



REGION XI REPS MEET WITH LEGISLATORS AT LEG ACTION DAY
PAGE 9



TIM BOWERS RETIRES AFTER 30 YEARS IN EDUCATION
PAGE 15



DR. BLANCA CAVAZOS' STATE BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT
PAGE 8

As you read through this newsletter, keep an eye out for this icon. It is meant to point out benefits you receive as a result of your ACSA membership — professional development, networking, leadership opportunities, and more.



REPORTER



ACSARegion11



@acsa_11



ACSA APP

ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS • REGION XI • www.regions.acsa.org/11/

NEW!

We're mailing this hard copy of our newsletter to you, in addition to all the digital delivery methods we've used in the past. Let us know what you think.

kathleen.forsythe@sbcsbcglobal.net

Educational excellence celebrated by Region XI at Annual Awards Ceremony



Donna Glassman-Sommer



Dr. Guadalupe Solis



Debbie Portillo

Newly-installed Region XI 2018-2019 President Lisa Horne opened Region XI's Annual Awards Ceremony by introducing the Lemoore High School NJROTC which presented the colors and lead the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. The event, held on Thursday, May 3 at Hodel's Restaurant in Bakersfield, recognized Student Scholarship, Administrator of the Year and other award winners. Guests were treated to entertainment by the Lemoore High School Choir while lunch was served.

Debbie Portillo, Principal at Garden Elementary School in the Tulare City School District, was honored with the Marcus Foster Memorial Award for Administrator Excellence. Her teachers describe her as a positive, inspiring administrator, encouraging them with her constant and unequivocal support.

Dr. Guadalupe Solis received the Itzenhauser/Schlagel Honorarium Lifetime Retiree Award. He is retiring this year from his position as Deputy Superintendent of Instructional Services with the Tulare County Office of Education. With over 40 years as an educator, Dr. Solis has made a significant impact on public education in Tulare and Kings counties. Region XI established this award, in memory of long-time region leaders David Itzenhauser and Dick Schlagel, to honor a new retiree with a lifetime ACSA membership.

The Ferd J. Kiesel Memorial Distinguished Award was presented to Donna Glassman-

Awards/6

Permit No 50
Visalia CA
PAID
US Postage
Prst St

ACSA, Forsythe, 1611 W. Laurel Ave., Visalia, CA 93277
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Membership Scoreboard

Each One ... Reach One
Recruitment Tip: Every administrator who is not a member is a potential member.

Welcome New Members

East Kern Charter

Margaret Bergens

Principal
Gateway Elementary
Recruited by: Michelle Sovko

Tulare Charter

Gay Atmajian

Staff Development Specialist
Tulare County Office of Education
Recruited by: Jennifer Francone

Jennifer Carlson

Student
Visalia Unified School District
Recruited by: Nancy Nauman

Jason Edwards

Director of Special Education
Tulare Joint Union High School
Recruited by: Tammy Aldaco

Yoriko Fernandez

Admin. II
Porterville Unified
Recruited by: Jeanette McDonald

Tulare Charter *continued*

Taylor George

Student
Visalia Unified School District
Recruited by: Nancy Nauman

Shanelle Herrera

Associate
Visalia Unified School District
Recruited by: Nancy Nauman

Eva James

Assistant Principal
Visalia Unified School District
Recruited by: Natalie Taylor

Laura Nordic

Personal Assistant
Porterville Unified
Recruited by: Jeanette McDonald

West Kern Charter

Traci Matthews

HR Director
Kern County Office of Education
Recruited by: Toni Smith

Kimberly Graham

Management Analyst
Kern County Office of Education
Recruited by: Jason Hodgson

Remember, membership is everyone's business. Member-to-member recruitment ensures that ACSA remains the authoritative advocate for California's 6.2 million students.

Charter	April 30, 2017	April 30, 2018	+/-
East Kern	82	85	+3
Inyo/Mono	27	29	+2
Kings	122	129	+7
Tulare	478	524	+46
West Kern	336	341	+5
CSUB Student	21	24	+3
Unassigned	2	4	23
TOTAL	1068	1136	68

Congratulations go out to Kim Paz from Visalia Unified and David East from Reef-Sunset Unified, who recruited four members each. They will receive a \$500 scholarship toward any ACSA professional learning. Thank you to Kim and David, and all others who helped grow our organization this year.

Five academies will be offered within Region XI in 2018-2019



The Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) provides a full range of academies to meet your needs as a school administrator, confidential employee or classified manager. Because ACSA represents all members of the school management team, it can help you build the administrative and leadership skills needed in your current job, while preparing you to take advantage of career advancement opportunities.

Region XI is pleased to announce that five academies will be held within the region, enabling its membership to attend without the need to travel long distances. Academies being offered within Region XI include Personnel Administrators and Curriculum & Instruction Leaders in Tulare County, and Leading Continuous Improvement to Support LCAP Implementation, Principals and Special Education in Kern County.

Go to www.acsa.org/academies for program information and to register.

ACSA members are encouraged to apply for professional development scholarships to help defray costs of attending an academy. Contact your charter president to apply.

Did You Know?

AN ACSA REGION XI PUBLICATION

Dr. Donya Wheeler, President
David Tonini, Executive Director
Kathy Forsythe, Director of Communications
1611 W. Laurel Ave., Visalia, CA 93277
(559) 627-3619
Email: kathleen.forsythe@sbcglobal.net

"Serving Kern, Kings, Inyo, Mono and Tulare Counties"



President's Message

As Region XI started the planning process to develop our 2018-2019 goals aligned to the state's strategic plan during our summer leadership retreat, it was important to take time to evaluate

progress toward meeting our 2017-2018 goals. Our leadership team, comprised of the executive board, directors, and committee/council members, were asked to complete an end-of-year evaluation, rating progress toward meeting region goals and providing feedback on what the region should start and stop doing.

Goal 1: 88% agree/strongly agree Region XI increased our involvement with state and local legislation.

Goal 2: 88% agree/strongly agree Region XI increased support from top administrators to build meaningful involve-

ment for members and districts through academies, professional development, charter conferences, networking socials, etc.

Goal 3: 97% agree/strongly agree Region XI increased accessibility of information and visibility of the ACSA brand to all members through social media, ACSA Reporter, WebEx, etc.

Suggestions on what Region XI should start doing included:

- More outreach to "silent" members and to top administrators
- Find more ways to highlight success of members for site or district accomplishments
- Encourage region leads to get their charter members to meet more

See Wheeler/23

Inyo/Mono Charter presents student scholarships

Three graduating seniors, and their families, were invited to join the Inyo/Mono Charter at their April 30 meeting to receive and be honored as the charter's scholarship winners for 2018. Charter President Don Clark praised the students, saying, "The things you have planned for the future are humbling."

Recipients:

Bishop Union High School

- Kristen Lamb
Boston University
- Lily McGrale
UC Irvine

Mammoth High School

- Auden Cameron
Gettysburg College



Bring your class to CALM

CALM hosts more than 20,000 students, educators and parents who visit the zoo on organized field trips every year. A discounted rate for school groups is \$4 per child and \$6 per adult. These fees include zoo admission, a wildlife program with a CALM staff and a reserved pavilion area for lunch or snack.

An adult to student ratio of 1:10 is required for students in grades 1-6, and 1:5 for kindergarten or pre-school.

To schedule a field trip, or for more information, please contact Jordan Reed at **661-871-1883** or email joreed@kern.org.



www.CALMzoo.org

10500 Alfred Harrell Hwy • 661/872-2256



Region leadership meets, makes plans for 2018-19

2018-2019 Region XI President Lisa Horne invited region leaders to The Tachi Palace in Lemoore on June 11 and 12 to set plans and goals for the coming year.

On Monday afternoon, the executive board met and had a very productive discussion about board responsibilities, the calendar and budget for the coming year, among other things, in preparation for the Tuesday session, where they were joined by charter presidents, directors and committee/council representatives. That evening attendees enjoyed dinner together.

Incoming charter presidents met on Tuesday morning for an orientation. Horne, Region XI Executive Director David Tonini and President-Elect Matt Diggle went over how to establish a budget, how to set goals, how to access region grants, how to update bylaws, how to submit applications for awards and scholarships, and what each charter's leadership should look like,

Tuesday, with the full array of region leadership in place, Guest Speaker State ACSA President Dr. Holly Edds talked about what is happening at the state level. Highlights included the new strategic plan, which is nearly ready to roll out, the new Fatal School Violence Task Force, the new ACSA Resource Hub, the Janus case soon to be decided by the Supreme Court, and the primary election results. "The Governmental Relations team had a 100% success rate in the organization's primary endorsements," she said. "The five candidates who were endorsed are moving on to the general election in November."



LEFT: Dick Schlagel presents the Itzenhauser/Schlagel Award to Guadalupe Solis. RIGHT: Lisa Horne presents a plaque to Dr. Donya Wheeler in thanks for her service as 2017-2018 Region XI President.



