



# INTERCOM

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE  
CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF SUPERVISORS OF CHILD WELFARE AND ATTENDANCE

FEB. 86

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## HOW MUCH SCHOOL VIOLENCE?

### EDITORIAL

As in most areas of education, organs of public information are quick to pounce upon and to interpret freely data that indicates violence in the public schools. The fact that it exists is undeniable; workers in the area of child welfare and attendance are particularly aware of its effect upon schools, students and society in general. A significant problem has existed for some time however, in that the material upon which educational and political decisions have been made is often based upon questionable information, or motivated by a "horror story" or an emotional incident.

In 1982 the people of the State of California expressed their concern by passing the "Victim's Bill of Rights", a portion of which emphasizes the rights of students to a safe school environment. In 1984 the California Legislature enacted AB 2843 (Stirling) which requires collection of school crime data on a systematic basis beginning in July of 1985.

After one abortive attempt at a usable reporting form, the State Department has developed a usable system, and has conducted two sets of workshops designed to assist in its utilization.

Considerable concern exists that this attempt to provide a base for decision making will be treated as a matter of minimal importance...just one more report to fill out. Even worse, concern by some that the information gleaned might be used to single out individual schools or school districts for criticism could well discourage accurate or even realistic reporting. We in Child Welfare and Attendance areas have an obligation to encourage our school friends to take this task with deadly seriousness. We certainly need help from Sacramento in dealing with this problem area; the legislature has indicated it wants facts. Should we do poorly in providing them we have only ourselves to blame for what might be ill advised legislation as a result.

The first set of reports is due from the school on February 1, with results to be made available for the school year 1985-6 in January of 1987. It will be a while before we see the results, and we might not like all of what comes from them, but at least let's make sure that the facts are accurate.



## NOTES FROM JAKE. . . . THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

I'm certainly looking forward to the next State Board Meeting to catch up on activities around the state. Unlike previous years, the phone has been quiet regarding CASCWA business. CWA people are always busy, but I would hope not so busy that we're not communicating with each other to stay ahead of the problems that always appear. The CASCWA network is the best resource you have at your request. It has been most helpful to many of us as complications have been encountered each year. How many favors do you owe the network? It'll still take me a few years to pay all mine back. Again I say, my phone is quiet. Hope yours isn't!

Since I didn't have the opportunity to visit with everyone at the conference in Fresno, I'm anticipating seeing everyone at the conference in Sacramento. Get the dates on your calendar now so you don't miss the good workshops and speakers that have become traditional at CASCWA conferences. See all of you there.

Membership is supposedly increasing because each member is to go out and recruit a new member. Have you held up your end and brought in a new member? I'd like to hear from you if you have.

Have a good second semester and make use of the network.

*Jake Colburn*

Jake Colburn, President



## HIGHLIGHTS CASCWA STATE BOARD MEETING

October 22 and 23, 1985  
Fresno Hilton Hotel, Fresno, California

Meeting called to order by Vice President Francis Tucker, in the absence of Jake Colburn. 7:05 P.M.

Francis Tucker, as Vice President, indicated a need to be replaced as editor of the Intercom. Bill Booth was recommended as replacement. Mission accomplished; position accepted.



Mary Weaver presented the Treasurer's report and Budget for 1985/1986. Highlights are as follows:

Meeting Expenses increased from \$2,500 to \$2,550.

\$300 earmarked for special projects under Executive Board for the new Northern Section.

Projected Income	\$12,604.00
Projected Expenses	\$12,604.00
Current Balance	\$ 2,799.17

Membership Totals as presented by Mary Weaver.

Bay Section	45
Delta Sierra	12
San Joaquin	20

Northern and Southern Sections had not presented their membership totals.

Past President Richard Davis presented Honorary Life Membership Qualifications: They are:

Retirement from the Education profession.  
10 years active membership in the organization.  
Recommendation by the member section to be made by the Executive Board at a State Conference.  
Special recognition to a recipient from each section, as recommended by the section.  
Award shall consist of a framed life membership certificate and any other gifts deemed appropriate by the section.

