



Advance Newsletter

association of california
school administrators

region 6

November 2021



President's Message

***“Be the Leader....
Show others the path to success”***

Greetings Fellow Administrators,

The holiday season is finally approaching, giving us all a much needed break to look forward to. I know, from all the stories I've heard, how difficult of a year this has been for everyone. But I also know stories of the incredible work being done by you as well. Whether you've been subbing in a classroom for an absent teacher, filling in for an instructional aide in a mod/severe class, helping out in the lunch line, or providing extra supervision during lunch time, it's all for the benefit and support of our students and teachers, and your dedication will pay off.

We had another successful ACSA Leadership Summit in San Francisco on November 4-6. Many attendees enjoyed the Womens' Leadership Luncheon and the Equity Luncheon. Session highlights included *"The Middle Grades Education - More Good Days: Brain-Based Practices for Trauma-Responsive Schools"* which gave great resources and activities to support students and staff in order to support empathy, better listening, mindfulness and more.

There was an informative session on implementing equitable grading practices by a director from LAUSD. Our very own Region 6 President-Elect, Tracie Noriega, co-facilitated an excellent session on *"Ethnic Studies: Promise and Possibilities."*

One of the most interesting and informative sessions I attended was on retirement. Even though I'm not close to retirement, listening to the information in that session and talking to several retirees I ran into, provided me with some much needed information I didn't know. All that will help me plan better for retirement when it is time. I highly recommend contacting STRS and making an appointment with a retirement specialist, no

matter how close/ far you are to retirement and having a conversation. I promise, it will be eye opening for you.

Congrats to our own Lorianne Ventura for being named State Middle Grades Principal of the Year!

As I close out this message, remember to take care of yourself first. You can't truly be in proper support of others if you're not doing well yourself. Enjoy the holidays. Try not to do any work. Enjoy time with your family, friends, and yourself.

Mark E. Neal
ACSA Region 6 President
Principal, Dublin USD



In honor of our association's big birthday in 2021-22, ACSA is inviting members to help celebrate by sending in photos, videos and memories from the last five decades of educational leadership. Visit acsa.org/acsa-50 all year long to see how we're celebrating.



Administrator of the Year Awards 2022



**Thursday, April 26,
2022
5:00 to 8:00 pm
San Ramon Marriott**

Region 6 Administrator of the Year Awards Celebration will be an in-person event again!

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.

Last year, Region 6 had a record number of 90 nominees for Administrators of the Year! We all have so many outstanding deserving colleagues who are really stepping up in the past two years. Let's recognize them for what they are doing on behalf of students, families, staff, community, etc. There's no better time and opportunity to share their stories.

Except for the two State Awards (Ferd Kiesel & Marcus Foster), you must submit nominations

through your Charter. Contact your Charter President.

Please pass on the word to nominate fellow colleagues. Contact Vice President of Programs [Pam Hughes](#) if you have any questions.



Region 6 Annual Leadership Summit/Equity Symposium

While many of us were disappointed that the Region 6 annual Leadership Summit had to shift to a virtual format the past two years, we were proud to have presented an outstanding professional learning program throughout this period.

We are pleased to announce that an in-person summit will return in 2022. It will be merged with the Region 6 4th Annual Equity Symposium. **Save the date: Saturday, February 26, 2022** We are looking for Region 6 anti-racist educator activists to share their knowledge and experiences. Please be on the lookout for our "Call For Presenters." If you are interested in joining the Region Equity Committee please contact Equity Chair, [Tracie Noriega](#). The Equity Committee will not only support the planning and implementation of the Equity Symposium, but will delve deeper this year into the needs within our region.

2021 ACSA Annual Leadership Summit



2021 ACSA Annual Leadership Summit

November 4-6, San Francisco

Region 6 leaders were out in force in San Francisco on November 4-6 for the return of ACSA's Leadership Summit. The program was well represented by amazing Region 6 presenters like Tracie Noriega, Tovi Scruggs-Hussein, Christy Glaser, Kayla Johnson-Trammell, Parvin Ahmadi, and Tess Johnson.

The 2021 Administrator of the Year Awards Dinner was held Friday night. We are so proud of Region 6's Lorianne Ventura who was selected as the Middle Grades Principal of the Year!



ACSA President Charlie Hoffman opening the 2022 Leadership Summit



Newly appointed ACSA Interim Executive Director Marc Ecker greeting attendees



Region 6's Tovi Scruggs-Hussein presenting on "Adult SEL..."



R6 Board Rep Sonja Neely-Johnson with Equity Luncheon speaker Tyler Amir



Region 6 Leaders enjoying conference



Parvin Ahmadi and Tracie Noriega with ACSA friends



Did you know Emeritus members attend the Summit for free? Here are two of our R6 retirees!



