



Association of California School Administrators

Kristin Lilly-Porter- 2025-2026 President, ACSA Region 7

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our first General Membership Assembly (GMA) was a tremendous success, marking our highest attendance to date for Region 7! The event was held at the Chicken Ranch Resort and Casino in Jamestown, California. We had the honor of hearing from Dr. Daryl Camp, ACSA's State President, who shared an inspiring message to kick off the year.

We had approximately 35 administrators from our region attend the Leadership Summit in San Francisco this November, where we were proud to celebrate two of our own as State ACSA Administrators of the Year: Antoinette Chambers of Modesto City Schools and Michael Maaske of Sylvan Union School District. They were formally recognized by the State on Friday, November 8, 2025.

Planning is already underway for our February GMA, which will be held at Chez Shari Event Center in Manteca on February 4, 2026, from 4:30-7:30 p.m. We look forward to hearing from the State Vice President Candidates and receiving updates from our committee representatives on current initiatives across California. This year, our region has

made a strong effort to recruit new members and engage emerging administrators in learning more about ACSA and its mission.

One of ACSA's key priorities is recognizing school leaders for their outstanding contributions. Nominations for the 2026 ACSA Administrator of the Year Region 7 Awards are now open! The nomination form is available on our Region 7 website, with submissions due by January 22, 2026. Award recipients will be honored at the ACSA Region 7 Spring Conference on Friday, May 1, 2026, in So. Lake Tahoe.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Region 7's 2026 Awards Program

The 2026 ACSA Awards Program is now open for nominations. Please visit www.asca.org/awards or our website <https://regions.acsa.org/7/about/awards> to submit a nomination for our ACSA Region 7 awards. Those winners will be recognized at our annual Spring Conference. The Region 7 Awards Committee will be selecting award winners from all the Administrator of the Year categories, the Robert E. Kelly Award, Valuing Diversity Award, and the Partners in Educational Excellence Award.

Nominations for Region 7 School/County Boards or School/County Board Trustees are done through our Region website at <https://regions.acsa.org/7/about/awards>. Those winners will also be recognized at the conference. Nominations are due January 22nd at 11:59 p.m.

2026
acsaaawards

"The mission of the Association of California School Administrators is to advocate in the best interests of students and to develop, empower and inspire equity-minded educational leaders."

Be sure to visit our website (<http://regions.acsa.org/7/>) and stay up-to-date on Region 7 and Charter events as well as committee and council reports and more!

**Fall/Winter 2025
Inside ACSA
Region 7**

Page 2

Region Charter Reports

Page 3

**State ACSA Award
Winners**

Page 4 & 5

New Members

Page 5

Why ACSA

Student Scholarships

Page 6

CEL Dinner

Page 7

Spring Conference

Meet Your Council Rep

Page 8

Looking Ahead

Sponsors

Region/Charter Officers

**Visit/Follow/Like Us
at:**

**[http://regions.
acsa.org/7/](http://regions.acsa.org/7/)**



**Like us on Facebook @
ACSA Region 7**

#acsaregion7

**Claudia Vicino
Region 7 Webmaster &
Newsletter Editor
[webmaster@acsaregion7.
net](mailto:webmaster@acsaregion7.net) and/or [clvicino420@
gmail.com](mailto:clvicino420@gmail.com)**

REGION 7 CHARTER REPORTS

Mother Lode Charter

by Jared Hungerford, Mother Lode Charter President

The Mother Lode Charter began the 25-26 school year with a kick-off celebration at the Avelino's Wine Bar and Italian Delicatessen in Angels Camp. We were a small, but mighty group of educators who enjoyed the camaraderie and opportunity to network.

Our Charter fall professional development program was led by ACSA State Legislative Advocate, Diana Vu. Diana responded to our charter's desire to discuss the impacts of the Mahmoud v. Taylor decision at the Supreme Court as well as the recent state laws pertaining to immigration enforcement. It was a productive time of learning and discussion.

