Message From The Chair

Ted E. Rozzi, C.A.S.H. Chair

What an amazing summer! Over the past few months, C.A.S.H. members and your hardworking, multi-tasking C.A.S.H. staff have been going in so many directions. I want to take a minute to recognize their contributions to our success in representing the interests of our member school districts and county offices of education in areas related to the implementation of Proposition 1D programs, the continuing issue of Grant Adequacy as addressed in the OPSC Project Information Worksheet, the pending Macias Report on the Adequacy of State Funding in the School Facilities Program, the CDE Report on Complete Schools, the appeal faced by the SAB on the Financial Hardship Program, the development and analysis of new legislation and the C.A.S.H. Legislative Platform, the development of relevant workshops and conferences on current school facilities issues, the impact of the Little Hoover Commission Report on the Governance of the State Allocation Board, and finally, the continuing development of the C.A.S.H. School Facilities Leadership Academy.

With Proposition 1D, C.A.S.H. has been working with the State Allocation Board on the new programs authorized in November 2006. The first round of Career Technical Education grants have been reviewed by CDE and the results were released on October 2. The final regulations for the High Performance Incentive Grant were approved by the SAB in August and the Seismic Mitigation Program regulations were approved by the SAB in September. For each of these programs, C.A.S.H. was involved at every step in working with OPSC staff and the SAB Implementation Committee to ensure the program met the needs of school districts and county offices of education.

At the September SAB meeting, the new Project Information Worksheet (PIW) was approved and will now be required as part of the SAB 50-05 Fund Release process. However, C.A.S.H. has questioned the SAB’s legal authority to withhold funding if the PIW is not completed. C.A.S.H. lobbied hard to keep this document simple and we encourage school districts to provide all the information requested to allow OPSC to clearly understand the deficiencies of the current SFP Per Pupil Grants. The collected data from the PIW, along with the CDE Complete Schools Reports and information provided by the upcoming Macias Report on State Funding, will be used by the SAB as they contemplate the authorized up to 6% increase to the SFP Grants in January 2008. C.A.S.H. will again be following this process closely as the issue of Grant Adequacy is a top priority of our organization.

As we move into fall, C.A.S.H. hosted the Fall Conference in Costa Mesa on October 8-10; will host a series of Maintenance Network workshops starting in Los Angeles - October 31st, Clovis - November 9th and Contra Costa County - November 30th; and finally our flagship event, the 2008 C.A.S.H. Annual Conference in Sacramento, February 25-28. Each of these events requires a tremendous amount of C.A.S.H. staff time as well as... Continued on page 6
In June, C.A.S.H. held the graduation ceremony for the first cohort of the C.A.S.H. School Facilities Leadership Academy and in September, we held the “Kick-Off” ceremony for the second cohort of 26 individuals who made the commitment to be the next generation of school facility leaders in our state. The success of the C.A.S.H. School Facilities Leadership Academy has initiated requests that C.A.S.H. provide a similar academy program for our Maintenance Network and an abbreviated School Facilities series for Superintendents. Your C.A.S.H. Board believes that providing continuing professional development opportunities is one of the best services we can provide to our members and we will be evaluating the “toolkit” they will need to excel in the Academy, including the how-to’s of Power Point and presentations, the nuts and bolts of written communication, the fundamentals of leadership, and perhaps most significantly given the demands of the Academy on already overloaded schedules, the fundamentals of and strategies for time management. The session ended with an overview of homework expectations, pre-teaching the assignment due in October, and goodbyes from a group of 26 exceptional individuals who were already on their way to becoming an even more exceptional community. ~Bob Blattner, Academy Director

For their work this summer, there are a few people who deserve special recognition. Vice Chair, Bill Savidge, serves as one of three core instructors to the C.A.S.H. Leadership Academy, as the C.A.S.H. Representative to the SAB Implementation Committee and provided great leadership on Labor Compliance, High Performance, and Seismic issues as well as the Facilities Inspection Tool. Board Member Lettie Boggs, serves as C.A.S.H. Treasurer, Chair of the C.A.S.H. Budget and Urban Schools Committees and is another core instructor member to the Leadership Academy. Past Chair, Eric Hall, rounds out the core instructors to the Leadership Academy and has continued to work on SAB Implementation Committee issues. Pamela Johnson, my mentor and Immediate Past Chair, continues to provide great leadership to the organization, and the C.A.S.H. Leadership Academy will be a lasting tribute to her vision. Finally, Tom Duffy, our main C.A.S.H. lobbyist, continues to be a great resource to the Board and his boundless energy in working on legislation and interacting with the state agencies is incredible.

I especially wish to thank the C.A.S.H. staff for all their support this summer. Ian Padilla serves C.A.S.H. as a lobbyist on legislative and state agency issues and works with the Maintenance Network. Duwayne Brooks works with our state agencies and coordinates our monthly workshops. Operations Director, Greg Golik, coordinates a great staff that includes Lisa Church, C.A.S.H. Annual, Fall, and Spring Conferences; Heidi Wadsworth, C.A.S.H. monthly workshops and conference sponsorships; Shannon Mahoney, website, CASH Register, and Annual Conference Trade Show; Leyla Taber, membership information and conference and workshop registrations; Gretchen Kocinsky, school bond fundraising and C.A.S.H. School Facilities Leadership Academy; Patri Herrera, C.A.S.H. Legislative Analyst; Jenny Hill, C.A.S.H. Administrative Assistant; and Cheryl MacKelvie, Administrative Assistant to Tom Duffy and Duwayne Brooks and Candace Lewis, C.A.S.H. Bookkeeper. What a great staff.

What a great summer. ~Bob Blattner, Academy Director