Nominations Committee for 1985 - 1986 was selected to consist of Richard C. Davis, Chairperson, Adrian Cibilich, Ray Twitchell, Jack Erikson, Ruben Rodriguez, and William McMillan.

Nominations of individuals for office shall be:

President from Bay Section	Secretary from Delta Sierra Section
Vice President from Southern Section	Treasurer from Northern Section

Slate of candidates shall be presented to the Executive Board at the February meeting for review and approval.

The Association's Secretary shall mail out ballots to paid up members as of March 14, to be returned, postmarked no later than April 11, 1986. Ballots and elections shall be certified at the Spring Board meeting.

#### Section Reports

Bay Section - Fall Conference to be held at Holiday Inn, Union City, October 29,30,31.

Sierra Delta - Interim President Richard Davis presented a flyer regarding the spring CASCWA Conference at Sacramento Inn, April 30, May 1,2.

San Joaquin - Al Baum presented a review of conference activities.

Southern Section - Ruth Battle reported on a planned conference for January 24th to which all sections are invited. Jack Erikson is convalescing and has returned to work part time.



Northern Section - Ray Twitchell reported that the Northern Section was planning to disband as a chapter. Ray agreed to stay on as President of the Northern Section, after much discussion, on the condition that assistance be provided the Northern Section in the form of (1) Help from each section in conducting a conference, including expenses; (2) Assistance from Bob Bennett, Jean Stovall, and Jake Colburn in setting up the section structure, and (3) Provision by each section of a speaker, upon request of the Northern Section.

Child Welfare and Attendance Handbook Editor Steve Gocke and Ruth Battle, past editor, reviewed the new CASCWA Handbook. 400 have been printed and funds are needed immediately to pay for printing. The Board voted to assign each section a number of handbooks for which they were to be charged \$20.00 each. Southern Section was assigned 100; all other sections 30.

Shirl Schmidt resigned as chairperson of the SARB Committee; Lou Gonzales was to be suggested to the President as replacement. Discussion took place regarding the function of the SARB Committee and the means to be used to disseminate SARB information...potentially a SARB Newsletter? Discussion was tabled in President Jake Colburn's absence.

Position papers on "Services for Status Offenders", and "Morals and Ethics Education" were reviewed and approved with minor changes.

Lee Lundberg presented the Legislation Committee's annual report with a description of bills signed into law. The Board moved as follows on these bills:

AB 1369-Support	AB 1701-Oppose	AB 2469-Support
AB 1520-Support	AB 1895-Support	SB 883-Support
AB 1617-Support	AB 2071-Oppose	SB 1181-Support
AB 1649-Oppose	AB 2080-Support	

It was recommended by the Legislation Committee that top priority be given to the assisting in the passage and approval of SB 1181. Each Section President is to provide information to his section regarding CASCWA's position on the above legislation.

Nancy Pompei from the office of the Attorney General's Crime and Prevention Center described the "Partnership with Schools" program. Conferences will be held in Oakland and in San Diego; funding will be available for 30 model programs at \$5,000 each.

Mary Weaver has been appointed lead person for CWA activity for the State Department; she was commended for her commitment by the Board.

Bob Bennett will be CASCWA's liaison to our legislators. If he can be of

assistance, feel free to call him at home (916) 322-2322.

The next CASCWA Executive Board Meeting will be in Sacramento on February 7 at the Sacramento Inn.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:10.





# LEGISLATION

**AB343** Clute, D-Riverside. (916) 445-5416. Authorizes the suspension or recommendation for expulsion of a pupil who knowingly receives stolen school property or private property. Passed legislature, then approved by governor July 26. Chapter 318, Statutes of 1985. Took effect January 1, 1986.

**AB442** Leonard, R-Redlands. (916) 445-7552. Adds teachers' aides, assistants and classified employees of any public or private school to the categories of people required to report suspected child abuse, if the employees have received specified training. Passed legislature, then approved by governor October 1. Chapter 1420, Statutes of 1985. Effective date: January 1, 1986.

