

Share this newsletter with other administrators in your district. Many non-ACSA members don't know about ACSA and all the benefits and resources we offer.



Advance Newsletter

association of california
school administrators

region 6

November, 2019



President's Message

Dear Colleagues of Alameda and Contra Costa Counties:

LEAD WELL for Equity and Excellence! This was the theme of the 2019 ACSA Leadership Summit. Attendees from across all 19 ACSA regions heard from keynote speakers Roni Habib about the importance of creating and sustaining a safe and emotionally intelligent climate and Ruha Benjamin telling us that innovation and equity go hand in hand unless we are thoughtful about inclusivity in our design. Thanks to the many ACSA Region 6 members who attended this invaluable opportunity for networking and professional development. We also honored the recipients of the Every Student Succeeding Award for 2019. Our own Region 6 student recipient, Armando Wright from New Haven USD, was honored for his perseverance and diligence in completing high school and preparing for his future.

My challenge to every charter and district this year is to find at least one student deserving of this award and complete the nomination form. We will recognize these amazing students at our Region 6 Awards Luncheon in April. It would be fantastic to have every charter recognize a student and those administrators, teachers and parents or guardians who support them. Check with your charter president for details.

Remember that we are **#celebratingboldandcourageousleadership** in **@acsaregion6** this year! Be sure to participate and nominate a colleague as an Administrator of the Year. There are many categories, including, but not limited to job-alike awards. We also recognize colleagues for Valuing Diversity, as well as the Marcus Foster Award, and the Ferd Kiesel Award. More information is available on our website. Recognizing excellence is part of our mission and calling and one of the ways we build professional networks that honor our profession.

November is typically a time that we are reminded to be thankful, and I would like to thank each of you for your daily work as a school administrator. "Every great dream begins with a dreamer. Always remember you have within you the strength, the patience and the passion to reach for the stars and to change the world." Harriet Tubman

In partnership,
[Pam VandeKamp, Ed.D.](#)



2020 Administrator of the Year Awards

ACSA State Awards Program - Great Way to Celebrate Our Region 6 Bold and Courageous Leaders

Don't wait until the last minute! It only takes a little effort on our part to recognize a colleague who stands out for what he/she does for students, families, staff, or our profession. Check with your Charter on your local process.

The ACSA Administrator of the Year Awards are all done online. [Click here](#) to the Region 6 website. These awards include Administrator Awards in 21 job-alike categories, Fred Kiesel Memorial Distinguished Service Award, Marcus Foster Memorial Award for Administrator Excellence, Robert E. Kelly Award, and the Valuing Diversity Award. We are also accepting nominations for the Partners in Educational Excellence Award.

Please pass on the word to nominate fellow colleagues. Contact Vice President of Programs Pam Hughes at phughes@newarkunified.org if you have any questions. We all have so many outstanding deserving colleagues. Let's recognize leaders for the great work they are doing on behalf of students! Except for the two State Awards (Ferd Kiesel & Marcus Foster), you **must submit nominations through your Charter**. Charter winners must be submitted for Region consideration by January 16, 2020.



ACSA Annual Leadership Summit in San Francisco



Over 1000 educational leaders attended this year's Leadership Summit on November 7-9 in San Francisco with the theme "Lead Well: Equity & Excellence." Since the conference was in our backyard, many Region 6 members took the opportunity for learning, networking, and being inspired by some amazing presenters.

Region 6 was well represented in the conference program this year. We are so proud of our members who presented and shared their work with other leaders across the state.