Tracie Noriega presenting on ethnic studies



Celebrating ACSA's 50th!



ACSA President-Elect Erin Simon enjoying the evening festivities



ACSA VP Parvin Ahmadi presenting an award



Celebrating R6 Middle Grades Principal of the Year Lorianne Ventura



Lorianne being introduced by President Charlie Hoffman



Sonja Neely-Johnson congratulating Lorianne



Ooh, Lorianne with her award!



Region 6 Supporting Members Professionally and Personally

Region 6 offers programs to support our members financially. Here are two with upcoming deadlines:

Mini-Grants

Our Region offers up to five mini-grants and up to \$1000 each for members' innovative projects that require some seed or matching funding. Deadline for applications is February 18, 2022. <http://regions.acsa.org/6/awards/scholarships/grants/mini-grants/>

Bob Blackburn Student Scholarships

Region 6 awards five \$1000 scholarships to children of ACSA members who are graduating high school seniors and plan to pursue higher education. Deadline this year is February 18, 2022. <http://regions.acsa.org/6/awardsscholarshipsgrants/scholarships/>



Every Student Succeeding

ACSA believes every student deserves equal opportunities to succeed. On every school day throughout California, dedicated educators and courageous students overcome tremendous obstacles to reach their goals of academic excellence.

Twenty-one students were recognized at the Every Student Succeeding celebration at the November 4-6 ACSA Leadership Summit. Always the conference favorite, the presentation gave the audience a glimpse of the inspirational journey of each of these students.

While our Region 6 winner, Hallie Evans, was not present, her story was shared at the celebration.



It's time to consider nominees for the 2022 Every Student Succeeding Awards.

There are many deserving students in Region 6 and we encourage ACSA members to share these students' story. The winner receives \$1000 from Region 6 and another \$1000 from ACSA. Region finalists are awarded \$250. Region 6 nomination deadline is February 18, 2022.

For nomination information, go to: <http://regions.acsa.org/6/awardsscholarshipsgrants/every-student-succeeding/>



Women's Leadership Network

Our region is committed to continuing conversations that will support women leaders. If you are interested in being involved in planning this year's activities, email [Pam Hughes](mailto:Pam.Hughes@acsa.org), VP Programs.



Region 6 Administrator Takes on State Leadership

Mistee Hightower-Guzman
President

ACSA Middle Grades Education Council



Mistee got involved in ACSA leadership several years ago when she was appointed to complete a term as our region's rep to the Middle Grades Education Council. Subsequently, she was appointed to her own 3-year term. Last year, she was elected to serve as the Council's President by members who represent ACSA's 19 regions.

The Middle Grades Education Council is charged with the following mission:

- To identify and study issues relating to middle grades administrators and to recommend practices and policies which will lead to high quality programs for young adolescents.
- To strengthen a network for communication among middle grades administrators.
- To plan, provide, and encourage professional development programs for middle grades administrators.
- To assist in the recruitment of middle grades administrators as ACSA members.
- To encourage interaction and support between ACSA, the National Association of Secondary School Principals, the California Department of Education, and other organizations and agencies promoting the interests of middle grades education.

Mistee is the Principal of Edendale Middle School in the San Lorenzo USD and has been a dedicated ACSA member since the beginning of her administrative career. Being an ACSA leader has allowed her to learn and network with other educational leaders and influence policy makers across the state and truly make a difference for our students in California.

Here's an interview with Mistee on being in ACSA on our [Facebook page](#). We are so proud of her in Region 6!



Region 6 Charters



North Alameda Charter

The North Alameda Charter is made up of four districts: Albany, Berkeley, Emery, and Piedmont. A long-time ACSA leader, Dr. Frank Wells, recently returned to Region 6 and has stepped up to be the Charter President. He knows first-hand the benefits of being in ACSA and is excited to get this opportunity to work with and support administrators throughout North Alameda County.

The first Charter meeting will be held Friday, November 19 from

7-8:15 am at the Hilton Garden Inn in Emeryville. Breakfast will be provided and ACSA Member Assistance Advocate Joe Jones will speak on "What is ACSA All About?"

Meeting dates for the remainder of the school year:

- December 17, 2021
- January 21, 2022
- February 18, 2022
- March 25, 2022
- April 22, 2022
- May 20, 2022
- June 17, 2022

For more information, contact President [Frank Wells](#)

Retiree Charter

With about 250 retired ACSA members, the Retiree Charter is the largest charter in Region 6. The group recently returned to their first in-person luncheon meeting on October 12 after 18 months. The meeting featured Dr. Evie Groch who spoke on "Returning to the New Normal - How do we support educators in the field as they transition back to hybrid or full time school models?" This was a relevant topic to the group as many of our retirees are still engaged in mentoring and coaching new and veteran administrators in the field.