Major topics of discussion included the state strategic plan, the end-of-the-year survey results, region goals, leadership roles and responsibilities, membership/ambassadors, legislative action, awards and scholarships, networking opportunities, the proposed 2018-2019 meeting calendar and locations, ACSA academies offered within the region, and the State Leadership Summit in San Diego in November. Vice President of Leg Action Craig Wheaton led a discussion about what recommendations the region would give to the Governmental Relations team about who to endorse in the general election in November.

A background image for an advertisement showing various school supplies like pencils, pens, a pencil sharpener, and a notebook.

- Stationery • Paper
- Furniture • Art & Janitorial Supplies

"Taking Care of School Needs Since 1976"

SOUTHWEST SCHOOL & OFFICE SUPPLY

Joe De La Cruz
1915 N. MacArthur Dr. • Ste. 400 • Tracy, CA 95376
800-227-7159 • 909-980-7777 • Cell: 559-410-2269 Fax: 909-980-7159
Email: delacruz@southwestschool.com

A background image for an advertisement showing a trophy and a starburst graphic.

KERN TROPHIES

2015 "F" STREET - BAKERSFIELD, CA. 93301

"Awards for Champions"

FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED
Ira and Mary Sullivan

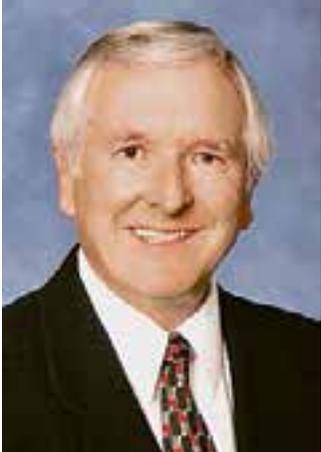
TROPHIES & AWARDS
www.kerntrophies.com

PROMOTIONAL ITEMS
www.kernpromos.com

(661) 324-9265
FAX (661) 324-1209
Hours: 8:30 - 5:00 - Monday thru Friday

MEMBER
BBB
SINCE 1971

A QR code located in the bottom right corner of the advertisement.



Comments from your Executive Director

The school year is over and planning for next year now occupies your thoughts. That is the same for your association.

On June 11 and 12, 40 region leaders met in Lemoore to determine goals for next year, establish a calendar of events, develop a budget, and share ideas to better serve our members and the students we all serve.

Region XI's focus will continue to be:

Advocacy: Developing relationships with our legislators and congressional representatives so that we are the go-to people when a vote on an education-related bill is being considered or an education bill is being written.

Networks: Increasing opportunities for members to get involved, professional development scholarships available to

members, opportunity to attend one of five ACSA academies in our region, charter-sponsored networking socials and conferences, member recognition, continued support for the Mid-State Conference, new member contact and mentorship, and job-alike networks.

Technology: Effective communication to all members, as well as marketing and branding of the region, through a variety of platforms — Twitter, Facebook, the ACSA App, push notifications, the Region Website, and The Reporter, the region newsletter, which is published four times a year and is available for download through all the previously mentioned platforms, plus email, and is mailed directly to all members.

Under Dr. Donya Wheeler's leadership much has been accomplished this year. Membership continued to grow at a fast

See Tonini/23

SAVE THE DATE

Every Child Counts Symposium in Feb.

ACSA's Student Services and Special Education Council presents this world-class learning event each year, featuring exciting workshops, informative keynotes and opportunities for skill development and networking. The Every Child Counts Symposium is designed for both beginning and veteran educational leaders and focuses on the latest in the field of student and special education. For more information, go to www.acsa.org/Educational-Services/Conferences/every-child-counts-symposium.



Working with leaders in Visalia for 22 years

Bachelor's • Credentials • Master's • Doctorate

Brandman University and ACSA are your partners for creating transformational leaders. Build leadership skills and advance your career by earning an Ed.D. in Visalia or Hanford.

The Ed.D. in Organizational Leadership includes:

- Local cohorts led by experienced administrators and educators
- Course completion in two years; dissertations usually completed in third year
- Early and continuing support for dissertation development
- Clear Administrative Credential option

Call 800-746-0353

Or visit us at:

Visalia
649 South County Center Drive,
Visalia, CA, 93277
www.brandman.edu/visalia

Hanford
325 Mall Drive,
Hanford, CA, 93230
www.brandman.edu/hanford



CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

Brandman University, a part of the Chapman University System, is a private, nonprofit institution accredited by the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) that offers more than 80 academic programs both online and at more than 25 campuses throughout California and Washington. Not all programs are available at all locations. Program availability is subject to change.

Awards

Continued from page 1

Sommer. In her work with the Tulare County Office of Education's regional New Teacher and Development program and the statewide California Teacher Recruitment Center, Glassman-Sommer has focused her career on getting quality teachers and administrators into California's classrooms.

Administrator of the Year Awards were presented to 20 deserving administrators from throughout the region. See page 7 for a listing of recipients.

Stockdale High School graduate Mickaela Valenti was honored as Region XI's Every Student Succeeding (ESS) Award winner. The focus of this award is to honor a student who has overcome special challenges, performed beyond expectations, often in spite of adversity, or who has simply won the hearts of the educators who have supported them in succeeding. Valenti was nominated by her RSP instructor, Mickey Padilla. She will be recognized at the State Leadership Summit in San Diego in November.

Graduating seniors receiving scholarships from Region XI included:

- Eliana Brown, Lemoore High School
- Taryn Sweeney, Lemoore Middle School
- Chase Reader, Rosamond High School
- Brisa Porter-Garcia, Sherman E. Burroughs High School
- Andrew Zulfa, Frontier High School
- Michael Morosa, Liberty High School
- Brianna Torres, Porterville High School



TOP: Region XI 2018-19 Executive Board, left to right, Dr. Craig Wheaton, Vice President of Legislative Action; Rocio Muñoz, Treasurer; Regina Green, Secretary; Matt Diggle, President-Elect; Michele Borges, Vice President; and Lisa Horne, President. RIGHT: Richard Morosa.



- Kylie Crow, Fowler High School
- Auden Cameron, Mammoth High School
- Lily McGrate, Bishop High School

Buckman-Mitchell, Inc.

Financial & Insurance Services

Protecting what matters to you
Your Home, Your Family, and
Your Future

Buckman-Mitchell, Inc. is proud to have protected schools, businesses and families since 1916. As an independent agency, with over 80 licensed insurance professionals, Buckman-Mitchell is ready to help with the best possible rates on:

- Health and life insurance
- Auto and home
- Business and agribusiness

Visalia
500 N. Santa Fe
(559) 733-1181

Fresno
575 E. Locust Ave. Ste. 204
(559) 324-6770

License #0011334, #0A96361

Serving Bakersfield for 50 Years

Restaurant • Banquet Rooms • Catering

Hodel's

COUNTRY DINING

Hodel's Country Dining has been applauded for its charming atmosphere, wonderful award-winning food and heavenly homemade desserts and breads. Visit Hodel's and rediscover food prepared the "old fashioned" way.

5917 Knudsen Drive • Bakersfield • 661.399.3341 • www.hodels.com



**Adult Education
Administrator of the Year**
JoAnne McClelland
Sierra Sands Unified School District
*"... has created an environment
where students are respected and
encouraged to succeed."*



**Business Services
Employee of the Year**
Brad Rohrbach
Porterville Unified School District
*"... has earned the confidence
and respect of everyone he works
with."*



**Career Technical Education
Administrator of the Year**
Joy Soares
Tulare County Office of Education
*"... consistently puts the interests
of students, teachers and adminis-
trators above her own."*



**Central Office
Employee of the Year**
Gabriela Guzman
Cutler-Orosi Joint Unified
*"... role model in the community,
exemplifying the importance of
education ..."*



**Classified Leader
of the Year**
Conan Palmer
Tulare County Office of Education
*"... helping support school district
leaders across the country and
improving education ..."*



**Confidential Employee
of the Year**
Marlene Moreno
Tulare County Office of Education
*"... a great sense of humor, atten-
tion to detail, professionalism, and
integrity."*



**Continuation/Ed Options
Administrator of the Year**
Michele Reid
Visalia Unified School District
*"... has a passionate drive to meet
the needs of a very unique and
diverse population ..."*

2018 Region XI Administrator of the Year Award recipients



**Curriculum and Instruction
Administrator of the Year**
David Bowling
Wasco Union Elem. School District
*"... a catalyst for change, promot-
ing the equity of all instruction in
Wasco schools."*



**Elementary Co-Administrator
of the Year**
Miriam Hogg
Ridgecrest Charter School
*"... approaches her position with
compassion, firm standards, and
open support for all staff."*



**Elementary Principal
of the Year**
Nancy Davis
Central Union Elem. School District
*"... has formed powerful parent
connections that support student
success."*



**Middle Grades Principal
of the Year**
Dr. Bonny Porter
Sierra Sands Unified School District
*"... established a collaborative
system based on data analysis to
... improve student achievement."*



**Personnel/Human Resources
Employee of the Year**
Cheri Barnes
Tulare County Office of Education
*"Her moral compass and high
ethical standards allow her to ma-
neuver through the maze ..."*