**AB366** Vicencia, D-Bellflower. (916) 445-7486. (1) Expands the definition of sexual exploitation of children to include having a child pose for a drawing, painting, or picture of obscene sexual conduct for commercial or non-commercial purposes. (2) Changes and expands pilot projects funded by the Office of Child Abuse Prevention to develop programs to avoid out-of-home placement of abused or neglected children. (3) Says that "family reunification services" shall not be provided unless a child has been placed in foster care. Amended September 9. Passed legislature, then approved by governor September 27. Chapter 1068, Statutes of 1985. Took effect immediately as an "urgency" statute.

**AB716** Leonard, R-Loma Linda. (916) 445-7552. Current state law says, in general, that parents' responsibility to support and educate a child ends when the child reaches the age of 18. This bill extends parents' responsibility, except as specified, until the child reaches the age of 19 if the child (1) is unmarried, (2) is a full time high school student and (3) resides with a parent. Passed legislature, then approved by governor July 30. Chapter 379, Statutes of 1985. Took effect immediately as an "urgency" statute.

**AB1080** McAlister, D-Milpitas. (916) 445-7874. Makes a number of changes to laws requiring parents to provide financial support for their children. Passed legislature, then approved by governor July 30. Chapter 419, Statutes of 1985. Took effect January 1, 1986.

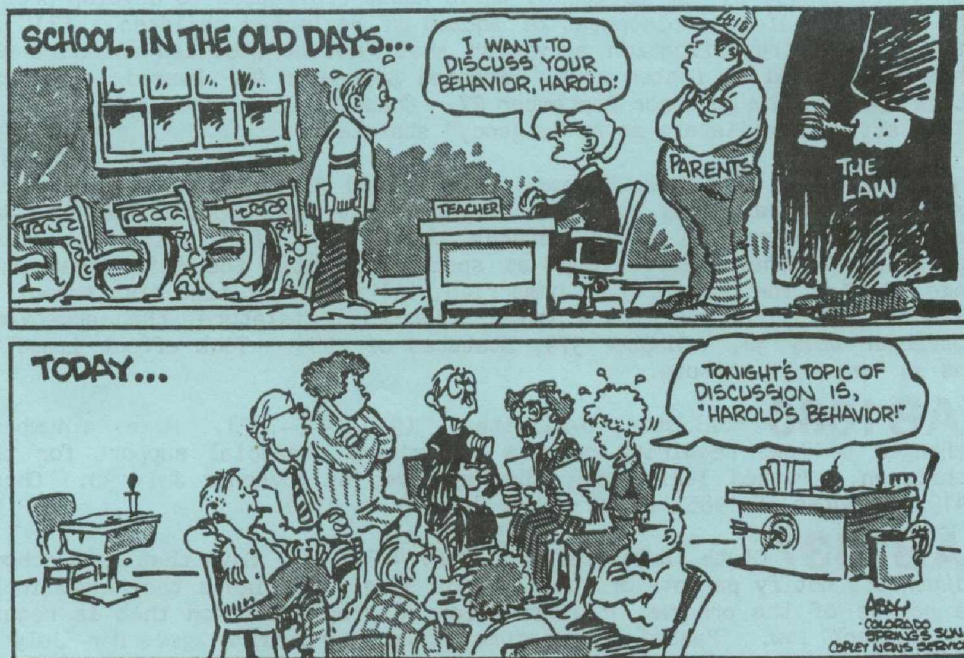
**AB2437** Clute, D-Riverside. (916) 445-5416. Says that when school districts notify parents or guardians of specified rights they must include a notice of the program of instruction on drug education that is required by current law. Passed legislature, then approved by governor July 30. Chapter 389, Statutes of 1985. Took effect January 1, 1986.



**SB110** Garamendi, D-Stockton. (916) 445-2407. Drug abuse prevention programs authorized under the School-Community Primary Prevention Program were repealed July 1, 1985, under provisions of an earlier law. This bill reinstates the School-Community Primary Prevention Program and requires the Legislative Analyst to report on the implementation of the program. Passed legislature, then approved by governor August 31. Chapter 456, Statutes of 1985. Took effect immediately as an "urgency" statute.