Currently, the charter is planning for February's Every Student Succeeding celebrations in Amador and Calaveras counties. Finally, the ML Charter team has filled a much needed role of Vice President on our executive board! Our new Vice President is Josh O'Geen, principal of Albert Michelson Elementary School.

Retirement Charter

by Barbara Magpusao, RAC Charter President

Region 7 RAC started the year with a hands-on presentation at Stanislaus COE. Our presenter, Burt Lo, showed us relevant information about AI and its role in education. Many of the RAC members in attendance had time to explore on their laptops and find the many benefits we could use AI for!

In November, we had a presentation on changes in MediCare Health & Options from Sandy Howell, a volunteer at Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program, HiCAP. As we all know there are many changes occurring in our health system, Sandy comes with a wealth of knowledge and also warns us of the scams that are occurring.

In December, we had our Annual Ornament Exchange at Mary Ann Sanders' home. There was no formal meeting, just fun, food and friendship. If you are retired or soon to be, come join us. It is a great group of people!

Stanislaus Charter

by Michael Shroyer, Stanislaus Charter President

Our Stanislaus Charter is pleased to share a brief update for the Region 7 Fall/Winter Newsletter. We successfully hosted our annual kick-off event, welcoming over 500 attendees. The event provided an energizing start to the year, bringing together educators and leaders to reconnect, collaborate, and focus on shared goals. In addition, our breakfast professional development sessions have returned to in-person format, offering valuable opportunities for learning, networking, and the exchange of best practices to support students, staff, and school communities across Stanislaus County.

San Joaquin Charter

by Dr. Girlie Hale, San Joaquin Charter President

TACSA's San Joaquin Charter has been busy this season. First, we would like to welcome Ramona Soto-Barajas from Stockton Unified School District as our new Charter Ambassador, welcoming our new ACSA members. Since July 2025, we have welcomed 61 new charter members! We now have 308 charter members, a growth of 25%. We are excited to see membership growing in our charter.

We hosted two events this year. Our Beginning of the Year Kick Off was held in August and we shared information about San Joaquin County Office of Education's "Building to Serve" strategic plan initiatives. It was informative to hear how SJCOE will support districts in the areas of early literacy, leadership development, community engagement, and outdoor learning. In September, we co-hosted our first professional development with Adobe Express. Guest speaker Martin Cisneros provided an engaging and interactive lesson on BrandED: Branding Your Leadership. Attendees not only got to learn about how to develop and promote themselves as leaders but also got to enjoy an after-session mixer event at Nena's Mexican Restaurant.

Going into the new year, we will be hosting more events and professional development opportunities. Stay tuned!

Tuolumne Charter

by Gabe Wingo, Tuolumne Charter President

The beginning of the year has been an exciting and productive season for the TCACSA community as we continued our mission to support members, strengthen partnerships, and expand opportunities for learning and engagement.

Annual Kick Off

TCACSA kicked off the year with a kick off event designed to introduce new members, gear up for the new school year prioritizing the support of new and aspiring administrators.

Fall PDP

A major highlight was our fall PDP where Scott Borba, Superintendent/Principal of LeGrand Elementary School District, shared about his book "The Leader You're Not" and provided attendees with some strategies for enhancing leadership at their sites.

Looking Ahead

With more events, programs, and opportunities on the horizon, TCACSA is energized for the months ahead when we will be holding a number of award programs recognizing both staff and student achievements.

STATE ACSA 2025 AWARD WINNERS

STATE ACSA CONFIDENTIAL EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

Executive Secretary to the Board of Education, Antoinette Chambers exemplifies excellence in confidential service through her unwavering commitment to students, equity, and effective governance at Modesto City Schools. As a trusted liaison to the Board, she strengthens transparency, safety, and student-centered initiatives while supporting complex districtwide efforts with professionalism and care. For her behind-the-scenes leadership, integrity, and lasting impact on student success, Chambers was named ACSA's 2025 Confidential Employee of the Year and was recently recognized at State ACSA's Leadership Summit in San Francisco. Congratulations Antoinette!



