



# Synergies

DECEMBER 2012

CLASSROOM OF THE FUTURE FOUNDATION

ISSUE 38

## SDG&E Is Title Sponsor for 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Innovation Awards Dinner

SDG&E, a longtime Classroom of the Future supporter, will be the title sponsor for the Innovation in Education Awards on May 22, 2013 at the University of San Diego. This year, CFF will be celebrating the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Awards Program, which fosters and showcases advancements in educational technology.



SDG&E is an especially appropriate sponsor as they made a generous \$25,000 grant to the CFF STEM project. Caroline Winn, SDG&E Vice President, Customer Service, is the CFF Board of Directors' incoming chairperson.

Award nominations in several categories will be open in January at <http://www.classroomofthefuture.org>. In addition, a number of sponsorship opportunities are available to business, community and education organizations. These sponsorships will showcase our partners' support of the CFF mission to inspire innovative learning and student achievements.



A  Sempra Energy utility®

This year will also feature a number of awards focusing on leadership over the past ten years as well as past award recipients. It promises to be an illuminating and inspirational evening looking back on the progress made over the past 10 years.

## Keeping Our Mission Relevant

Students' educational needs today are quickly evolving, as pointed out at a recent CFF Board of Directors videoconference with Partnerships for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills ([www.p21.org](http://www.p21.org)).

As a result, CFF has updated its mission statement to make sure the organization stays focused on what's most important. We believe the new statement reflects the realities of the classroom today and tomorrow.

At its most basic level, a mission statement should reflect why an organization's employees come to work every day. Our new mission statement meets that measure and we welcome any feedback or comments you may have.

***"To engage business, community, and educational leaders in creating innovative learning environments in San Diego County K-12 public schools that prepare our students to thrive in a competitive, global society."***

*"Knowledge and human power are synonymous."*

Francis Bacon

*“If you have knowledge, let others light their candles from it.”*

Margaret Fuller

## Social Networking More Useful

Choosing the best tablets for students. The future of textbooks. Ten great web tools for teachers. Ten sites to download free audio books. These are just some of the informative postings regularly uploaded to CFF’s Facebook page (<http://www.facebook.com/CFFSD>).

The Classroom of the Future is also working on a new blog that promises to engage both the education and business community leaders of San Diego County. It’s all part of CFF’s emphasis on social networking. Be sure to become a fan today.

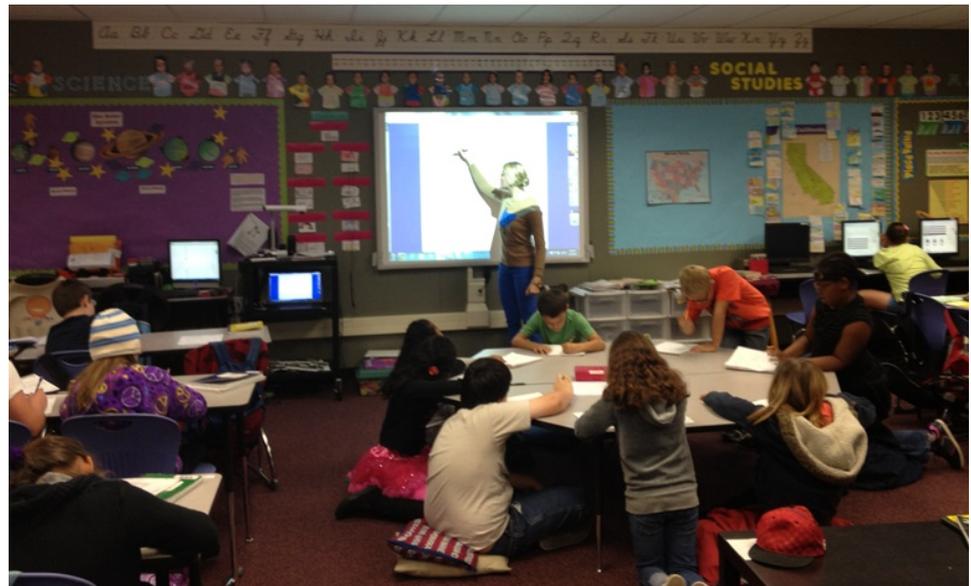
## Randy Everett joins CFF Board



A familiar face formally joined the Classroom of the Future Foundation’s Board of Directors recently. Randy Everett was already well known to CFF as a driving force of CFF’s developing social media presence including CFF Facebook, twitter and blog sites.