**Professor of Education
of the Year**
Steve Bsharah
Tehachapi Unified School District
*"... emphasizes the need to iden-
tify and address the individual
needs of each student."*



**Pupil Personnel
Administrator of the Year**
Dr. Anthony Martin
Burton School District
*"... humble, honest and caring ...
a man of integrity in all that he
does."*



**Retired Administrator
of the Year**
Beverly Thompson
*"... continues to be a strong influ-
ence on the educational land-
scape in Tehachapi."*



**Secondary Co-Administrator
of the Year**
John Cosner
Sierra Sands Unified School District
*"... ensures every interaction with
students or staff ends on a posi-
tive note ..."*



**Special Education
Administrator of the Year**
Janet Clark
Fruitvale School District
*"... seeks to reinforce the great
things that are happening &
provide correction where needed."*



**Superintendent
of the Year**
Yolanda Valdez
Cutler-Orosi Joint Unified
*"Relentless, courageous instruc-
tional leadership ... for herself and
for all district leaders."*



**Superintendent/Principal
of the Year**
Keri Montoya
Liberty School District
*"... implemented the only inter-
vention resource class of its kinds
on a small school campus ..."*



**Technology Administrator
of the Year**
Regina Green
Tehachapi Unified School District
*"... secured additional e-rate
funding to improve technology
infrastructure ..."*



Your opportunity to participate in legislative race endorsement process will arrive by email

During the Saturday, May 12 Board of Directors meeting, members received positive feedback on the format of the May Leadership Assembly, including:

- The professional development component and sharing of best practices as an integral part of the meeting.
- The opportunity to contribute feedback on the Strategic Plan.
- The positive and collaborative tone of the meetings.

A discussion was held regarding legislative race endorsements. ACSA Vice Presidents of Legislative Action (VPLA) and Governmental Relations staff evaluated all statewide legislative races in late fall of 2017 and recommended ACSA be involved in 11 key statewide Assembly/Senate races. Once the June primary results have been certified, ACSA will reach out to members by email with a questionnaire to collect input and then decide on endorsements. Responses will be due back in July. Constitutional officer candidate interviews will be held in conjunction with the board retreat which will also be held in July.

The ACSA 2018-2019 budget was approved by a unanimous vote of the board. It is a balanced budget, which maintains reserves and increases the commitment to the Rainy Day Fund. The budget also provides a 1% salary cost of living adjustment (COLA) for staff.

The Fatal School Violence Task Force, whose participants include administrators, law enforcement, crisis management specialists, and other stakeholders, is focused on providing resources to districts, preparation tools, crisis response and both state and federal advocacy. The board approved a \$25,000 budget for task force expenses.

The board is reviewing current policy related to campaigning rules for candidates seeking ACSA office, because of confusion about how to interpret the policy over the last few years. The board agreed that it is important for every candidate to have equal access and a level playing field when campaigning. A distinction was made between activities for campaigning and those that are of service to members. The board expressed support for allowing candidates to continue to serve our members and requested policy amendments to provide greater clarity and honor these concepts. The proposed amendments will be considered in July.

ACSA is getting close to finalizing the new Strategic Plan. Stakeholder feedback has been essential to every step of the process. During May/

June, region and committee/council leaders have been asked to present the draft plan for review and feedback. ACSA is providing tools to assist in making this an interactive and collaborative process. The Core Planning Group (CPG) provided a status update and project timeline as follows:

- May 25 - June 29: Regions and Committees/Councils present draft and get feedback.
- June 29: Stakeholder feedback due.
- July 18: Final draft published for board consideration.
- July 25: ACSA Board considers the plan for approval.

See Cavazos/23

Ready to get FutureFIT®?

FutureFIT stands for **Freedom. Individually Tailored®.**

By enrolling in your workplace retirement plan with VALIC, you can get a jump start on obtaining the retirement goals you envision.

SAVING : INVESTING : PLANNING



Great things come to those who don't wait

CLICK VALIC.com CALL 1-888-569-7055

VISIT your financial advisor

Kim Short, Financial Advisor, (559) 417-7043 or (559) 243-4705, 5070 N. 6th #153, Fresno, CA 93710, kim.short@valic.com, CA Insurance Lic. #0D68504

Securities and investment advisory services offered through VALIC Financial Advisors, Inc. ("VFA"), member FINRA, SIPC and an SEC-registered investment advisor. VFA registered representatives offer securities and other products under retirement plans and IRAs, and to clients outside of such arrangements.

Annuities issued by The Variable Annuity Life Insurance Company ("VALIC"). Variable annuities distributed by its affiliate, AIG Capital Services, Inc. ("ACS"), member FINRA. VALIC, VFA and ACS are members of American International Group, Inc. ("AIG").

Copyright © The Variable Annuity Life Insurance Company. All rights reserved.
VC 28442 (07/2017) J102150 EE





The Region XI Legislative Action Day Team: Back row, left to right, Steve Bsharah, Frank Ohnesorgen, Jason Hodgson, David Tonini, Tomas Prieto, David Tapia, Rob Hudson, David Bowling, Dr. Donya Wheeler, Don Clark, Michele Borges and Jennifer Payne. Front row, left to right, Sharon Cronk, Regina Green, Rocio Muñoz, Jose Morales, Jeanette McDonald, Yolanda Valdez, Craig Wheaton, Anne Lopez and Terri Rufert.

Region XI educational leaders advocate for students at Legislative Action Day

More than 400 educational leaders, representing all of ACSA's 19 regions, descended upon the State Capital for Legislative Action Day, Sunday and Monday, April 15 and 16. The event offered the opportunity to hear from inspirational speakers, learn about what's happening legislatively in education, network with fellow administrators and, most importantly, advocate for the 6.2 million students in California. ACSA's Governmental Relations team asked participants to focus on two key issues:

State Budget: Investments via the Local Control Funding Formula

BACKGROUND: The total dollar amount allocated in the California state budget for education is too low to provide the comprehensive and constitutionally required education that all California students deserve. As we near the 30-year anniversary of the passage of Proposition 98, the state is still far from prioritizing California public education funding. The overarching goal of the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) is to improve academic outcomes

by directing additional funding to school districts that serve high-need students. The intent of the LCFF was for individual school districts to have more authority over their spending decisions, while also holding each district accountable for the student results. The LCFF established a new way to split Proposition 98 funding — however, the new funding distribution method did nothing to increase the total amount of funding.

ACSA'S ASK:

- Increase LCFF funding levels through the base grant, while maintaining the supplemental and concentration grant funding levels
- Create a new long-term education funding plan
- Support Muratsuchi's AB 2808, which establishes a higher LCFF base grant funded by growth within Proposition 98. The funding goal set within the LCFF should be adjusted to reflect current and future funding needs, and AB 2808 provides an avenue to achieve those objectives.

See Leg Action/10

Leg Action

Continued from page 9

Extending the Probationary Period

BACKGROUND: For decades, the state and nation have discussed the adequate time period for an new teacher to be granted permanent status (tenure). A significant amount of research, policy discussions, and court involvement has surrounded the importance of a competent teacher to improving a student's education outcomes. This is particularly true for students who have little to no outside support for their educational accomplishments. California is facing a severe teacher shortage due to a high number of retirements, high turnover and a shrinking supply of new teachers entering the profession. Under current law, a new teacher hired by a school district is placed on probation. The probation period in California is up to two years. California is one of only five states that has a probationary period of two years or less. Because of statutory deadlines, California's probationary law is the shortest of all. Current law requires notification of certificated employees by March 15 of each year if they will be released from their teaching duties. In order to meet this deadline, a district begins preparing their non-reelect notices as early as November or December, meaning a school district is deciding whether to grant someone a 30-year career after only 15 to 18 months of observation. If a teacher is the most important individual for a student's academic success, then public policy must ensure that teachers receive the best opportunity to succeed. One policy decision to consider is extending the probationary period for new teachers in order to provide them the tools for long-term success.

ACSA'S ASK:

- Enact a legislative change that extends the teacher probationary period to three years
- Support Weber's AB 1220

On Sunday, Edgar Zazueta, ACSA's Senior Director of Policy and Governmental Relations, and his team, provided the general session with detailed briefings and guidance on these topics through a panel discussion, followed by breakout sessions, during which each region prepared their plan for meeting with their particular legislators. Just before participants headed out to the Capitol on Monday, tips on effective advocacy were provided by experts in the field Kevin Gordon, president of Capitol Advisors, and his partner, former Superintendent of Public Instruction Jack O'Connell.

Region XI's Terri Rufert, State ACSA Vice President of Legislative Action, opened the general session on day one. She thanked everyone for taking time away from their busy schedules and stressed the importance of advocacy, "The more your legislators see you ... the more the state board of education sees you ... the more likely they are to come to you and ask for your opinion."

Dr. Ilene Straus, Vice President, California State Board of Education, gave the keynote address on Sunday. She stressed the importance of talking about your



Region XI President Dr. Donya Wheeler leads team members as they plan their strategy for meeting with legislators.



ACSA Governmental Relations team experts brief participants on the two key issues they've been asked to focus on when meeting with legislators. Left to right, Laura Preston, Martha Alvarez and Edgar Zazueta.