STATE ACSA CLASSIFIED MANAGER OF THE YEAR

Sylvan Union School District's Director of Nutrition Services, Michael Maaske, was honored as State ACSA's Classified Manager of the Year at the recent Leadership Summit in San Francisco. For more than 20 years, Michael has been a steady, compassionate leader dedicated to ensuring every student receives healthy, nutritious meals while fostering innovation and care across the district. Under his leadership, Nutrition Services has become a model program, introducing professional learning communities, modernizing kitchens, partnering with students on creative projects, and launching impactful initiatives such as weekly food boxes for families and school farmer's markets. Known for leading with heart, humility, and purpose, Michael exemplifies servant leadership and demonstrates the power of leading with authenticity.



REGION 7 WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

Mother Lode Charter

Russell DeWalt, Principal, Amador County USD
Jessica Handgis, Principal, Mark Twain UESD
Elysa Prill, Community School Principal & Teacher, Calaveras COE

San Joaquin Charter

Bellamarie Aguilar, Program Manager III, San Joaquin COE
Justin Albano, Director II, Special Education, San Joaquin COE
Priscilla Anguiano, HR Analyst, San Joaquin COE (Associate Member)
Cole Aschwenden, Program Manager-Project Management, San Joaquin COE
Yesica Avendano, Student/Asst. Principal, Stockton USD (Student Member)
Angelica Ayala, Director Billing Reimbursement Compliance, San Joaquin COE
Tamara Basepayne, Director II, Outdoor Ed & STEM Programs, San Joaquin COE
Kristi Baysinger, Director of Autism & Behavior Services, San Joaquin COE
Sera Baysinger, High School Vice Principal, Lodi USD
Jacob Boyd, Director, San Joaquin COE
Hector Calderon, Program Manager III, San Joaquin COE
Annie Camacho, Director of Teaching & Learning, San Joaquin COE
Anthony Chapman, Chief Human Resources Officer, San Joaquin COE
Lindsey Clark, Program Manager III, San Joaquin COE
James Cochran, Coordinator IV, San Joaquin COE
Jeanette Cross, Director I, San Joaquin COE
Deanie Crutchfield-Coleman, Coordinator, San Joaquin COE
Magenda Cruz, Principal, Lodi USD
Rupa Dasani, Vice Principal, Jefferson ESD
Raquelle Deyto, Recruitment, Marketing & Communication Manager, San Joaquin COE
Ana Diaz, Program Manager I, San Joaquin COE
Davina Diebner, Executive Assistant, San Joaquin COE
Rowena Fairbanks, Special Education Division Director, San Joaquin COE
Megan Filice, MTSS Coordinator, San Joaquin COE
Jason Furtado, Principal, Escalon USD
Myra Gardea-Hernandez, Coordinator, Administrative Services Credential Programs, San Joaquin COE
Hannah Green, Assistant Principal, Tracy USD
Marisella Groves, Principal, Manteca USD
Heidi Hillis, Coordinator LEA Medi-Cal Program, San Joaquin COE
Elizabeth Jara, Coordinator- IMPACT, Education Specialist Programs, San Joaquin COE
Michelle Jones, Coordinator II, TCSJ IMPACT
Maria Junez, Program Manager I, San Joaquin COE
Angela Katzakis, Associate Superintendent of Education Services, Lincoln USD
Phillip Kimble IV, Coordinator, San Joaquin COE

San Joaquin Charter Cont.