**SB314** Rosenthal, D-Los Angeles. (916) 445-7928. Extends from 15 days to 30 days the length of time a minor can be committed to a county institution for violating probation (without going through certain procedural steps currently required for any such commitment greater than 15 days). Amended August 27. Passed legislature, then approved by governor September 28. Chapter 1187, Statutes of 1985. Took effect January 1, 1986.

**SB391** Presley, D-Riverside. (916) 445-9781. Requires local police agencies to accept missing and runaway person reports "without delay." Amended August 19. Passed legislature, then approved by governor September 27. Chapter 1111, Statutes of 1985. Took effect January 1, 1986.





# CHANGES IN TITLE V STUDENT RECORDS SECTION TO BE PROPOSED

Since August of this past year a Committee under the direction of Lee Sheldon of the State Department has been struggling to make the provisions of Title V applicable to student records more in line with current law, clearer, and generally more usable for all of us. The group has asked for and has received considerable input from around the State and is still willing and able to hear more, at least for a little while longer; proposals are being submitted for an April hearing date. The process points toward adoption in May for implementation in the Fall semester.

Proposed amendments will effect Sections 430 through 450. Some of the suggestions now in the mill will:

- 1) Clarify the definitions of "Legal Name of Pupil: and "Parent".
- 2) Categorize all student records as either "permanent" or non-permanent" rather than the three categories now in existence.
- 3) Eliminate material now in basic State law presently duplicated in Title V Regulations.
- 4) Clarify assignment and function of Custodians of Records.
- 5) Clarify status of elementary school grades.
- 6) Specify which records are to be forwarded in transfer and which are optional.
- 7) Give districts a great deal more leeway in destruction of inactive student records.
- 8) Clarify Ed Code 48090 in respect to withholding student transcripts.

At the present time there are no copies of the proposals available for general distribution since the process is still grinding. If you are interested, however, call your editor or Lee Sheldon at the State Department; we would be happy to hear your thoughts on the subject and to keep you apprised of late developments.

## HOW CONFIDENTIAL IS CONFIDENTIAL?

Dr. Rich Simpson of Conejo Valley passes on some information of value to CWA workers, even though they are not covered by laws regarding rights of confidentiality. Some recent experiences prompted the following note;

...The California Public Records Act does not require disclosure of certain kinds of items generally considered to be personal notes. Education Code 49061 (b) specifically excludes personal notes, (those notes in the sole possession of the maker and not share with anyone other than an authorized substitute) from being considered as "pupil records".

Based on the above, most pupil personnel employees have assumed that personal notes are the private property of the maker and not accessible by anyone else.

Please be advised that while personal notes are not pupil records, they are subject to subpoena, review, and admission into evidence by any court or administrative hearing officer.



# WALL STREET JOURNAL REPORTS ON ARREST IN "THEFT OF EDUCATION"

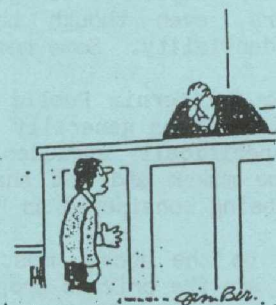
It is not often that school attendance material makes the Wall Street Journal, but October 31, 1985, (an appropriate day?) saw one such occasion. Titled "Schools Crack Down on Illegal Enrollments", the article describes the arrest of Sandra Foster, the mother of Trevor Foster, 17 years old, for first degree larceny: theft of Education. The boy attended high school in Bloomfield, Conn., but did not live there. Connecticut, like most states and school districts, requires that students be residents of the districts they attend.

Mrs. Foster, and three other sets of parents in similar cases could have been sent to jail had they been found guilty. They were all ultimately dropped because there hadn't been any notice of the arrest policy. (Sound familiar?...ed).

The article goes on to discuss the financial implications of such illegal attendance. California school administrators are quoted liberally. The article describes numerous techniques used by parents and students to gain access to "desirable" schools, and to avoid attendance in others.

The Jouranal points out that..."School systems are cracking down several ways. Bloomfield turned investigations last spring over to the local police who arrested Mrs. Foster and the other parents, Superintendent Herbert Chester says. A newspaper report at the time of the investigation said that Trevor Foster was suspect. The 6 foot 4 inch Mr. Foster had become a star of the basketball team, scoring 30 of the team's 65 points in its final game. Other students began questioning him about where he lived". The school ultimately forfeited all the games in which Foster played, but not after considerable furor in the community.