Go to www.acsa.org/Advocacy/legislative-action-day to view a video about Legislative Action Day that includes Region XI's participation!



Dr. Ilene Straus

successes. "When you talk about what happens in your school, people listen to you," she said. "Think about the stories we tell to think about our successes." She said the priority we're looking at is best first instruction. The best we can do is get teachers to come to us, hire them and get them to stay. Two things that determine whether or not they stay are working conditions and support from their administrator.

Region XI team members had productive conversations with five legislators who represent the region — Assemblyman Vince Fong (District 34), Senator Jean Fuller (District 16), Assemblyman Rudy Salas (District 32), Senator Jim Vidak (District 14), and Assemblyman Devin Mathis (District 26). "Legislators were able to hear multiple perspectives and the impact their votes will have in our schools and why we need their support," said Rocio Muñoz, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services, Richland Union School District.

Vice President of Legislative Action Craig Wheaton facilitated Region XI's participation in the event, as well as the discussions with the legislators. "It is powerful to see our elected officials listen to the educational experts from our region," he said. "The difference we make is that we advocate on behalf of our students ... this is evident in the stories shared by each of our members."

David Bowling, Assistant Superintendent, Instruction, with Wasco Union Elementary School District, strongly encouraged Region XI members to volunteer to participate in Leg Action Day on behalf of their charter next year. "Going to Sacramento and sitting down with local legislators in the capital is an eye-opening experience that helps one better understand the highly political perspective of the work we engage in as school administrators," he said.

Legislative Action Day 2019 will be April 7 and 8. If you're interested in participating, you are encouraged to contact your charter president.

West Kern Charter holds Annual Awards Banquet

West Kern Charter honored administrators, retirees, community members and students at their Annual Awards Banquet held on Thursday, June 7 at Coconut Joe's in Bakersfield. The banquet was well attended by more than 100, including honorees, family, friends and colleagues. The following administrators were recognized for their work to support students, teachers and parents:

- Superintendent of the Year: John Mendiburu
- Middle Grades Principal of the Year: Leslie Garrison
- Elementary Principal of the Year: Bridget Fitch
- Central Office Administrator of the Year: Mark Luque
- Co-Administrator of the Year: Ana Torres
- Confidential Employee of the Year: Lorraine Thompson
- Personnel/Human Resources Administrator of the Year: Lori Blodorn
- Superintendent/Principal of the Year: Frank Ohnesorgen
- Business Services Administrator of the Year: Steve McClain
- Curriculum and Instruction Administrator of the Year: Lisa Gilbert
- Technology Administrator of the Year: Brandon Ware
- Retired Administrator of the Year: Diane Wallace
- Region XI & State Curriculum & Instruction Administrator of the Year: David Bowling
- Region XI Special Education Administrator of the Year: Janet Clark
- Educational Leadership Award: Dr. Horace Mitchell



LEFT: Left to right, Richard Morosa, Terry Wolfe and retiree Robert Sheldon. RIGHT: Left to right, Diane Cox, Terry Wolfe and retiree Diane Wallace. Retirees not pictured: Glynda Wallace, Janet Clark and Tony Gisbertz.

Golden Apple Awards were presented to the following partners in education:

- Shafter Education Partnership - City of Shafter
- JTS Modular - Adam Engler
- Colombo Construction - Joe Colombo & Lana Martinez
- Ordiz-Melby Architects, Inc - Danny Ordiz, Bill Melby & Gracie Robertson
- Swanson Engineering, Inc - Richard Swanson

See West Kern/23

Tulare | Porterville | Visalia

 **Tulare County**
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Established 1939



www.tularefcu.org | (559) 686-1791

Federally Insured by NCUA



Wherever your **JOURNEY** takes you... We'll be there.

Life is a journey with lessons to learn, detours to endure, but most of all experiences to enjoy. Navigate the road ahead in the comfort of a 2018 Dodge Journey courtesy of California Casualty.

Enter today > WinAJourney.com

©2018 CCMC, CA Lic#0041343 No quote or purchase necessary. Photo may not be representative of actual vehicle package/color. See website for complete details.



California Casualty
Auto and Home Insurance

PHOTO ESSAY

May State Leadership Assembly

BELOW (clockwise): Don Clark is recognized by Holly Edds for his service as President of the Small Schools Council. Terri Rufert poses for a selfie with Rob Martinez, candidate for State Vice President. David Bowling, left, with Ron Williams, who was elected State Vice President at Thursday's session. Blanca Cavazos, white jacket, is installed as the Region XI representative to the State Board of Directors. Lisa Horne, left, and Michele Borges have some fun during the President/President-Elect training session. BOTTOM LEFT: Terri Rufert, State VP of Leg Action recognizes Leg Action reps who are ending their terms this year. BOTTOM RIGHT: Lisa Gonzales presented plaques to region consultants in thanks for their service. Region XI Executive Director David Tonini is fifth from the left.



TOP: After a full day of meetings and training, Region XI delegates gather for the Awards/Recognition Dinner, followed by a Dessert Reception featuring Vice Presidential candidates Rob Martinez and Ron Williams.

ABOVE: State ACSA Executive Board is sworn in, left to right, Lisa Gonzales, Past-President; Terri Rufert, Vice President of Leg Action; Ron Williams, Vice President; Linda Kaminski, President-Elect; and Holly Edds, President.

RIGHT: Recommended by her twin girls, Lisa Gonzales' gift of thanks for her service as State President is rather unusual, but exactly what she wanted.



Member Recognition

East Kern, Inyo/Mono surprise members in recognition of their daily contributions

Region XI and its member charters recognize and celebrate the work of their administrative leaders. Excellence in administration isn't hard to recognize; to that end, East Kern and Inyo/Mono Charters surprised random members with Amazon Gift Cards to demonstrate an appreciation for the work they do.

Inyo/Mono recipients:

- Derek Moisant, Vice Principal, Home Street Middle School, Bishop Unified School District
- Katie Kolker, Principal, Palisade Glacier High School/Bishop Independent Study/Keith Bright School
- Rosanne Lampariello, Principal, Mammoth Unified School District
- Pat Twomey, Principal, Home Street Middle School, Bishop Unified School District
- Karen Watson, Assistant Superintendent of Special Education/SELPA, Inyo County Superintendent of Schools

East Kern recipients:

- Dr. Steve Martinez, Principal, Ridgecrest Charter School (RCS)
- Miriam Hogg, Elementary Co-Administrator, RCS
- Karen Greenhaw, Special Education Administrator, RCS
- Bev Ewbank, Principal, Inyokern Elementary School, Sierra Sands Unified School District (SSUSD)
- John Cosner, Assistant Principal, Murray Middle School, SSUSD
- Kirsti Smith, Principal, Murray



During the month of April, East Kern's Miriam Hogg, Karen Greenhaw, Dr. Steve Martinez and Dr. Bonny Porter, pictured left to right, personally visited 10 East Kern administrators at their school sites to present them with a \$25 Amazon Gift Card and an invitation to the Charter's April 23 Awards Ceremony.



Inyo/Mono Charter President Don Clark thanked members by holding a drawing for Amazon Gift Cards at the Charter's final meeting of the year, held in Bishop on April 30. Winners included, front row, left to right, Pat Twomey, Derek Moisant, Karen Watson, Rosanne Lampariello and Katie Kolker. Clark is in the back row.

Murray Middle School, SSUSD

- Lori McGuire, Business Services, SSUSD
- Melissa Christman, Principal, Faller Elementary School, SSUSD
- Michael Yanci, Principal, Richmond Elementary School, SSUSD
- Sue Marvin, Principal, Las Flores Elementary School, SSUSD
- Steve Bsharah, Principal, Monroe High School School, Tehachapi Unified School District (TUSD)
- Sharon Heitman, Program Specialist, TUSD

See Members/22

OUR REPUTATION FOR

EXCELLENCE

BECOMES YOURS

EARN YOUR ADMINISTRATIVE AND CLEAR CREDENTIAL FROM PLNU IN BAKERSFIELD.



Point Loma Nazarene University's School of Education has provided the Bakersfield area with convenient and high-quality programs for the last 20 years, including:

*Master of Arts in Education, Educational Administration
Preliminary Administrative Services Credential
Professional Clear Administrative Services Credential*

To find out more about our administrative programs, get in touch with your dedicated PLNU Bakersfield enrollment counselor:

Stephanie Meier
StephanieMeier@pointloma.edu
(661) 377-4721 | pointloma.edu/SOE

POINT¹⁹ LOMA⁰²
NAZARENE UNIVERSITY



LEFT: Administrator of the Year Award winners, left to right, Nancy Stidman, Michelle McPhetridge, Gabriela Medina Guzman, Conan Palmer, Marlene Moreno, Cheri Barnes, Heather Rodriguez, Dr. Brad Rohrbach, Michele Reid, Donna Glassman-Sommer, Dr. Anthony Martin, Joy Soares, Debbie Portillo, and Dr. Guadalupe Solis. Not pictured: Stacey Curschman, Keri Montoya and Jose Espinoza. RIGHT: Tulare Charter President Yolanda Valdez presents the Every Student Succeeding Award to Marcos Amezcua.

