

Region 6 extends congratulation and thanks to our leaders for your service and dedication to our students. Happy Summer!



Advance Newsletter

association of california
school administrators

region 6

June 2018



President's Message

It has been a very productive year and I cannot believe the 2017-18 school year is ending so quickly. As ACSA Region 6 President this year, I was able to connect with many administrators across Alameda and Contra Costa counties as I worked to attend many charter meetings and exceptional events. The talented and knowledgeable administrators within the two counties are truly doing great work for students, staffs, and communities.

The focus this year through our theme of “Soar with Six” continued to be centered around professional development, communication, and advocacy. We embarked upon our first County Superintendent vetting session for Contra Costa County where members were able to come and hear firsthand the educational philosophies of the three candidates and have input on which candidate should be endorsed by Region 6.

Big Retirements are happening within our Region, specifically Karen Sakata, Contra Costa County Superintendent as well as Pam Comfort, CCCOE Deputy Superintendent. Pam has primarily been responsible for the successful planning and execution of the annual Region 6 Summit in Pleasanton for several years. If you have not registered, there is still time for this year, “Thriving on the Vine” will occur on June 20-21.

Finally, I want to recognize Bob Giannini, Region Executive, and the rest of the Executive Board who have supported me this year and have put in a lot of hard work to support the administrators and students within our Region. It has been truly my honor to serve as President and learn from Past President Steve Collins while also modeling for President-Elect Sonja Neely-Johnson! The entire Executive Board made every meeting a joy to attend and lead.

Have a restful and rejuvenating summer!

Regards, [Essence J. Phillips](#)



Leadership Summit - Thriving on the Vine: Changing the World through Local Leadership

June 20-21, 2018

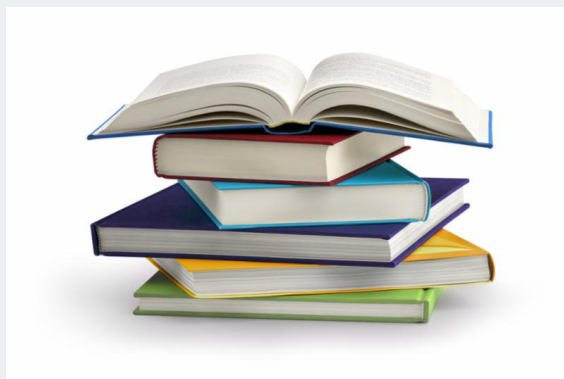
Casa Real at Ruby Hill Winery in Pleasanton

Update: *Nancy Dome* will be returning to present on "The Letters of Equity - LGBTQ"
Dr. Dome is the founder/CEO of Epoch Education whose primary charge is to provide current, accessible and transforming professional development for educators on the topics of equity, critical race theory, and culturally relevant teaching and learning.

Administrators of the Year Awards Dinner on June 21

[Click here](#) for Summit flyer

[Register Now](#) on Eventbrite
One day or both days



Book Exchange at the Summit

Many of us have cherished professional book collections that are hard to part with. Consider sharing them with other educational leaders. Bring these professional books (relatively current) to the Summit. We will have a table set up so attendees can give and take these valuable resources.



Region 6 Celebrates Outstanding Students

Every Student Succeeding

At the April 24 Awards Luncheon, the following students were recognized for demonstrating

tremendous resilience and courage in overcoming challenges in their life's journey to achieving success. Each student was awarded \$250. They were nominated by the ACSA members listed. Congratulations go to:

- Breanna Finney - Decoto Independent Study School, New Haven USD. (Grace Kim)
- Shuxin Zhou - Pinole Valley HS, West Contra Costa USD. (Kibby Kleiman)
- Kaleb Boyd - Carquinez Middle School, John Swett USD. (Annie Flores-Aikey)
- D'Merris Hunter - Black Diamond HS, Pittsburg USD. (Eric Hosking)

Region 6 winner Mariana Thomas from Black Diamond HS, Pittsburg USD received a \$1000 scholarship. She was nominated by ACSA member Eric Hosking. As a region winner, Mariana will also be recognized at the annual ACSA State Conference in San Diego in November. ACSA is also filming a video about each region winner. Look for her story on the [ACSA website](#).