Under the outstanding leadership of Charter President Dick Lloyd, Charter members are continuing to be vocal in two critical issues to educators:

- Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and Government Pension Offset (GPO)
- Safety and prevention of gun violence in our schools

Region 6 Rep Gail Yothers keeps the conversation going at the state Retirement Committee.

The two remaining luncheon meetings for the year are scheduled for January 11 and May 10, 2022. For more information, contact President [Dick Lloyd](#).



Retiree Charter meeting in person on the campus of Acalanes Adult Ed



Dr. Evie Groch presenting to Retiree Charter



Retired ACSA members always learning



From Your Region Executive Director

ACSA Region 6 leadership opportunities for 2022-23

If you are interested in being more involved in ACSA, we are beginning the process of nominating candidates for various (elected and appointed) positions in Region 6 for 2022-23. The following elected positions on the Executive Committee will be open:

- President-Elect (3-year commitment as President-Elect, President, Past President)
- Vice President of Legislative Action (3 years)

The following positions to represent Region 6 on State Committees or Councils will be filled by appointment:

- Career Technical Education (3 years)
- Small School District (3 years)

Contact me if you would like more information or are interested in being considered for any of these positions. You can also check current [R6 By-laws](#) on our website for details of Region 6 governance and operation.

Another way to be involved in ACSA is at the charter level. Charter positions and terms are determined based on each charter's by-laws. Please consult with your Charter President.

[Rose Lock](#), Region 6 Executive Director



Welcome to new ACSA members



Region 6 welcomes the following new members in the last quarter:

Acalanes UHSD

Bruce Giron

Alameda COE

Tracey Burns

Alameda USD

Tanya Harris

Brentwood UESD

Alison Petit

Berkeley USD

Heather Sweeney

Castro Valley USD

Kenneth Kahn, Charity Hastings, Kevin Baker

Dublin USD

Cheryl DiGrazia

Emery USD

Krista Alexander

Fremont USD

Jeffrey Evans

Livermore Valley JUSD

David Michael Martinez

Newark USD

Jan Hamilton

Oakley UESD

Jeffrey Palmquist, Julie Sorbello, Harkamal Singh, Amandeep Rai, Rachel Fogleman, Jasmine Lopez, Amandeep Kaur, Robin Hultgren, Carmen Munoz-Rodriguez, Adam Liebow, Nicole Jurand

Pittsburg USD

Nancie Castro

Pleasanton USD

Stephanie Pavlenko, Sohail Ahmed, Georgianna Kruse-Silva, Kelly Mackey, Julie Berglin, Karen Cobb

San Leandro USD

Sandra Hernandez

San Ramon Valley USD

Angie Corritone, Elizabeth Lyons

Walnut Creek ESD

Michael Burstein

West Contra Costa USD

Julio Franco, Kristen Hardy

Retiree Charter

Joann Biondi

Student and Associate Members

Gloria Mau, Sherea Westra, Jeanne Johnson

Thank you to ACSA member for continuing to recruit new members!

Earl Crawford, Karen Sakata, Rose Lock, Dustin Gacherieu(2), Zachary Larsen, Sonja Neely-Johnson, Annabel Hurlburt, Steven France



Region 6 Partners Corner



R6 Partner Offered Webinar

California Consulting, a Region 6 Partner, presented a free webinar for members on grant writing on October 10. The session included current funding opportunities for K-12 LEAs and tips for writing a proposal.

Thank you to all our 2021 Partners

Our partners' donations allowed us to offer high quality professional development at no cost to ACSA members and non members in 2020 and 2021. Learn more about these partners on our website [Partners page](#).



Our 2021 Partners

We thank you for your support!



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[Contact Us](#)

We welcome your feedback and suggestions.

[ACSA Website](#)

[Region 6 Website](#)

Region 6 Staff

[Rose Lock](#), Executive Director

[Steve Collins](#), Consultant

Region 6 Leadership

President: Mark Neal

President-Elect: Tracie Noriega

Past President: Jacob Berg

VP, Staff Development: Lorianne Ventura

VP, Programs: Pam Hughes

VP, Legislative Action: James Parrish III

VP, Membership: Renee Lama

Secretary: Christy Glaser

Treasurer: Kathy LaCome

Comptroller: Annette Heldman

Equity Chair: Tracie Noriega

Communication Chair: Marcus Walton

ACSA Board Director: Sonja Neely-Johnson

At-Large Representatives: Christina Filios,

Nanette Gray, Evan Powell, Harvey Yurkovich

The Association of California School Administrators is the driving force for an equitable, world-class education system, and the development and support of inspired educational leaders who meet the diverse needs of all California students.