Bradi Kooyman, Coordinator, San Joaquin COE
Enrique Lopez, Director II, San Joaquin COE
Anna Lotti, Principal, Stockton USD
Kristin Marble, Coordinator IV, San Joaquin COE
Anne-Marie Mason, Coordinator, Administrative Credentialing Programs, San Joaquin COE
Danielle McPherson, Director I, San Joaquin COE
Jessica Metcalf, Program Manager III, Multi-Player, San Joaquin COE
Angela Morales, Principal, Lincoln USD
Lori Morgan, Teacher Induction & Professional Learning Center Coordinator, San Joaquin COE
Maricruz Negrete, Program Manager III, San Joaquin COE
Cassandra Pamplona Valdez, Principal Engineer, San Joaquin COE
Mona Pantoja, Coordinator IV/Administrator, San Joaquin COE
Michael Pham, Director II, San Joaquin COE
Jennifer Pool, Executive Assistant, San Joaquin COE
Callan Powell, MTSS Coordinator, San Joaquin COE
Antonio Quintana, Assistant Principal, Tracy USD
Rita Rasuli, Prevention Coordinator, San Joaquin COE
Marty Remmers, San Joaquin County SELPA Director, San Joaquin COE
Katie Savage, Director of Health Services, San Joaquin COE
Kyon-Teka Sims, Early Literacy Coordinator, San Joaquin COE
Sharon Slater, Coordinator, San Joaquin COE
Shannon Soriano, Program Manager, San Joaquin COE
Cristy Swenson, Program Manager III, San Joaquin COE
Jamie Ulloa, Vice Principal, Jefferson ESD
Jennifer Vasquez, Coordinator II, San Joaquin COE
Michael Wright, Coordinator II, San Joaquin COE
Leann Zepada, Project Liaison II, San Joaquin COE

Stanislaus Charter

Mayra Albreo, Vice Principal, Modesto City Schools
Mustafa Albayaty, Assistant Principal, Ceres USD
Armando Arellano-Garibay, Student Services Administrator 9-12, Modesto City Schools
Gillian Ayer, Teacher, Stanislaus Union SD (Student Member)
Chanda Bates, Program Manager Special Education, Modesto City Schools
Jacob Been, Education Specialist, Waterford USD
Dr. Vanessa Buitrago, Superintendent, Modesto City Schools
Alison Carvalho, Program Manager, Modesto City Schools
Patricia Correia, Assistant Principal, Ceres USD
Terry Crumpacker, Program Specialist, Oakdale Jt. USD
Maria Cuevas, Assistant Principal, Ceres USD
Paula Cuevas, Vice Principal, Modesto City Schools
Kavita Dhaliwal, Elementary School Principal, Newman-Crows Landing USD
Margaret Flores, Program Specialist, Riverbank USD
Catherine George, Student Services Director, Hickman Community Charter District

REGION 7 WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

Stanislaus Charter Cont.

Rachel Howenstine, Assistant Principal, Modesto City Schools

Lori Johnson, HR Operations, Recruitment, Modesto City Schools

Leah Klascius, Administrative Assistant to the Chief Communications Officer, Modesto City Schools

Jerri Levers, Executive Director, Connecting Waters Charter

Ryan Lonergan, Assistant Principal, Modesto City Schools

Joshua Madeiros, Program Specialist, Stanislaus COE

Sammy Mahmud, Dean of Students, Waterford USD

Linda Mumma Solorio, Public Information Officer, Modesto City Schools

Savitri Naidu, Senior Director IETS, Modesto City Schools

Gloria Paredes, Assistant Principal, Modesto City Schools

Amanda Rodrigues, Vice Principal, Stanislaus Union SD

Vanessa Rojas, Director of State & Federal Programs & Accountability, Riverbank USD

Adriana Romero, Assistant Principal, Modesto City Schools

Nineb Shahbaz, Assistant Principal, Hart Ransom SD

Kari Souza, Coordinator, Keyes Union SD

Maria Tillery, Principal, Riverbank USD

Kimberly, Valente, Program Manager, Modesto City Schools

Daniel Villegas, Pupil Services Administrator, Modesto City Schools

Vanessa Walshegan, Special Education Program Manager, Modesto City Schools

Heather Warthan, Vice Principal, Modesto City Schools

Tami Wilkinson, Assistant Principal, Modesto City Schools

Tuolumne Charter

Sarah Elliott, Program Specialist, Tuolumne County Superintendent of Schools

Lora Hunter, Principal, Sonora ESD

Janae Perkins, Executive Secretary, Summerville UHSD

Lauren Read, Assistant Principal, Sonora ESD

Ashley Schmid, Principal/Site Administrator, Big Oak Flat/Groveland USD

Alejandro Soto, University Development Coordinator, Grand Canyon University (Associate Member)



WHY ACSA?