- *Jon Campopiano, Carol Loflin, and Kirby Hoy* from San Ramon USD presented "Developing Leadership with Your District"
- The team of *Tracy Catalde, Eileen Chen, Todd Whitmire, and Anthony Molina* from Pittsburg USD shared their work on "Supporting All Students Through Multi-Tiered Preventions Systems"
- Mt. Diablo USD Superintendent *Rob Martinez* presented "Making 2020 the Best Year Ever with #Resilience and #PurposePlanning"
- *Steve France* and his team from Acalanes UHSD presented "A School Counselor, Psychologist, Social Worker, and Nurse Walk into a Bar..."
- *Tracie Noriega* from New Haven USD challenged her audience to reflect and ask themselves "Are You An Equity Oriented Change Agent?"
- *Tovi Scruggs-Hussein* presented "Dare to Lead: Cultivating a Courage Consciousness" and "Trauma-informed Leadership"
- *Beth Cutter* from Pleasanton USD shared "PUSD Project Search: An Internship Program for Young Adults with Disabilities"
- Pleasanton USD Principal *Jacob Berg* collaborated with a team of 9 other elementary principals from across the state by sharing "Innovative Practices for Leading School Transformation"
- *Daryl Camp*, Superintendent of San Lorenzo USD, was one of the co-chairs of the 2019 Leadership Summit

Always the highlight for many of us, the Every Student Succeeding Luncheon inspired us and reminded us of the "why" we are in this profession. Deserving students from every region were honored for their accomplishments. You can see and hear their stories on the ACSA website at <https://content.acsa.org/latest-content/acsa-every-student-succeeding-2019>. Make sure you have some tissue nearby.

If you missed this Summit, save the date for the 2020 Summit in San Diego. It will be held on November 5-7 at Hilton San Diego Bayfront Hotel.



Kirby Hoy, Carol Loflin, and Jon Campopiano posing after their presentation



Powerful Region 6 Women Leaders: Sonja Neely-Johnson, Linda Hutcherson, Tracie Noriega, and PamVandeKamp



Leaders from the Tri-Valley: Mistee Guzman, Valerie Nebo, Soraya Villasenor, Jacob Berg, and Michael O'Brien attending the ESS Luncheon

Hilary Dito, Sonja Neely-Johnson, Ryan Shaw, and Tracie Noriega socializing at Thursday reception



Our region's own Daryl Camp co-chaired the Leadership Summit this year, Thank you!



Rob Martinez here with Sonja Neely-Johnson following his featured session on resiliency



Save the Date for Region 6 Annual Conference - June 11, 2020

Mark your calendar now for Region 6's annual Leadership Summit and Administrators of the Year Awards Dinner on June 11, 2020. We are moving to a 1-day format to better meet the needs of our region leaders. There will be a full day of learning at our premier professional development event. It will be followed in the evening with a dinner celebrating all our region's administrators of the year.



Mini-Grants, Scholarships, Every Student Succeeding

Important deadline: February 24, 2020

Region 6 provides additional benefits to support ACSA members in our region.

Mini-Grants. Our Region offers at least 10 mini-grants up to \$1000 each for members' innovative projects that require some seed or matching funding. Deadline for applications is February 24, 2020. <http://regions.acsa.org/6/awardsscholarshipsgrants/mini-grants/>

Bob Blackburn Student Scholarships. Region 6 awards ten \$1000 scholarships to children of ACSA members who are graduating high school seniors and plan to pursue higher education. Deadline this year is February 24, 2020. <http://regions.acsa.org/6/awardsscholarshipsgrants/scholarships/>

Professional Development Scholarships. Each year Region 6 awards multiple \$500 scholarships for ACSA members enrolled in ACSA academies to advance their professional or career development. Congratulations to this year's recipients: Jennifer Sachs, Ryan Sheehy, and Jacob Berg. <http://regions.acsa.org/6/awardsscholarshipsgrants/scholarships/>

Every Student Succeeding. The purpose of this award is to honor students at all grade levels (pre-K to adult education) who have succeeded against all odds, beyond expectations or won the hearts of the administrators and other educators who helped them achieve their goals. Deadline is February 24,

Our 2019 Region 6 winner, Armando Wright from New Haven USD, was recently honored at the ACSA Leadership Summit. Here is his amazing story:

<https://edcal.readz.com/ess-student-i-need-to-keep-pushing>



Can You Help?