Summer Institute offers refreshing opportunity to network

Tulare County administrators got a much-needed chance to relax and recharge at the Tulare Charter and Tulare County Office of Education (TCOE) 2018 Tulare County Summer Institute, held at the Edison Energy Education Center on Tuesday, June 20. Attendees enjoyed an inspirational day which included Featured Speaker Tim Clue, breakout sessions, entertainment by the TCOE Theatre Company and Tulare Charter award presentations.

Clue is a one-of-a-kind featured speaker, award-winning writer, educator and comic who drew from his personal experience as a child with Attention Deficit Disorder to offer the educators ideas about how to more effectively reach each individual student where they are. "Every human being is made to be part of a team," he said. "The more we put rules and regulations on something, the less likely we are to have a collaborative experience."

Tulare Charter presented a total of \$14,000 in scholarships to the following:

- Brandon Aldaco, Mission Oak High School
- Avianna Amancio, El Diamanté High School
- Brandi Borba, Harmony Magnet Academy
- Matthew Covert, Tulare Western High School
- *Kyle N. Crow, Fowler High School
- Benjamin Davis, Golden West High School
- Coultin Marrs Gist, Tulare Western High School
- Jimmy B. Guajardo, Lindsay High School
- Taylor Hire, Exeter Union High School
- Alexander D. Meyer, Kingsburg High School

Did You Know?

As an ACSA member, your graduating senior is eligible to apply for a student scholarship.

- Connor L. Naylor, Mt. Whitney High School
- Ira Porchia, Tulare Western High School
- Miranda Rivera, Orange Cover High School
- Mary Rooney, Kingsburg High School
- Alyssa Danette Santivanez, Kingsburg High School
- *Brianna Torres, Porterville High School
- Jaden Uphoff, Monache High School
- Melissa Valdez, Dinuba High School
- Alexandria Zermeño, Redwood High School

Administrator of the Year Awards were presented to:

- *Yolanda Vasquez: Superintendent of the Year
- Michelle McPhetridge: Middle School Principal of the Year
- Nancy Stidman: Elementary School Principal of the Year
- *Gabriela Medina Guzman: Central Office Administrator of the Year
- Jose Espinoza: Secondary Co-Administrator of the Year
- *Conan Palmer: Classified Manager of the Year
- *Marlene Moreno: Confidential Employee of the Year
- *Cheri Barnes: Personnel/Human Resources Administrator of the Year
- *Joy Soares: Career Technical Ed Administrator of the Year
- Heather Rodriguez: Special Ed Administrator of the Year
- *Keri Montoya: Superintendent/Principal of the Year
- *Dr. Brad Rohrbach: Business Services Administrator of the Year
- *Dr. Anthony Martin: Pupil Personnel Administrator of the Year

See Institute/15



LEFT: Featured Speaker Tim Clue leads volunteers through a team building exercise. RIGHT: Student scholarship recipients, left to right, Kylie Crow, Brianna Torres, Ira Porchia, Avianna Amancio, Benjamin Davis, Coultin Marrs Gist, Taelor Hire, Connor Naylor and Alexander Meyer.

Tim Bowers retires after 30 years in education

Tell us about the career path that led you to your position as Superintendent of Schools with the Kings County Office of Education.

Although I have always felt that the work has chosen me, mine wasn't a typical path in that I didn't grow up wanting to be a teacher or have a career in education. After graduation in 1976, from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, I had intended to enter into a career in fair management. And while I had done that, the fit wasn't quite right, so in 1987, I was looking for a career that would keep me from all of the work travel I was doing. A teacher friend of mine suggested substitute teaching. So, with four days of substitute teaching experience just before Christmas Break in 1987, I received a call from the County Office asking if I would be willing to take a long term sub teacher position in their SED (Seriously Emotionally Disturbed) special education class. From that time on, I've been hooked. I finished the school year out with those students and enrolled in a credentialing program with Fresno Pacific University. Following 11 years as a special education teacher — and my third trip back to college, Fresno State University for my Master's degree — I became the assistant principal at Shelly Baird School. Subsequent administrative positions were Program Director of Career Education, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services and in 2010, I was elected Kings County Superintendent of Schools. My entire 30-year career has been with the Kings County Office of Education. All of this has been possible because of the love and support of my wife and children who endured many nights of dad being off to school, or coming home bruised from an encounter with a student, and then election campaigning. Also pushing along the way have been colleagues such as Barbara Zaino, Deanna Lynch, and Noah Lawson, to name just a few.



Tim Bowers

Share a few of your proudest moments in education.

First would be thriving with those first SED students. Another would be congratulating students and their supportive families with whom I'd known and worked for since either birth or when students had turned three years old and began in our special education program at multiple Shelly Baird School graduation/completion ceremonies. Witnessing high school seniors grow and mature as they work with long term care patients in our Career Education Regional Occupation Program Nursing Assistant Program, then watching those students speak at their promotion ceremony about their own growth. Work-

Region XI thanks the following educators for their service and wishes them well as they retire

- Janet Clark: Fruitvale School District
- Tony Gisbertz: Standard School District
- Glynda Martin: Standard School District
- Mike McCoy: Muroc Joint Unified School District
- Joy Naylor: Visalia Unified School District
- Dr. Marie Pinto: Tulare Joint Union High School District
- Robert Sheldon: Standard School District
- Dr. Guadalupe Solis: Tulare County Office of Education
- Drew Sorensen: Woodlake Union School District
- Diane Wallace: Bakersfield City School District
- Barbara Zaino: Kings County Office of Education

ing for and with all of the staff of the Kings County Office of Education and the thirteen school districts in Kings County.

How has your membership in ACSA helped you throughout your career?

It has helped connect me with colleagues that I could count on for advice, support, humor, and at times, solace.

What is the best advice you have given to others?

This is something that my parents modeled for me, do what you love and love what you do.

Tell us about your family and what you enjoy doing in your free time.

I'm married to Lynette — for 32 years — and the father of three wonderful children Steve, Danica and Bryce, and grandfather of two, Adalie and Theo. My wife and I like to spend time with our children and grandchildren, traveling, and doing volunteer work with our local Kings Art Center where I'm the chair of the foundation and Lynette is a member of the guild.

Now that you're retiring, what's next?

After 50 years of working, I'm looking forward to being "off the leash" so to speak. By that I mean relaxing and taking the time to do what I want, when I want, like spending more time with family or traveling.

Institute

Continued from page 14

- **Stacey Curschman:** Curriculum & Instruction Administrator of the Year
- **Tom Byers:** Retired Administrator of the Year

Special awards were presented to:

- ***Donna Glassman-Sommer:** Ferd J. Kiesel Memorial Award
- ***Dr. Guadalupe Solis:** Itzenhauser/Schlagel Award
- ***Debbie Portillo:** Marcus Foster Memorial Award for Admin. Excellence
- **Marcos Amezcuita:** Every Student Succeeding Award

**Also recognized at the Region level*

West Kern Charter teams up with Ordiz-Melby Architects, Inc. for 15th Annual Golf Tournament

The day started out dreary and wet, but the skies cleared and it turned out to be a beautiful day for West Kern Charter's 15th Annual Ordiz-Melby District Cup Golf Tournament, held on Saturday, April 7 at the Sundale Country Club in Bakersfield. School districts from around Kern County competed in the District Division to be recognized on the coveted Perpetual Ordiz-Melby District Cup. Congratulations to the Panama-Buena Vista Union School District team for winning 1st place in the District Cup Division. The trophy will be displayed at the Panama-Buena Vista District Office throughout this year, before it is up for grabs again at next year's tourney. The tournament also offered an Open Division and awards for those closest to the hole on all Par 3s.

Kern Charter Organizer Terry Wolfe said, "We cleared \$5,000, which will be used to fund scholarships for the children of West Kern ACSA members." Wolfe expressed his gratitude to sponsors, players and volunteers.



The Panama-Buena Vista Union School District team, winners of the District Cup Division. Tournament co-hosts William Melby and Danny Ordiz are pictured with Glen Imke, Jimmy Gellatly, Kevin Silberberg and Jeff Foy.



West Kern Charter Tournament Organizer Terry Wolfe and Tulare Charter Ambassador Tom Giampietro, who drove down from Tulare County.



Your first local Credit Union offering...

Auto, Home & Personal Loans

Direct Deposit
(most payrolls post up to 2 days early!)

Virtual Branch & Bill Pay

Fee-free ATM Deposits & Withdrawals
Worldwide with Co-Op Network
(Look for this logo or use our ATM Locator)



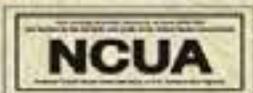
Checking & Savings Accounts

Visa Debit & Credit Cards

Investment Services & Retirement Planning

Financial Education (for all ages!) Dollar Dog is our Kid's Club mascot, and he loves visiting classrooms and teaching kids about money!

Recreational Vehicle Loans (including boats & other watercraft, ATVs, RVs, motorcycles and more!)