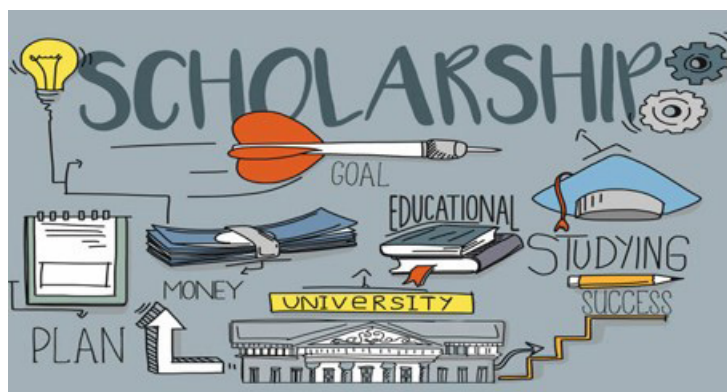
ACSA is where connection meets growth. It gives me access to timely resources and high-quality professional learning that strengthen my leadership. Just as important, it offers a network of peers who understand the challenges and joys of this work. Every meeting—whether virtual or in person—feels like joining a community of colleagues who are ready to collaborate and support. ACSA reminds me that leadership isn't a solo journey—it's a shared commitment to excellence in education.



Jessica Dorris
Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services
Calaveras County Office of Education

Student Scholarships Available

ACSA Region 7 is proud to support the students of our members through the Ken Brown/Francine Gaspar Student Scholarships. Each year, Region 7 awards four \$1,000 scholarships to help the children of ACSA members pursue post-high school educational goals. Applications are due by March 6, 2026, at 11:59 p.m. and must include an essay, transcripts, two letters of recommendation, and proof of the parent's State ACSA membership. For full details and application information, please visit the Region 7 website at: <https://regions.acsa.org/7/about/scholarships/>.



ACSA Region 7 Hosts Unforgettable 2025 Annual CEL Fall Dinner

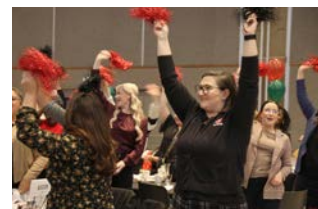
ACSA Region 7's 2025 Annual Classified Educational Leaders (CEL) Fall Dinner was truly an unforgettable evening. More than 900 school administrators, classified staff, and State ACSA special guests gathered at the Modesto Centre Plaza to celebrate the dedication, hard work, and unwavering commitment of our classified professionals—the true backbone of our schools and district offices.

The evening was energized by keynote speaker Kevin Bracy, a motivational powerhouse who inspired attendees to “reignite your why.” His engaging message had the crowd on their feet dancing, singing, and leaving the event feeling uplifted and recharged.

A heartfelt thank you goes to our incredible CEL Committee for orchestrating such a meaningful and energizing celebration, and to Grand Canyon University for their generous sponsorship. Special appreciation is also extended to Alex Shoob for donating personalized notepads for every attendee.

We are grateful to the many local businesses and organizations that donated raffle prizes for our classified leaders, including: Bend the Trend; Moxie Salon & Spa; Pizza Plus; The Doghouse Taproom; Nails by David Lee; TOGO's Sandwiches; The Drip Coffee Bar; Eliza & Fern; La Cascada; Crivelli Insurance Services; Perko's; and BK Bookstore & More. Additional raffle donations were provided by Ceres Teachers United; Turlock TCFE Local 2424A; Turlock USD Executive Cabinet; CSEA Local Chapter 140; the Modesto City Schools Cabinet Team; each ACSA charter; ACSA Region 7 and State ACSA.