Your Region Professional Development Committee is looking for additional partners/sponsors for our region's professional learning events such as the Women Leadership Network, the spring Equity Symposium, and our annual Leadership Summit. If you work with vendors or businesses who might be interested in partnering with Region 6 to support meaningful professional learning activities for administrators, please connect them with us. Email [Rose Lock](mailto:Rose.Lock@acsa.org), Region 6 Executive. Sponsor support has allowed our region to offer high quality professional development at a reasonable cost to our members.



Women's Leadership Network

Dr. Marguerite Williams, ACSA Senior Director of Equity and Diversity kicked off our region's first Women's Leadership Network event on October 24 in Orinda UESD.



Save these dates for the next two WLN events:

- Thursday, January 23, 2020
- Thursday, April 23, 2020

Both sessions will be held at Orinda Union School District Board Room from 4:30-6:00.



Retiree Charter Takes a Stand on Student Safety and Gun Violence

Contributed by Susan Burleson, retired Region 6 member

At the last luncheon meeting, our retirees in ACSA Region 6 had a presentation on the Sandy Hook Promise and work being done in the schools in our region. The Sandy Hook Promise Program “trains students and adults to know the signs of gun violence so that no other parent experiences the senseless horrific loss of their child”. They are working across the U.S. to change the culture in our schools to

make our students feel safer, but it is not enough, there have been more than 33 gun violence incidents since the tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary School in December 2012.

SANDY HOOK PROMISE, "I promise to do all I can to protect children from gun violence by encouraging and supporting solutions that create safer, healthier homes, schools, and communities."

As retired school administrators we believe that we can do more to protect the safety of our students. We can no longer sit on the sidelines waiting for others to take action. We must make a greater effort in stopping the gun violence. We need to push for stronger laws. As a result, the retired administrators in Region 6 has created the following resolution:

As retired school administrators in ACSA Region 6, we resolve to provide greater safety for our students. We believe that the safety of our students continues to be threatened by gun violence. It goes beyond improved mental health and awareness programs, increased lock-down drills and school safety measures. We believe we need stronger gun laws and background checks on those people purchasing guns. We believe the laws need to ban assault weapons and high capacity ammunition magazines that are putting our children, their parents, and our staff at risk! We want to see the laws improve at the state and federal levels. We support the efforts of our legislators as they stand up for greater safety, and stronger laws against gun violence for the sake of our students! We want our children protected!

We hope other regions and state ACSA speak out and join us in an effort to influence our legislators to take action. As retired administrators we need to set an example and speak up!



Terry Koehne, CCCOE Chief Communications Officer and Ilana Israel Samuels, California Regional Manager for Sandy Hook Promise presented at the Retiree Charter luncheon on October 8.



ACSA Trivia

Do you know how many regions are in ACSA? How many charters are in Region 6? How many districts are in Region 6?

If you know the answers to all 3 questions, email them to [Rose Lock](#). The first 3 responders with all correct answers will win a Starbucks gift card. (Executive Committee members not eligible to win)



From Your Region Executive

Congratulations to the following newly-appointed members of the Region 6 Leadership Team:

- *Cheryl Cotton*, CCCOE Assistant Superintendent in Human Resources, is the new Contra Costa County At-Large Representative on the R6 Executive Committee.
- *Mistee Guzman*, Livermore Valley JUSD Principal, is an at-large Delegate to ACSA Leadership Assembly.

Thank you to Cheryl and Mistee for stepping up to these leadership positions.

We also want to recognize Region 6 members who are in leadership positions for State ACSA. *Melanie Jones* (SRVUSD) is a Co-Chair of the Personnel Institute; *Rick Schmitt* (SRVUSD) is the ACSA Rep to

FCMAT; *Dana Eaton* (Brentwood ESD) is the City Superintendents Liaison; *Linda Granger* (Eden ROP) is the ROC/P Liaison; and *Linda Hutcherson* (Retired) is the Lead Ambassador for R6.