Ask us for details!
Federally insured by NCUA.



559-584-0922
fastcu.com

Tulare Charter thanks servants of education

Retirees Joy Naylor, Dr. Marie Pinto, Dr. Guadalupe Solis and Drew Sorensen were recognized by Tulare Charter at their Spring Recognition Dinner held Friday, May 4 at Whitney's Wild Oak Ranch in Exeter. Also honored during the evening, for their contributions to the educational community, were community members Ralph & Yvette Alvarez, owners of Pizza Planet in Orosi, and the Wendt Family of Tulare. Many thanks to all these servants of education.



TOP LEFT: Retiree Joy Naylor, CTE Coordinator, Visalia Unified School District (VUSD), right, was honored by her long time friend Angela Sanchez, Area Superintendent 9-12, VUSD. TOP CENTER: Tulare Joint Union High School District (TJUHS) Superintendent Tony Rodriguez honored retiree Dr. Marie Pinto, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services & Special Programs at TJUHS. TOP RIGHT: Glen Billington, Assistant Superintendent, Woodlake Unified School District (WUSD), left, said of retiree Drew Sorensen, Superintendent, WUSD, "He is a great mentor to me and the leadership team at Woodlake Unified." Pictured with Billington and Sorensen is Tulare Charter President Yolanda Valdez. BOTTOM LEFT: Dr. Michelle Nunley, Principal of Tulare Union High School, center, presented Golden Apples to the Wendt Family -- David Sr. & JoAnne and David & Debbie. BOTTOM RIGHT: Orosi Unified School District Board President Eddie Valero, left, presented a Golden Apple to Ralph and Yvette Alvarez, owners of Pizza Planet.

SAVE \$50!
OFF REGISTRATION

Register for Leadership Summit now and SAVE

The Leadership Summit is ACSA's premier professional development event. In 2018, it will be held in San



Diego November 8 to 10. This event provides opportunities for invaluable networking and offers professional development on current critical leadership and educational issues. Keynote speakers include Travis Allen, a young visionary promoting digital learning; Tim Wise, among the most prominent anti-racist writers and educators in the U.S.; and, Shabbat Mogharabi, CEO and Executive Producer at SoulPancake.

Info: www.acsa.org/Education-Services/Conferences/leadership-summit.

To save \$50 off registration, email Region XI Executive Director David Tonini, davidto02@comcast.net.

East Kern honors Administrators of the Year



Regina Green, right, presents a plaque to outgoing East Kern Charter President Bonny Porter in thanks for her service.

East Kern Charter honored 11 of their best as Administrators of the Year during their 2018 Awards Ceremony on Monday, April 23 at the Clarion Inn in Ridgecrest.

Awards were presented to:

- Regina Green: Technology Ad-

- JoAnne McClelland: Adult Education Administrator*
- Karen Greenhaw: Special Education Administrator
- Bonny Porter: Middle Grades Principal*
- John Cosner: Secondary Co-Administrator*
- Beverly Ewbank: Elementary Principal
- Miriam Hogg: Elementary Co-Administrator*
- Sharon Heitman: Pupil Personnel Administrator
- Steve Bsharah: Professor of Education*
- Beverly Thompson: Retired Administrator*

The Charter also awarded Student Scholarships to four graduating seniors:

- Brisa Porter-Garcia, Burroughs High School
- Chase Reader, Rosamond High School
- Christian Acosta, Burroughs High School
- Megan Heitman, Tehachapi High School

*Also Region XI Recipient for Administrator of the Year

ministrator*

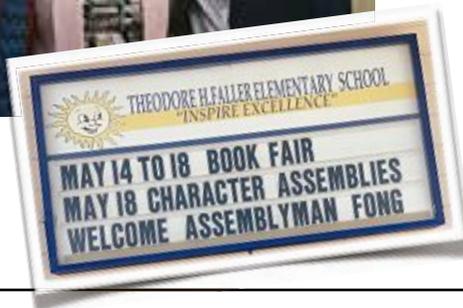
- Susan Andreas-Bervel: Superintendent of the Year

Did You Know?

Regular ACSA membership gives you access to an experienced legal team, knowledgeable about protecting your due process rights. ACSA advocates have a proven track record in resolving work-related concerns before they become a lawsuit. Call ACSA's Ontario office at 800.608.ACSA. All calls are confidential unless ACSA is asked to take some action on the member's behalf that requires the involvement of others.



Faller Elementary School Principal Melissa Christman (center), with School Board President Amy Castillo-Couvert and Assemblyman Vince Fong.



Ridgecrest's Faller Elementary School is visited by Assemblyman Vince Fong

Assemblyman Vince Fong visited Faller Elementary School, a 2016 Gold Ribbon School and a 2017-2018 Honor Roll School located in Ridgecrest, on Friday, May 18. Assemblyman Fong participated in their monthly Character Counts Assemblies and toured the school guided by two student leaders. When Assemblyman Fong asked the students what they think an assemblyman does, a student responded, "Attend assemblies." Assemblyman Fong explained that what he does is similar to how students run for Student Council at a school. After the assemblies and school tour, a reception was held with school board members, teachers, staff, ASES representatives and parent representatives. Topics of conversation with Assemblyman Fong included common core, funding for special education, transportation and after-school program funding, and full-time counselors at the elementary level. It was an honor for the school to host such a distinguished guest. The visit was captured in the local newspaper, on the front page.



Reception honors Tulare Charter Every Student Succeeding nominees

"... a true example of what a Ranger is about." That is how Matt Shin, Principal of Redwood High School in Visalia, described Marcos Amezcuita, Tulare Charter Every Student Succeeding Award Winner. Tulare Charter honored all Tulare County Every Student Succeeding nominees at a reception in the Visalia Unified School District board room. Pictured above, left to right:

- Denise Macias, Lindsay High School
Nominated by: Heather Rocha, Principal, Lindsay High School
- Elvin Rodriguez, John J. Cairns, Lindsay
Nominated by: Francisca Pena, Counselor
- Kylee Pasqual, Orosi High School
Nominated by: Adrian Martinez, Counselor
- Elena Cruz-Almaraz, Tulare Union High School
Nominated by: Marshall Webb, Dean of Students
- Alyssa O'Neal, Loma Vista, Lindsay
Nominated by: Erik Gonzales, Student Advocate
- Miguel Carranza, Harmony Magnet, Porterville
Nominated by: Millie Edsbert, Assistant Principal
- Marcos Amezcuita, Redwood High School, Visalia
Nominated by: Daisy Molina, Counselor
- Jeremiah Botello, Sequoia High School, Visalia
Nominated by: Adolfo Reyes, Principal



BACK ROW: Antonio Rivera (Woodlake USD), Robert Gonzales (Cutler-Orosi), Dawn Crater (Porterville USD), Adolfo Reyes (Visalia USD), Tony Casares (Woodlake USD), Kevin Jessee (Porterville USD), Scott Braden (Porterville USD). FRONT ROW: Anjelica Zermeño (La Sierra TCOE), Michele Reid (Visalia USD), Linda Salmeron (La Sierra TCOE), Staci Phipps (Porterville USD).

Ed Options educators meet and set plan for Breaking Barriers Network

The new Breaking Barriers Network provides a forum for educators within the Education Options Community for the following:

- Regional and statewide updates
- Support and influence accountability
- Share financial and legislative issues
- Build and maintain networking opportunities for educators
- Advocate for all matters pertaining to education options programs
- Explore model practices in teaching and learning
- Provide time to exchange ideas and network



On Thurs., May 17, interested members of the ed options community met to establish plans for the coming year. "This team is already breaking barriers, setting up systems and a mission to build a network that advocates for success," said Anjelica Zermeño, La Sierra High School.

The group will meet four times in the coming school year at Tulare County Office of Ed's Doe Avenue Complex in Visalia. Registration is free and open to everyone. Questions? Contact Anjelica Zermeño at azermeno@tcoe.org. OMS REGISTRATION: <http://tulare.k12oms.org/147-149423>

Equity, Achievement and Diversity Committee

▶ The Equity Committee met Wednesday, May 2, 2018 to review important topics related to the Equity Project. The following was reviewed:

Equity Executive Position Update

- The position was posted in Ed-Cal
- Discussion that the headquarters for this position needs to be in the Sacramento office
- Position closed May 22. Interviews TBD.

Equity Project Goals

1. **Membership:** To increase diversity in ACSA membership and leadership through intentional recruitment, retention, and outreach efforts.
2. **Communication:** Increase all members' awareness of equity and diversity issues that impact historically underserved leaders and students.
3. **Professional Learning:** Provide relevant equity leadership training for ACSA leaders and members that focuses on building capacity in cultural proficiency.

