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Time to Act: Developing Effective Local Policy Changes to Close the Achievement Gap

Forum Three
April 28, 2010

Closing the Achievement Gap in Silicon Valley:
A Three-Part Series

AGENDA

12:30: Registration

1:00: Welcome

- Erica Wood, Vice President, Community Leadership, Silicon Valley Community Foundation
- Manny Barbara, Vice President, Silicon Valley Education Foundation

1:10: Opening Remarks

- Jack O'Connell, State Superintendent of Public Instruction

1:25: Keynote Address

- Arun Ramanathan, Ed.D., Executive Director, The Education Trust - West

1:40: Group Discussions

- Erica Wood, Vice President, Community Leadership Silicon Valley Community Foundation

2:45: Closing Remarks and Next Steps

- Muhammed Chaudhry, President & CEO, Silicon Valley Education Foundation
- Emmett D. Carson, Ph.D., CEO & President, Silicon Valley Community Foundation

Thank you to S.D. Bechtel, Jr. Foundation, Hewlett-Packard, and Google for supporting these forums.



Manny Barbara – Vice President
Silicon Valley Education Foundation

Manny Barbara, former Superintendent of the Oak Grove School District, has been selected four times as Administrator of the Year by the Association of California School Administrators, and as Educator of the Year in 2008 by 100 Black Men of Santa Clara County. During his 10 years as superintendent, performance increased for all district student subgroups, including the number of students successfully completing algebra and geometry by the end of 8th grade. He also serves on State Superintendent Jack O'Connell's P16 Council on closing the achievement gap.



Emmett D. Carson, Ph.D. – CEO & President
Silicon Valley Community Foundation

Emmett D. Carson is the founding CEO and president of Silicon Valley Community Foundation. He is responsible for providing the vision for one of the largest community foundations in the United States with assets of \$1.7 billion. Before coming to Silicon Valley, he served as president and CEO of The Minneapolis Foundation for 12 years. Emmett has devoted his career to being a catalyst for positive social change and has authored more than 100 works on philanthropy and social justice.



Muhammed Chaudhry – President & CEO
Silicon Valley Education Foundation (SVEF)

Under Muhammed's leadership, SVEF has become a leading education foundation supporting Silicon Valley students, teachers, and the community. SVEF has forged relationships with the corporate and education communities to develop programs such as its STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Initiative focused on increasing the number of students completing Algebra I and II to achieve academic success. His goal is to prepare every student in Silicon Valley for college and careers.

SPEAKERS



Jack O'Connell – State Superintendent of Public Instruction

Jack O'Connell was elected to a second four-year term as State Superintendent of Public Instruction on June 6, 2006. He was first elected to serve as California's 26th State Superintendent on November 5, 2002, earning more votes than any other contested candidate in the country. As chief of California's public school system and leader of the California Department of Education, Superintendent O'Connell has focused on closing the achievement gap and preparing students for a rapidly changing global economy by holding high standards for all students. He is a strong supporter and facilitator of partnerships between schools, businesses, communities, and philanthropies in order to engage students with challenging, real-world education experiences.



Arun Ramanathan, Ed.D. – Executive Director
The Education Trust - West

Most recently Arun was chief student services officer for the San Diego Unified School District, with responsibility for eight departments and a budget of \$350 million. During his tenure, he reorganized and streamlined both student services and special education services while producing significant gains in student achievement and closing the achievement gap between disabled and non-disabled students. Prior to this position, Arun served as special assistant to the superintendent for three superintendents. He also served for two years as the executive director for government relations and advocated on behalf of San Diego Unified in Sacramento, San Diego, and Washington D.C.



Erica Wood – Vice President, Community Leadership, Silicon Valley Community Foundation

Erica oversees Silicon Valley Community Foundation's strategic partnerships and initiatives, regional convening and research efforts. She and her colleagues actively engage investors in aggregating resources, capacities and connections to multiply the institution's reach and impact. Erica joined Peninsula Community Foundation in 2003 as the executive director of the Peninsula Partnership for Children, Youth and Families. In this role, she launched and managed award-winning, multi-million dollar initiatives, connecting cities, schools and communities to improve outcomes for vulnerable families and children from birth to age eight. Prior to the community foundation, Erica was the director of research and evaluation at Applied Survey Research and led the firm's community assessment and major evaluation projects throughout the greater Bay Area.