Randy brings extensive online skills to the organization, having served as the U-T San Diego’s online IT manager and currently as Anderson Direct Marketing’s interactive producer.

Social media is emerging as a central focus of CFF priorities. We are looking forward to his contributions in a variety of areas.



Classroom of the Future Foundation board members Gary Devan and Todd Gutschow, as well as executive director Bruce Braciszewski, recently observed project-based learning model classrooms at the PRIDE Academy in the Santee School District. This school received the 2010 Inspire Award for its development of a program that has measurably increased student test scores.

## e-School News

Eschoolnews.com provides a roundup of new educational technology from across the country. Each headline is hot-linked to a more complete report.

*“Knowledge begets knowledge. The more I see, the more impressed I am—not with what we know—but with how tremendous the areas are as yet unexplored.”*

John H. Glenn, Jr.

### **Wireless experts: Time to move beyond the device**

School leaders should focus less on devices and more about other key elements needed to make wireless initiatives a success, experts say—like policy, infrastructure, and content. One project that could serve as a model is Active Explorer, a web-based learning platform that uses smart phones and mobile broadband connectivity to engage children in collecting, interpreting, and sharing science-related data.

### **How proper ed-tech implementation can transform learning**

A new report outlines four critical challenges facing public education and identifies steps that school and district leaders must take in the next two years to ensure that digital learning...

### **The most important education technology in 200 years**

If you were asked to name the most important innovation in transportation over the last 200 years, you might say the combustion engine, air travel, Henry Ford’s Model-T production line or even the bicycle. The list goes on, the *MIT Technology Review* reports. Now answer this one: What’s been the single biggest innovation in education? Don’t worry if you come up blank. You’re supposed to. The question is a gambit used by Anant Agarwal, the computer scientist named this year to head edX, a \$60 million MIT-Harvard effort to stream a college education over the web, free, to anyone who wants one. His point: It’s rare to see major technological advances in how people learn...

## **U-T Nonprofit Guide Showcases CFF**

The U-T San Diego recently unveiled its inaugural “Making a Difference” Nonprofit Guide, a publication designed to showcase San Diego’s leading nonprofit organizations including the Classroom of the Future Foundation.

The Guide was part of a revamped U-T online initiative that will result in a comprehensive calendar of nonprofit events throughout the year and throughout San Diego County. That will give event organizers the opportunity to avoid scheduling conflicts and also to conduct online networking.

The printed version numbered 250,000 copies that were inserted into the U-T on November 11, 2012. On the following page is a condensed look at one of the two pages CFF placed in the guide.

**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](http://www.classroomofthefuture.org). © 2012

# Classroom of the Future



## THE AREA(S) WE SERVE

Partnerships between local businesses and K-12 public schools in the 42 school districts throughout San Diego County.

## FUNDRAISING EVENTS

The 10th Anniversary Innovation in Education Awards program will be convened on May 22, 2013 at the University of San Diego. More than 500 educators, business leaders and students will celebrate innovation and honor achievement at this dinner gala. Sponsorships are available in November 2012 and tickets in March 2013.

## CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS

- Volunteer at the annual Innovation in Education Awards event.
- Mentor a student with the High Tech Academic Achievement Scholarships.
- Support local districts with their programs and events.
- Serve as a speaker and/or mentor in the STEM programs.
- Like Us on the Classroom of the Future Foundation Facebook page.

## OUR MISSION STATEMENT

"To engage business, community, and educational leaders in creating innovative learning environments in San Diego County K-12 public schools that prepare our students to thrive in a competitive, global society."

## OUR 2013 GOALS

- To continue supporting innovative partnerships with school districts focused on project-based learning, STEM programs, model classrooms and one-to-one initiatives.
- To host the 10th Anniversary Innovation in Education Awards Program which includes distributing cash prizes to winning schools, honoring High Tech Academic Achievement Scholarships recipients and presenting the 2013 Visionary and Outstanding Leadership Award
- To conduct Innovation Day and Learning on the Go events in collaboration with the San Diego County Office of Education Technology partnership

## DONATION OPPORTUNITIES

- Sponsor our annual Innovation in Education Awards event.
- Buy a table for educators to attend the awards program.
- Fund a student with the High Tech Academic Achievement Scholarships.
- Make a donation via Classroom of the Future Foundation website.



Facebook.com/CFFSD



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**Executive Director**  
Bruce Braciszewski, Ph.D.

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