



Synergies

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CLASSROOM OF THE FUTURE FOUNDATION

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Board of Directors Sets Priorities, Multidimensional Course for 2015

The Classroom of the Future Foundation’s board of directors recently set its priorities for 2015. Several are longstanding initiatives while two newcomers are under investigation.

A significant priority will continue to be the San Diego County Project RED Collaborative where the San Diego County Office of Education, Classroom of the Future Foundation, six local districts and local businesses are coordinating technology efforts to implement one-to-one learning programs that personalize learning through universal access to innovative technology. Real-time, collaborative instruction from multiple sites creates enormous learning potential. It’s made possible in part by a \$10,000 SDG&E grant.

Other priorities will include continued development of the USS Midway Museum’s education programs, Students for Cyber Safety, STEM-related programs, and Innovation Day, among others.

Two New Initiatives Under Consideration

An intriguing initiative now under investigation is the web-based Gooru learning platform. It uniquely blends curriculum material (including that developed by CFF business partners) in a way that enables teachers to create customized class plans, whole-class learning activities, customized relearning for individuals and small groups, student assessment, and hands-on learning activities.

Gooru is now used by 600,000 educators and students in 210 countries. Approximately 70,000 teacher-made collections span K-12 topics such as math, science, social studies and English language arts. In addition, it makes more than 16 million free learning resources available.



The idea is to make it available at no charge to local schools. An all-day coaching workshop will be held on Oct. 2 to demonstrate the potential of Gooru for San Diego educators. More information is available [here](#).

The board also is looking at a proposal from USD dean and professor Dr. Paula Cordeiro to create a “Professional Learning Center” at USD’s School of Leadership and Education Sciences. It would provide professional development opportunities for local educators with CFF acting as the facilitator. More information about SOLES is available [here](#).

New Board Chair, 3 New Members



John Sipe, Vice President of Curriculum Associates, has been named Chairman of CFF’s board of directors. CA publishes the award-winning iReady which is adaptive diagnostic assessment and online instruction. Formerly he was a senior vice president with Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.

“All your people must learn before you can reach for the stars.”

--Capt. James T. Kirk, “*Gamesters and Triskelion*”

Ed Hidalgo, Senior Director of Human Resources at Qualcomm, has joined the board of directors. At Qualcomm Ed has been responsible for the global contingent workforce, immigration and relocation. He oversees Qualcomm's "Thinkabit Lab" which hosts middle school students on STEM study trips.



New board member Julie Wenzel is the Manager for Community Relations for Sony Electronics. A graduate of SDSU, she is responsible for all Sony grantmaking in the United States.

Brian Elswick is a Sprint Public Sector Account Executive for mobile technology in San Diego, Imperial and Clark (Nevada) Counties. He is an expert in mobile technology, its applications and potential.



"The further I go,
the sorrier I am
about how little I
know: it is this
that bothers me the
most."

--Claude Monet

Save the Date: Innovation Awards

The 12th annual Innovation in Education Awards Program will be held on May 20, 2015 at the Hahn Center at the University of San Diego. More than 500 educators, business leaders, and students attend each year's event which showcases innovative uses of learning technology in San Diego County's classrooms.

It's a great opportunity for San Diego businesses to showcase their support of San Diego education by becoming sponsors. Sponsorships begin at a modest \$3,000. Sponsorship information is available by calling Bruce Braciszewski at (858) 292-3685.

Award nomination forms will be available online in January, 2015.

EdTech News Always Available on CFF's Social Networks

Are you looking for a local resource that publishes the best EdTech and local educational news? If so, check out the CFF Facebook page which has been curating the best content for San Diego educators since 2012 and publishing it on Facebook.

We review more than 50 websites, media sources and blogs then publish the top two articles on our Facebook page each day, 7 days a week. In addition, we also share the top stories on our Google+ and Twitter accounts. Simply follow us on one of our social networks and you'll have access to the top articles from our team each day in your newsfeed! To join, visit us at our social networks below:

 [Facebook.com/CFFSD](https://www.facebook.com/CFFSD)

 [Twitter.com/CFFSD](https://twitter.com/CFFSD)

 <http://goo.gl/eRIej>

 <https://www.linkedin.com/company/classroom-of-the-future-foundation>

"Knowledge is an
antidote to fear."

--Will Durant

Innovators Receive CFF Awards

Steve Bailey (right), principal at Emerald STEAM Academy, receives a \$2,000 check from CFF's Bruce Braciszewski to support the innovative Cyber Safety Program now in place at Emerald and Lemon Grove Middle Schools. The financial support is made possible by a grant from Ashford University.



Board president Tamara Otero (center) and Superintendent Dr. David Miyashiro (right) of Cajon Valley Union School District receive a \$5,000 check as part of the 2014 inspire Award for transforming student assessment from paper-based exercises to creative problem-solving multi-media projects online at Cajon Valley Middle School. The award is underwritten by Qualcomm.

(l-r) Mike Guarena, Director of Educational Technology, board president Marla Strich, (Bruce Braciszewski) and Dr. Timothy Baird, Superintendent of the Encinitas Union School District, are presented with a \$10,000 check to go with their 2014 impact Award for their commitment to provide all 5,500 students with iPads to create greater access to digital curriculum. The award is sponsored by SDG&E.



(l-r) Board president, Marty Hranek, and Dr. Luis Ibarra, Superintendent of Escondido Union School District and Bear Valley teacher Steve Tillinghast receive \$5,000 from Bruce Braciszewski (far left) for the innovate Award for their STEM/robotics program at Bear Valley Middle School. The award is sponsored by EDmin.

“Employ your time in improving yourself by other men’s writings, so that you shall gain easily what others have labored hard for.”

--Socrates

Linked Education Technology News

[These emerging ed-tech services were participants in the SIIA’s Innovation Incubator program for spring 2014](#)

A “discovery engine” that uses a personalized search service to help professionals find reputable online degree programs from accredited universities, and an assessment application that allows teams of instructors to grade documents online, were among the new ed-tech services recognized for their promise by the Software and Information Industry Association’s Education Division.

The SIIA’s Innovation Incubator Program identifies and supports ed-tech entrepreneurs in their development and distribution of innovative learning technologies.

The program is open to applicants from academic and nonprofit institutions, pre-revenue and early-stage companies, and established companies with newly developed technologies...

[New platform allows instant login to any software with a single click](#)

A new platform that allows for instant login to any software with a single click, and a “differentiated learning algorithm” that gives students personalized support inside or outside of school, are among the latest ed-tech innovations.

Teachers of young students can spend up to a quarter of their class time just making sure all their students are logged into the software they’re trying to use, according to a survey of educators by The MDR Group.

The survey was commissioned by the San Francisco ed-tech company Clever, which has made its name over the last few years by offering a cloud-based data interoperability solution for schools. Now, Clever has announced a new service called Instant Login, which enables teachers and students to access all of their software with just a single click—eliminating the need for separate user names and passwords...

[More and more schools turn to mobile technologies as preferred learning tools](#)

As mobile learning cements its place in U.S. education, its impact continues to expand throughout school districts across the nation.

Last year, Apple’s education sales broke \$1 billion for the first time ever, and iPads continue to hold the market share among education tablets. Mobile learning leverages the power of the internet to expand students’ learning opportunities. In fact, 92 percent of teachers said they have greater access to educational content, resources, and material due to the internet...

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 © 2014. Education technology news summaries are courtesy of eschoolnews.com.