sophisticated individual room air handlers that shut off automatically when doors are left open. Additionally, 42% of the site remains permeable to rainfall, and the school's central location ensures an easy commute for residents of the surrounding community.

Monterey Ridge Elementary School is designed to accommodate up to 750 students. The school was under construction from the spring of 2005 until August of 2006, completing just in time to launch the 2006 – 2007 school year. The 65,000 square foot facility sits on a


10-acre lot and cost \$22 million to construct.

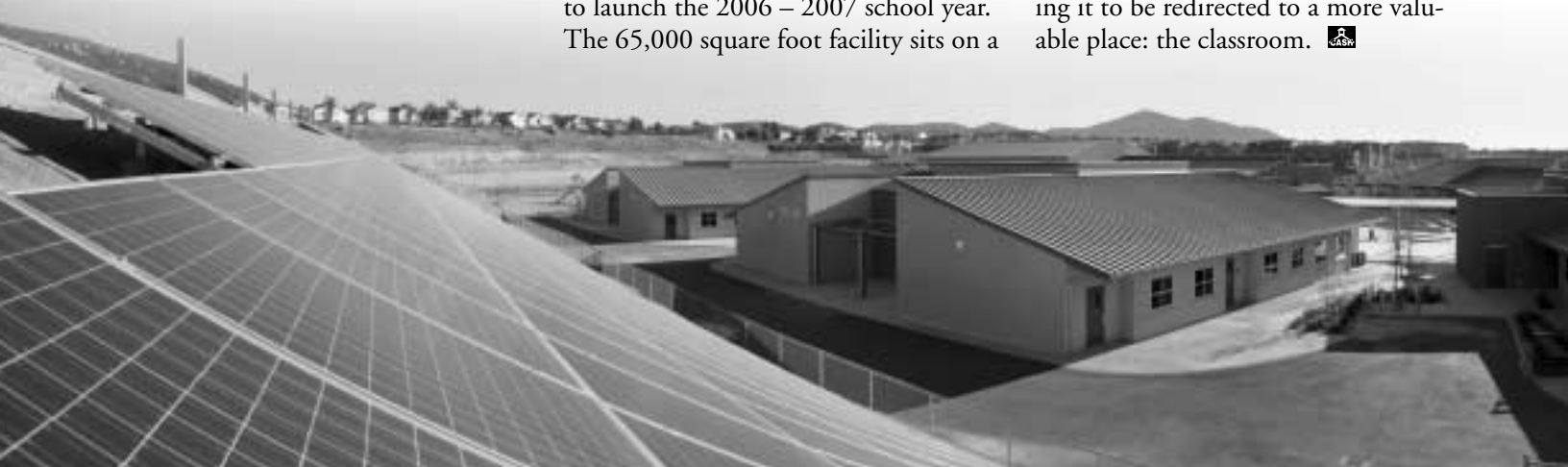
Green school design is also a big part of the District's future plans.

NTDSTICHLER and the District are currently in the process of developing two more CHPS schools: Del Sur Elementary, scheduled for completion in 2008, and Del Norte High, scheduled for completion in 2009.

Del Sur Elementary School is expected to surpass Title 24 requirements by 22%, with sustainable design features eliminating about one-fifth of the school's energy use. The two-story facility will house all main functions under one roof, reducing the exterior roof and wall areas and improving energy efficiency. Additionally, the smaller site required for the design of the campus will reduce the school's dependency on landscaping and irrigation.

Soon to be the 35th school for the District, Del Norte High School will offer a variety of energy efficient features with a strong focus on technology. Natural day-lighting systems will be integrated into the nearly 90 classrooms at the \$100 million school, which will also be monitored by an Energy Management System. Both Del Sur and Del Norte will also feature solar panels, which will be owned and operated by San Diego Gas & Electric rather than the District.

Monterey Ridge, Del Sur, and Del Norte set the bar high for future education design. The sustainable design features required for the CHPS designation increase the up-front costs of construction, but they save money over the lifetime of the schools, allowing it to be redirected to a more valuable place: the classroom. 



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After more than 15 years at the Hilton Costa Mesa, the C.A.S.H. Fall Conference is moving to a new location. The **Westin South Coast Plaza** will be the Fall Conference's new home for the next two years. Located at 686 Anton Boulevard in Costa Mesa, the Westin is just four short miles from the John Wayne Airport.

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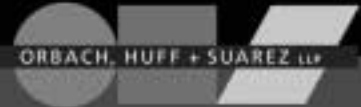


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- August 24, 2007**
Friday
What's Shaking with Seismic? Workshop
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- August 28, 2007**
Tuesday
What's Shaking with Seismic? Workshop
Santa Clara County Office of Education
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Monthly C.A.S.H. meetings are held from 11:00 a.m. to Noon in Sacramento. The monthly meetings are always scheduled to coincide with the monthly meetings of the State Allocation Board on the fourth Wednesday of the month, except in November and December, to enable C.A.S.H. members to attend the SAB's afternoon session. Both SAB meetings and General membership meetings are subject to change.



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