ACSA requires Regions to review and update their Bylaws every two years. Your Region 6 Board of Directors recently approved updated Bylaws. You can find them on our [website](#).

At the August Leadership Retreat, the Region 6 Board of Directors adopted the following goals for the 2019-20 year:

- Create a communication plan for the region
- Enlist support of superintendents and other cabinet level administrators to engage their members and enlist new members and invite district collaboration with ACSA
- Develop a Professional Development plan for 2019-20 to engage greater participation focusing on equity and leadership
- Expand our advocacy and influence such as creating a local advocacy committee and presenting a Region "Friend of Education" type Award
- Engage classified managers and retirees

The Nominating Committee will be seeking candidates for the 2020-21 Region 6 Leadership Team. If you are interested in getting more involved as a leader in ACSA, please email me.

[Rose Lock](#), Region 6 Executive



Welcome to new ACSA members



Region 6 welcomes the following new members:

Alameda COE

Dawn O'Connor, Sarah Feldman

Brentwood UESD

Leif Utler

Castro Valley USD

Christopher Fortenberry, Brigitte Luna, Zandra Texeira

Dublin USD

Ginger Selvaggio, Clara Lee

Eden Area ROP

Ariel Owen

Fremont USD

Marcus Battle, Jacklynn Sprague, Sarah Gialdini, Charles Graves

Hayward USD

Lina Andersen, Makilia Rowe-Andrews

Liberty UHSD

Mark Amaro, Christopher Lonaker

Livermore Valley JUSD

Daniel Muselman

Martinez USD

Patty O'Malley

Mt. Diablo USD

Janae Fine, Joseph Alvarez, Ryan Sheehy, Paige Endo

New Haven USD

Susan Garcia

Newark USD

Lisaday Rancap-Perez, Jessica Tommasini, Maria Cervantes-Falk

Oakland USD

Annie Cahoon, Michelle Cuasito

Oakley UESD

Kelly Edwards, David Foldvary

Pleasanton USD

Arley Hill, Michael O'Brien, Jamie Mather, Malcolm Norrington, Juan Sanchez,

Kathleen Townsend, Seewing Yee

San Leandro USD

Maurice Gause

San Lorenzo USD

Mycal Hixon, Alexis Meron, Madeline Gabel, Erica Shovein

San Ramon Valley USD

Sharon Baltazar, MaryAnn Frates, Sheila Jemo

Walnut Creek ESD

Vincent Morales, Monifa Morgan

West Contra Costa USD

Lisa Gonzalves, LaShante Smith

Retirees

Susanne Chambers

Students

Shaun Martins, Lindsey Nakashima

Thank you to the following ACSA members for recruiting new members this quarter:

Blaine Torpey, Erik Taylor, Chansell Evans-Green, Kelly Manke, Heidi McFadden, Tracie Noriega, Chris

Calabrese, Jose Espinoza, Evie Groch, Rose Lock, Janet Gates, Pam VandeKamp, Matt Chamberlain,

Jonathan Roselin



[Contact Us](#)

We welcome your feedback and suggestions.

[ACSA Website](#)

[Region 6 Website](#)

Region 6 Staff

[Rose Lock](#), Executive

[Steve Collins](#), Consultant

Region 6 Leadership

President: Pam VandeKamp

President-Elect: Jacob Berg

Past President: Sonja Neely-Johnson

VP Staff Development: Hilary Dito

VP Programs: Pam Hughes

VP Legislative Action: James Parrish III

VP Membership: Kris Martin-Meyer

Secretary: Christy Glaser

Treasurer: Kathy LaCome

Comptroller: Lorianne Ventura

Equity Chair: Tracie Noriega

Communication Chair: Marcus Walton

ACSA Board Director: Parvin Ahmadi

At-Large Representatives: Jon Campopiano, Raul

Zamora, Chris Calabrese, Cheryl Cotton

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