Equity Committee Purpose

To develop the cultural proficiency of all ACSA members to confront both internal and external bias, behaviors and policies, that create barriers and limits the success and achievement to promote and sustain full advocacy for polices, practices, and systems that result in equitable educational outcomes. In order to accomplish this purpose The Equity Committee will:

- Build capacity through professional learning opportunities in

equity leadership and cultural proficiency

- Provide networking opportunities within and across regions to advocate for equity within policies, practices and systems
- Serve as the liaison to engage regions and charters in current or emerging issues related to equity
- Utilize our State Board Liaison to ensure the voice of the Equity Committee as a critical thought partner

Leadership Summit

Equity sessions at the November Leadership Summit in San Diego
The two sessions are:

1. Equity for All Students in Science Education: It's in our DNA (Marco and Delia)
2. Empowering Educators to Disrupt Inequity (Tovi Scruggs)

Regina Green

Equity, Achievement and Diversity Committee Representative

Human Resources Council

▶ The Human Resources (HR) Council gathered at the ACSA headquarters for the final meeting of the year on Thursday, May 3.

The group first met with representatives from the CTC to discuss the issue of credential auditing. The CTC is strongly advocating a move to *yearly* credential auditing, as opposed to the current 3 to 4 year rotation. County offices of education would still play an integral role, but the CTC is working on software that integrates with CALPADS. Despite concerns from the HR Council on the viability of two major systems communicating well (CALPADS and the one cur-

rently being devised to track credentialing) CTC staff members were positive their engineers will make it work. HR Council members asked how the CTC will handle all the unique names that each district give to their "classes." The simple response was that once each class is "processed" the first year, the system will recognize it the following year and apply the same rules previously established to determine if the teacher is credentialed for that particular class. Therefore, even if classes are named differently in each district, it should not be an issue.

In the afternoon, the group walked to the Capitol to meet with several legislative staff members regarding AB 1220. Members of the HR Council were chosen to present how a third year of probation for some new teachers would be beneficial in their district. The meetings were very productive, as the group was able to answer many questions from legislative staff. The team was also able to clear up many misconceptions that legislative staff members had regarding teachers and probation / permanent status.

The HR Council had one final conversation regarding the ACSA Personnel Institute, scheduled for October 2-4 in Emeryville. The HR Council is looking for more district presentations for the Personnel Institute; sessions where districts are presenting are many times rated the highest. Conference attendees indicate they appreciate hearing / seeing how other districts handle similar issues they are facing, as well as the innovative ways many districts have solved similar challenges. We have

tremendous presentations from a variety of attorney groups, and want to continue those, and so one other suggestion would be for a district interested in presenting might consider partnering with their law firm to do so.

Philip Pierschbacher

Human Resources Council

Retirement Committee

▶ The State Retirement Committee met on March 28 in Sacramento at the CalSTRS building, a 15-story building which has housed the retirement services operations for the past ten years. The reason the committee met there was due to our ongoing concern about the planning that has been going on for several months to build a second tower to house staff for CalSTRS. \$8 million has been set aside for design work and \$180 million pledged to pay for the new building, should it get board approval in November, as well as approval from the Legislature.

The tour showed how impressive and wonderful a place to work the CalSTRS building is and how they are adding up to 150 new employees a year to their current 1,400 employees housed in the building. CalSTRS has been bringing in-house their investment staff rather than paying for contracted investment people from outside agencies. According to CalSTRS, in the first year of this change, \$200 million was saved without having to pay contractor fees and required bonuses.

As we toured the selected floors

See Committee/Council/20

West Kern Charter

West Kern Charter's Secretary's Day Luncheon, held on Wed., April 25 at Stars Dinner Theater in Bakersfield, was a huge success. The event gave administrators the opportunity to honor their administrative professionals. Tongue-in-cheek, we said, "We recognize you on his special day by giving you lunch for two hours ... with us." Entertainment was provided by the Bakersfield High School String Ensemble and Magician Ron Saylor. Raffle prizes such as Dewar's Gift Packages and Dodgers Baseball tickets, valued at over \$200, were a big hit. We closed the year with our Annual Awards Banquet on Thursday, June 7. The banquet was well attended by more than 100, including honorees, family, friends and colleague administrators. For full coverage, see page ??.



ACSA members and administrators Susan Denton and Richard Morosa with their administrative assistant staffs from Wingland Elementary School and Standard Elementary School in Bakersfield.

summer and a great school year a head of us.



Dr. Don Clark
Inyo/Mono
Charter President

Superintendent
Eastern Sierra Unified
School District

Kings Charter

This past school year has been very successful. As the President of Kings Charter I met many great and inspirational administrators who are passionate about their schools and students. Our charter raised thousands of dollars for scholarships and held three well attended socials. I want to thank Lance Dowd, Darrin Parson and Bobby Peters for all of their help this year. I also want to thank Loretta Black, our new president, for taking on the position. She will be a great leader for our charter!



Rodney Brumit
Kings Charter President

Principal
Lemoore Union High
School
Lemoore Union High
School District

Inyo/Mono Charter

The Inyo/Mono Charter held its last meeting of the year on Monday, April 30 in Bishop. We were able to celebrate three outstanding students by presenting them with scholarships. Additionally, we celebrated the work of all administrators in attendance by presenting them with Amazon gift cards. Karen Watson, Inyo County SELPA Director, won the grand prize of a \$250 gift card. It was decided that our officers from this past year will carry over to next

Continued from page 19

of the building, we noticed a number of cubicles that were not occupied. While there were group meetings going on, there were still a lot of empty spaces which were not explained. The philosophy stated by CalSTRS staff was that they are planning for 30 years into the future. Our question was, since technology allows folks to work remotely, would that not relieve much of the pressure on the building, which is expected to reach full staff capacity by 2020. The stated reasons for adding to future staff is expansion of investment staff, Cybersecurity and other records security needs, along with communications, among others.

In November, the CalSTRS board will make a decision on two options, lease space somewhere in Sacramento, or go ahead with a plan to use some bare land on the current property to place portable buildings that would house up to 150 people to relieve stresses on the building space. It is the opinion of most of the committee that eventually the new building will be a reality, whether or not we or the other members of CalSTRS like it or not. Of course, a major concern is that in a situation where there is constant pressure on the retirement systems due to not having full funding to meet their long-term obligations, taking \$188 million out of the fund to pay for a new building is a major concern

for those of us who are depending on the system to last our natural lifetimes.

On a secondary topic of discussion, the committee had several members appear to speak at the May board meeting of CalSTRS on the subject of the Supplemental Benefits fund which, as of May, will be valued at over \$11 billion. This is a fund that is restricted to use for one-time increases to members whose purchasing power has fallen below the statutory level. It also pays for death benefits to current retirees and members who pass away prior to retirement. Ironically, the death benefit for retirees, which as not been increased in over ten years, is over four thousand dollars less than the benefit for active members who pass away. Additionally, there are over 150 members over 100 years of age who receive less than \$970 per month in retirement. Our committee proposed that any one who retired prior to 1999 should receive a one-time increase in benefits. There was no action taken by the board on this issue. This fund has continued to grow over time and the worry our committee has is that if the fund is not used for the purpose for which it is intended, the legislature might decide to move that money into the regular retirement pool to boost the overall value of the fund.

David Francis

Retirement Committee Representative

Your ACSA membership gives you access to unique members-only discounts and special offers. For more information, go to www.acsa.org/Member-Services



Ambassador Program

National Assistant Principals Week

The Ambassador Program helps new members navigate ACSA's vast structure, while providing that first and very necessary human contact — giving the organization a face and a name. Region XI has seven Charter Ambassadors:

Did You Know?

East Kern:

- Elaine Janson
ejanson@ssusd.org
- Beverly Thompson
beverlyjean22@sbcglobal.net

Inyo/Mono:

- Don Clark
dclark@esusd.org

Kings:

- Bill Black
lemoore.black@gmail.com

Tulare:

- Tom Giampietro
tomgiampietro@comcast.net
- Robert Aguilar
visaliainvestment@gmail.com

West Kern:

- Terry Wolfe
bernardwolfe@aol.com

ACSA's Mentor Program pairs new administrators with experienced leaders to provide personal, one-on-one support to help them survive their first few years of leadership. For information, go to www.acsa.org/Member-Services

Did You Know?

Kings Charter

• JJ Albert

Assistant Principal, Corcoran High School



JJ Albert with 49ers legend Jerry Rice.

What inspired you to become an administrator?

I started teaching the 2002-2003 school year in Oxnard, straight out of college (Cal Lutheran University). I was teaching and coaching basketball, trying to establish myself where no one would know I was "Dr. Albert's son." I

returned to the area with my wife and children so we could be closer to family in 2006. I spent two years at Alpaugh High School as Athletic Director before coming to Corcoran High to teach in 2008. I taught for four years before becoming learning Director in 2012, and then Assistant Principal in 2014.

Why did you join ACSA?

I've been an administrator for six years and I believe a member of ACSA for the same amount.

What is the highlight of your year thus far?

I would have to say that each year it is the dedicated focus of building rapport and trust with "problem" students and teaching them to understand and learn from their actions. As Assistant Principal, you well know, most students we see are the ones that no one else wants to deal with. Building a rapport and trust with them not only makes it easier to work with them, it will hopefully carry on to help them become lifelong learners. Along with the other administration, we have been able to reduce suspensions on our campus each year for the last six year.