Bob Blackburn Student Scholarships

Region 6 was pleased to present ten \$1000 scholarships to children of ACSA members at this year's awards luncheon. Congratulations to these outstanding students:

- Adin Drabkin - Design Tech HS, San Mateo USD. (Evie Groch)
- Callie Marie Hetrick - Freedom High School, Liberty UHSD. (Greg Hetrick)
- Alison Kentris - Castro Valley HS, Castro Valley USD. (Jim Kentris)
- Dana Kumamoto - Piedmont HS, Piedmont USD. (David Kumamoto)
- Blaine Robbins - Freedom HS, Liberty UHSD. (Liz Robbins)
- Jamee Robbins - Freedom High School, Liberty UHSD. (Liz Robbins)
- Justin Kantoff - Sonoma State University (credential program). (Carol Boyd)
- Gracyann Margaret Joslin - Heritage HS, Liberty UHSD. (Stacy Ann Joslin)
- Taylan Ward - Berkeley HS, Berkeley USD. (Grozelia Ward)
- Jenevieve Garcia - Castro Valley HS, Castro Valley USD. (Lisa Tubbs Garcia)



Students receiving scholarships

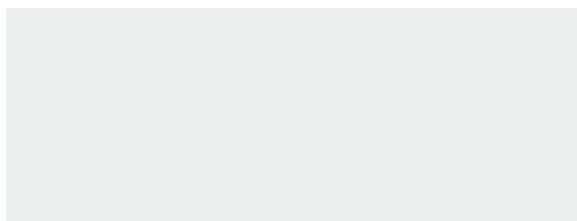
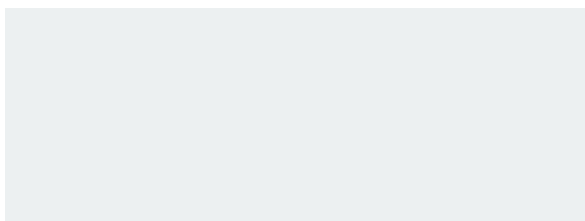


Region 6 winner of Every Student Succeeding
Mariana Thomas



2018 Legislative Action Day

On April 16 over 400 school leaders gathered in Sacramento to bring ACSA's message to our state's lawmakers as part of the annual Legislative Action Day. ACSA's message this year focused on two areas: school funding and probationary periods for teachers. Region 6's team was led by Vice President of Political Action, Lynn Mackey.





Almost 20 leaders represented Region 6 to advocate for students of California at Leg Action Day 2018.



Region 6 Leaders Lynn Mackey, Pam Hughes, Kathy LaCome, Jacob Berg, and Tracie Noriega seen on their way to advocate with a legislator in the Capital.



Women's Leadership Network

Save these Dates for 2018-2019

Thursday, October 18, 2018

Topic: Bridging the Workplace Generation Gap

Presenter: Dr. Carolyn Seaton, Superintendent of Orinda ESD

Thursday, February 28, 2019

Topic: Stage Your Career to Get the Position You Want

Presenter: Kris Drobocky, Career Coach, KDB Consulting

Thursday, May 2, 2019

Topic: TBD

Presenter: Nick Zefeldt, CCCOE Coordinator of Technology Integration

All events are held from 4:30 to 6:00 pm

Topics were selected based on a survey done in the region. All school leaders, men or women, are welcome. Look for updated information in our August issue or Region 6 website.



ACSA Supports Your Professional Growth - Academies

ACSA's job-specific academies provide a solid foundation of training in the application of leadership and management fundamentals for administrators who are new to advance leadership positions or aspiring to the same. The academies are seen as the "fast track" into your career as a superintendent, principal, business manager, curriculum and instruction or personnel administrator, special education/pupil services director, confidential employee or classified manager.

The following three academies will be offered in Region 6 for 2018-19:

- Personnel Administrators in Danville

- Principals in Pleasant Hill ([Click here](#) for flyer)*
- Pupil Services in Walnut Creek

ACSA has redesigned the Innovative Technology Academy to the iLearn iLead iTech Academy, with a blended learning schedule. [Click here](#) for flyer. For information on all academies in the state, [click here](#).

State ACSA offers scholarships to support ACSA members in attending academies (deadline June 18). Region 6 also provides professional Development scholarships. Check [ACSA website](#) and [Region 6 website](#).