The article concludes with a discussion of the right to attend school, and its relationship to residency...and points out a few techniques used by school districts in dealing with the "tricky" problem of establishing a student's true residence. The article was a little lengthy to publish in its entirety, but is worth the effort of going to the public library for the past Journal issue...or dropping your editor a line; he will provide still one more CASCWA service and send you a copy.



"Hey! C'mon man! I'm 'arrogant, 'rude' and smug' because I got low self-esteem."

*"Then there's the occasional day when I see them simply as per-day cost units."*



## **SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND FINGERPRINTING OF KINDERGARTNERS**

AB 220 (Condit) was passed this year and signed by the Governor on September 3 to take effect on January 1, 1985. The bill requires school districts, subject to parental approval, to offer a fingerprint program for children enrolled in kindergarten. The fingerprints would be given to the parent and could not be retained by the district.

At the present moment, even though the bill is in effect, no guidelines are available to resolve the many questions being asked about the administration of the program. There is a question as to whether a simple directive is sufficient to put the wheels in motion, or whether Title V Regulations will be required. In either case directions must and shall be provided, but in the meantime districts are advised to "hold their fire".

## **NITTY-GRITTY MINI-CONFERENCE ON RECORDS TO BE HELD IN MODESTO**

On Wednesday, February 19th to be precise, at the Holiday Inn, featuring Del Royer, Consultant from the L.A. County School, L.A. County, as many CASCWA members know, has produced a comprehensive, practical handbook that answers "nitty-gritty" questions in the very confusing area. Del will review the handbook and deal with other related topics.

The Conference is sponsored by the San Joaquin CASCWA Section and the Stanislaus County Schools. All plans are not yet completed, but Sam Vaughn of the Ceres Schools (209) 538-0144 would be happy to keep you up to date on developments as they develop.

## **DROPOUT PREVENTION CONFERENCES**

Bill Honig has called a series of Dropout Convention Conferences which were to have been held in the few weeks just previous to the Holiday season. These sessions were designed to be the first step in addressing the dropout problem as part of the combines concern of the State Superintendent and the Legislature as indicated by the passage of ACR 35 and SB 65. ACR 35 (Klehs) is a resolution declaring 1986 as "The Year to solve California's Dropout Problem".

Invitations were sent to selected county and district superintendents asking them to select teams of six and to bring data from each of their districts pertaining to the issue. The sessions were designed to be expository and to provide a basis for future mutual activities. Materials were to be available to assist in planning.

The workshops were to have been held in Fresno, Oakland, San Bernardino and Los Angeles during the period of December 3rd and 11th. Jay Rollings of the State Department has been selected to be the guiding force.

CASCWA Personnel are looking forward to the results of the sessions.





# RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

..... or take a look around your district for potential members and tell them what we have to offer. Many school administrators and student service workers whose jobs have no "Child Welfare and Attendance" titles have found CASCWA to be their most helpful organizational source of information in their daily tasks. Deans, Vice Principals, Learning Directors, Agency Liaison Workers..... many qualify as Associate members and can be as helpful to us as we might be to them. Do us all a favor; look around and invite some of these good people.

**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION  
CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF SUPERVISORS OF CHILD WELFARE AND ATTENDANCE  
MEMBERSHIP YEAR 19\_\_ TO 19\_\_**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Mrs. Mr.  
 PLEASE PRINT (Last) (First) Miss Dr. SECTION  
 Ms.

School District \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ (Street) (City) (Zip) Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

New Member sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_ (Date) \_\_\_\_\_

**MAIL TO:**

(Section Treasurer)

**DUES:** *(Check one)*

**Active (\$30.00)**

**Associate (\$20.00)** Offered to accommodate persons not actively engaged as Child Welfare and attendance Personnel. It carries all benefits and privileges except voting and holding office.

**Institutional (\$30.00)**

**Retired**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in and would like information on the following: \_\_\_\_\_