Revious

• Erin Revious

Assistant Principal
Liberty Middle School, Lemoore

"I started teaching in 1999 for Hanford Elementary in first grade. I then made the move to Lemoore Elementary in 2000 teaching history at Liberty Middle

During the month of April, Assistant Principals across Region XI were randomly selected to receive a \$25 Amazon Gift Card.

School. I taught history for eight years before becoming the Assistant Principal at Meadow Lane in 2007, which is also the year I joined ACSA. I am currently the Assistant Principal at Liberty Middle School and have been so since returning to Liberty in 2009. This year, Liberty Middle School was named a state and national "School to Watch," which is something I'm extremely proud of because it represents all of the hard work the staff puts in at Liberty on behalf of students on a daily basis."



Left to right, Steve McMahon, Tulare Charter Ambassador Tom Giampietro and Valley Life Charter Schools Superintendent/Principal Lori Lackey.

Tulare Charter

- Steve McMahon, Assistant Principal
Valley Life Charter Schools, Visalia

What inspired you to become an administrator?

When I was deciding to accept an administration role I was able to make the decision based on my personal mission statement. Part of my personal mission statement is trying to make the biggest positive impact I can in our student's lives. I felt that stepping into an administration role would allow me an opportunity to reach a larger population of students.

Why did you join ACSA?

ACSA has a wide variety of support available to administrators. In ensuring student equity, ACSA helps administrators with practical resources, legal advice and networking opportunities. All of these services help support administrators in being more effective in their day to day roles.

See Assistant Principals/22

Ambassador Program

New ACSA members receive gift cards in Kings Charter Ambassador drawings

Spring Social

- **Estela Jimenez**, Principal / Community Engagement Coordinator
Alt. Ed / Avenal Adult School, Reef-Sunset Unified School District



Estela Jimenez, left, with newly-elected Kings Charter President Loretta Black.

What inspired you to become an administrator?
I was a school counselor for several years and never really considered administration. It wasn't until I saw the shift in discipline philosophy that I felt that I could make a difference as an administrator as well. I was intrigued by the new movement in PBIS, restorative justice, and alternatives to suspensions. I believe in building a strong foundation through prevention and early intervention.

Why did you join ACSA?

I joined ACSA because as a life long learner, it is important to grow as a professional by building strong networks, collaboration, and ACSA offers those opportunities. I also like that ACSA provides legal updates, current events and access to resources.

What is the highlight of your year thus far?

The highlight of my year has got to be that my continuation school earned WASC accreditation for three years! I am so very proud of my students and staff for their hard work and they truly deserve this accomplishment.

April

- **Elizabeth Mendoza**, Principal
John C. Fremont Elementary School, Corcoran Unified School District

May

- **Lucinda Sledge**, Instructional Strategies Coach
Reef-Sunset Unified School District

June

- **Jerrod Wood**, Program Manager
Kings County Office of Education



Jerrod Wood and his family.

What inspired you to become an administrator?

I believed that I could be an advocate for both students and families as a special education administrator. I always loved working with my students, but felt that my true calling was working with teachers, doing whatever I could to help them be the best teacher they could be.

Why did you join ACSA?

I felt that ACSA would surround me with knowledgeable and experienced administrators who would help me grow as an administrator. I was eager to learn all aspects of administration and I felt that ACSA would give me the resources to do that.

What is the highlight of your year thus far?

The highlight of my year so far came in December when I realized I belonged in the position I was in. I felt that I was influencing the students and teachers of Kings County in a positive way. Being a first year administrator, it took me a little time to realize that I was making a positive impact.

Assistant Principals

Continued from page 21

What is the highlight of your year thus far?

Currently, our school has been transitioning into two campuses due to an increase in our student population. This year, I was able to help lead the final push to complete this transition. Overall, I am very proud and happy with the results in ensuring that my staff and students have all that they need in order to be successful on our new campus.

- **Tina James**, Assistant Principal
Linwood Elementary School, Visalia Unified School District



Left to right: Linwood Elementary School Principal Natalie Taylor, Assistant Principal Tina James, and Tulare Charter Ambassador Tom Giampietro.

What inspired you to become an administrator?

Both of my parents are former administrators and I was surrounded by educators growing up. I have a passion for teaching and continuing to learn. I wanted to expand my sphere of influence beyond the classroom and being an administrator has helped me do that.

Why did you join ACSA?

ACSA offers multiple opportunities to grow as an educator through mentoring and training. I look forward to participating in their workshops and having access to all the perks ACSA has to offer.

What is the highlight of your year thus far?

The highlight of my year so far has been building new relationships and being challenged in new and exciting ways. I am loving every minute of it!

Members

Continued from page 13

- Dennis Ferrell, Director of Programs, TUSD
- Wendy Neufeld, Learning Director, Cummings Valley Elementary, TUSD
- Traci Minjares, Principal, Cummings Valley Elementary, TUSD
- Cheri Belcoe, Principal, Tompkins Elementary School, TUSD
- Janine Tufts, Learning Director, Jacobsen Middle School, TUSD
- Clair Rhea, Learning Director, Golden Hills Elementary, TUSD
- Scott Heitman, Principal, Tehachapi High School, TUSD

Wheeler

Continued from page 3

- Build a stronger relationship with our state politicians who represent our region
- Increase outreach to university admin students
- Provide scholarship to prospective administrators while they are working through their admin credential
- Host small professional development opportunities via WebEx. Use local talent to present or pay for presenters. Get topics from region members about possible one-hour webinars.

Feedback on what Region XI should stop doing included:

- We need to be cautious in only advocating to students as we need to keep teacher needs in mind, working towards a relationship on common goals with all education groups
- Spending for new expenditures that were not previously budgeted during leadership planning retreat

Dr. Donya Wheeler, *President, ACSA Region XI*
dwwheeler@exeter.k12.ca.us, 559.592.9421, ext. 9102

Tonini

Continued from page 5

pace, a student/associate charter was established, legislators and candidates for state office attended charter and region meetings, members were chosen at random to be recognized for their work and highlighted in the region newsletter, two region members were recognized as State Administrators of the Year, three ACSA academies were offered in the region, and a reception for the ACSA Executive Director was held in Bakersfield.

As we look to next year, our new Region President, Lisa Horne, wants to increase opportunities for all members who are interested in getting more involved, improve communication so members know how to get involved, increase access to professional development scholarships, establish job-alike networking opportunities, and continue our good work building relationships with our elected officials.

Have a great summer! It is a pleasure serving as your Executive Director. If I can be of support in any way, contact me by email, text or phone.

David Tonini, *Executive Director, ACSA Region XI*
davidto02@comcast.net, 559.280.6228

West Kern

Continued from page 11

Five Kern County retirees were recognized for their service:

- Robert Sheldon, Standard School District
- Janet Clark, Fruitvale School District
- Diane Wallace, Bakersfield City School District
- Tony Gisbertz, Standard School District
- Glynda Martin, Standard School District

Region Legislative Visits

Region XI and its charters made great strides toward achieving their goal of increasing involvement with state and local legislators this year.

APRIL

Region XI Leadership Assembly

Marshall Tuck

ACSA-endorsed candidate for State Superintendent of Public Instruction

Tulare Charter

Dr. Anthony Martin

*Candidate for Superintendent of Schools
Tulare County Office of Education*



- If we don't change
 - the politics of edu-
 - cation, we'll never
- educate all kids."**

– Marshall Tuck
Candidate for State

Superintendent of Public Instruction

Almost \$7,000 in scholarships were given out to graduating students including Casey Diggle and Samuel McGee, Centennial High School; Andrew Zulfa and Megan Zulfa, Frontier High School; Francisco Lule Licea and Michael Morosa, Liberty High School; Amy Packard; Stockdale High School; and Ashlyn Keller, Wasco High School. The Rita Gomez Memorial Every Student Succeeding Awards were presented to Mickaela Valenti, Stockdale High School; Victoria Hernandez, Arvin High School; and Angee Hernandez, Tierra Del Sol.

The evening was concluded with the swearing in of the charter's 2018-2019 officers: Jason Hodgson, President; Rocio Munoz, Past President; Danny Arellano, President Elect; Heather Richter, Vice President; Kathie Kouklis, Treasurer; Laura Orozco, Secretary; and Rebecca Rocha, VP of Membership.

Cavazos

Continued from page 8

In an effort to expand influence at the national level, ACSA is advocating the following federal priorities:

- Maintaining school funding — keeping funding for Title II, increasing special education funding, and maintaining Title IV funding.
- Restoring net neutrality.
- School safety.
- Supporting the social emotional needs of students.
- Continuing the DACA program.

ACSA members should mark their calendars to attend the NASS National Leadership and Advocacy Conference, scheduled for September 23-25 in Washington D.C.

Dr. Blanca Cavazos

State Director, ACSA Region XI
bcavazos@taftunion.org, 661.762.2330



*Success is
liking yourself,
liking what you do,
and liking how
you do it.*

-Maya Angelou



Membership is open to school employees,
students, members of school organizations,
and their families.

1-800-538-3328 | myEECU.org

Federally Insured by NCUA  