* **For beginning or aspiring principals**, the Principals Academy will help you develop and refine your leadership skills and prepare you to achieve success at elementary, middle grades and high school levels. We have a great team of presenters including Jeanie Cash, Mike Bossi, Michael Fine, Carol Loflin, Marsha Tokuyoshi, Sid Morris and others. Sessions are lively with many opportunities to network with fellow administrators and engage in fun interactive activities. Many of our academy alumni credit this in-depth training for their early success as school leaders.



Retirees, Interested in Continuing to Contribute? We Need You and We Want You!

So many of our retirees gave many years of exemplary service to education by leading schools and districts. If you are one of them and want to continue to contribute, especially in supporting the development of administrators, we need you! Our retirees have the skills, the knowledge and the wisdom from their experiences to guide our up and coming educational leaders.

ACSA has many opportunities, particularly in the areas of coaching and mentoring. ACSA has the largest [Clear Administrative Credential Program \(CACP\)](#) that is considered the gold standard in the state. Current state requirements include a job-embedded coaching component where candidates receive a minimum of 80 hours of one-to-one coaching over two years. If you are interested in being a leadership coach for ACSA's CACP or getting more information, go to [ACSA's website](#) or [download this article](#) from the May 21, 2018 EdCal.

ACSA also offers a less formal [mentoring program](#). Region 6 has a robust program coordinated by retired administrator, Julie Braun Martin. You can download an application on the [Region 6 website](#). Mentors receive an honorarium but the program is free to eligible administrators desiring a mentor.

Have you [joined ACSA](#) as a Retired or Retired-Emeritus member to continue your membership? If not, here's the [link](#)! Please share this with retirees you know.



From the Desk of Bob Giannini, Region Executive

It is a pleasure for me to highlight and commend the great work that your Executive Committee members have provided Region 6 for the 2017-18 school year. This body meets monthly to help support and nurture our region administrators.

- Past President – Steve Collins
- President - Essence Phillips
- President Elect – Sonja Neely Johnson
- V.P. Programs – Cindy Matteoni
- V.P. Membership – Kris Martin-Meyer
- V.P. Staff Development – Pam Comfort
- V.P. Political Action - Lynn Mackey
- Comptroller – Lori Ventura

- Treasurer – Pam Vandekamp
- Secretary – Pam Hughes
- Delegates to Leadership Assembly: Essence Phillips, Kris Martin- Meyer, Harvey Yurkovich, Sonja Neely Johnson, Pam Vandekamp, Lynn Mackey, Steve Collins
- State Board of Director – Karen Sakata
- State Board of Director (At-large) - Linda Hutcherson
- At-Large Rep. Contra Costa – Bruce Burns
- At-Large Rep. Alameda County – Kathy LaCome
- At-Large Rep. Alameda County – Kevin Grier
- At Large Rep. Alameda County - Tracie Noriega
- Newsletter Editor/ Consultant – Rose Lock
- State President - Lisa Gonzales

I also want to recognize the outgoing Charter Presidents for their commitment to our organization and it's members:

- Jacob Berg- Amador Valley Charter
- Harvey Yurkovich - Delta Charter
- Frank Brunetti - Retiree Charter
- Cathy Chan - Diablo Managers Association

Our region was well represented by these region committee chairs to their state committee/council:

- Kandi Gravenmier - Classified
- Jonathan Fey - Co-Administrators
- Carol Loflin - Curriculum
- Tovi Scruggs - Equity
- Lisa Murphy-Oates - Legislative Policy
- Felicia Stuckey Smith - Student Service/Special Ed
- Kibby Kleiman - Secondary Ed
- Dana Eaton - Superintendency
- Adult Education- Susie Passeggi
- Annette Heldman - Business Services
- Darrel Avilla- Educational Options
- Terry Dunn - Elementary Education
- Melanie Jones - Human Resources
- Mistee Guzman- Middle Grades
- Julie Duncan - Career Technical
- Molleen Barnes- Small School Districts
- Luann Duggan – Retirees

We also want to commend Julie Braun Martin, Mentor Program Coordinator and Hilary Dito, Web Manager for their dedication and commitment to our Region 6's success. Finally, I am pleased to commend Pam Comfort and Janet Haun for their tireless efforts to make our yearly Leadership Summit and Region 6 Awards Nights the best that it can be for all year after year.



Thank You, Essence!

Region 6 President Essence Phillips receives her Outgoing President Award from incoming ACSA President Holly Edds.

As you can see from the above lists of outstanding administrators: "Leadership Matters." Thank you for all you do!

Bob Giannini, Region 6 Executive



What's Happening in Our Charters?

Retirement Committee – Luann Duggan, Region 6 Rep

Here are some highlights from the recent meeting of the State ACSA Retirement Committee:

- Region 6 has the most retired ACSA members in the State with 258 members (161 women, 97 men). The next closest is Region 17 with 183 members.)
- Our committee and many others are quite concerned about the ballooning pension costs with both PERS and STRS. At our next State Meeting we are meeting with CalSTRS to get a better idea as to what's ahead and to see if there are some possible good answers.
- The CalSTRS death benefit is \$6,163 which it's been since 2002. Based on inflation it should be \$8,499. We keep working for the increase.
- An item to watch is the "California Rule". This is based on a series of state court decisions that basically supports that a pension offered at hire becomes a "vested right" protected by contract law that cannot be cut, unless offset by a new benefit of comparable value. This could come before the California Supreme Court this year. If it is no longer in place it could affect the number of individuals that choose to go into the education profession.



Thank you to Frank Brunetti who served as President of the Retiree Charter for two years.



Retired ACSA leaders at May luncheon including incoming Charter President, Dick Lloyd, on the left.



Renowned and award winning forensics coach Tommie Lindsey shared his amazing career at May luncheon. He is an author and recipient of the McArthur Genius Award.



Mr. Lindsey retired after a distinguished 40-year career and is still working with students! He brought 2 of his students from Logan HS in New Haven USD, Taylor and Nikhil, who inspired the audience with their performance.

for all information. Our Retiree Charter is the largest charter in Region 6 and meets 3 times a year with outstanding presentations. Any questions can be directed to [Rose Lock](#), Region 6 Consultant.

Delta Charter - Harvey Yurkovich, President

On March 15, the Delta Charter held its annual Awards dinner at the Wedgwood Event Center in Brentwood. The evening started with an outstanding performance by the Jazz Band from Bristow Middle School. Congratulations to President Harvey Yurkovich and the Delta Charter Board for a high-energy event. Many Delta Charter members and friends attended the dinner in support of all the administrators of the year.



President Harvey Yurkovich recognized long time Region 6 and Delta Charter leader Debra Lee Harrington.



Contra Costa County Superintendent Karen Sakata received the first Joseph Ovick Civility Award.



Welcome to new ACSA members

Region 6 welcomes the following new members:

Alameda USD

Jana Chabre
Theresa Quigley

Berkeley USD

Debbi Garcia

Mt. Diablo USD

Silvia Orellana, Yvonne Wheeler, Jessica Pozos

Oakland USD

Peter Holmquist

Orinda Union SD

Debbie Jamieson

Pleasanton USD

Suzanne Smith

San Ramon Valley USD

Vanessa Cutler

Retirees

Sandy Carpenter-Stevens, Susan Peters

Not Assigned to a Charter

Julie Mattoon
Annalisa Moore

Kudos to the following ACSA members for recruiting new members this quarter:

Lisa Caswell, Evie Groch, Rose Lock, Lynn Medici



[Contact Us](#)

We welcome your feedback and suggestions.

[ACSA Website](#)

[Region 6 Website](#)

Region 6 Staff

[Bob Giannini](#), Executive

[Rose Lock](#), Consultant

Region 6 Leadership

President: Essence Phillips

President-Elect: Sonja Neely-Johnson

Past President: Steve Collins

Vice President, Staff Development: Pam Comfort

Vice President, Programs: Cindy Matteoni

Vice President, Legislation: Lynn Mackey

Vice President, Membership: Kris Martin-Meyer

Secretary: Pam Hughes

Treasurer: Pam VandeKamp

Comptroller: Lorianne Ventura

ACSA Board Director: Karen Sakata

Equity Chair: Tovi Scruggs

At-Large Representatives: Kevin Grier, Bruce Burns, Kathy LaCome, Tracie Noriega

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." - Nelson Mandela