The CEL Committee is already looking ahead to an even bigger and better event next year on October 14th. It was truly inspiring to see district leaders come together to honor classified employees whose daily contributions support colleagues, students, families, and the broader community. It takes a village to provide an exceptional educational journey for our future leaders—and this evening was a beautiful reflection of that collective commitment.



Annual Spring Conference Is Coming Soon

Registration is now open on Eventbrite for our ACSA Region 7 Annual Spring Conference, taking place May 1–3, 2026, at the beautiful Margaritaville Resort in South Lake Tahoe.

This year's conference is designed to inspire our administrative and classified leaders as we continue our work of delivering high-quality educational systems for all students. Attendees will experience powerful, innovative, and thought-provoking sessions, opportunities to learn from colleagues, network with educational leaders, and celebrate our profession.

On Friday evening, we will honor our 2026 ACSA Award Winners during our annual Awards Ceremony – a highlight you won't want to miss!

For Conference and Hotel Registration Link visit: <https://2026acsaregion7springconference.eventbrite.com>

We are also on the lookout for break out presentations for the conference. Below is a link to complete for break-out presentation proposals. Each break-out session is 1 hour and 15 minutes long and these are offered on Friday afternoon, Saturday morning and Saturday afternoon. In the past, we have had several amazing administrators in the area present on a vast number of topics across the region. We would love to have you all present at the conference! Also, feel free to share the link with someone else you know that would be great for the conference. Please complete the form as soon as possible. We will be reviewing forms as they arrive. If you have any questions about the break-out sessions, please feel free to reach out to Jennifer Backman at jbackman@stanunion.k12.ca.us. Submit your proposal today at: bit.ly/48XSZdh



Meet Your Middle Grades Council Rep

Matt Hutsell is the Principal of Blaker-Kinser Junior High School in the Ceres Unified School District, where he serves as an instructional leader focused on growing his administrative team and teachers. He brings 19 years of experience in education, including 10 years as a teacher and nine years as an administrator.



Matt chose a career in education because of the caring adults in the public schools he attended—educators who provided stability and support and made a lasting impact on his life. He strives to be that same steady presence for today's students.

He earned his undergraduate degree and teaching credential in History from Cal Poly Humboldt (formerly Humboldt State University) and completed his graduate work and administrative credential at CSU Stanislaus.

Outside of work, Matt enjoys fishing, hiking, and camping with his family throughout California. In his spare time, he enjoys following the news, especially historical documentaries. A fun fact: his favorite food is beans and rice, and he always orders the most unique item on the menu when trying a new restaurant.

Looking Ahead

January

- 12-14 State ACSA's Every Child Counts - Marriott Marquis, San Diego Marina
- 13 Tuolumne Charter Cabinet Meeting - 7 am
Willow Wisp Cafe, Sonora
- 14 Stanislaus Charter Cabinet Meeting - 7 am- Zoom
Mother Lode Charter Cabinet Mtg. 7:30 am - TBD
San Joaquin Charter Board Mtg. 8:15 am - Zoom
- 15-16 State ACSA's Negotiators' Symposium - Mission Bay Resort, San Diego
- 20 Region 7 Cabinet Mtg. - 5 pm - Mary Ann Sanders' Home
- 21 Stanislaus Charter EMAD Event - 4 pm - Martin Petersen Event Center
- 22 State ACSA Awards Deadline - 11:59 pm

February

- 3 RAC Charter Luncheon Mtg.- 11:30 am - Surla's
- 4 Stanislaus Charter Cabinet Mtg. - 7 am - Zoom
Region 7 GMA - 4:30 pm - Chez Shari - Manteca
- 5 Mother Lode ESS Breakfast (Calaveras) 7:45 am
TBD
San Joaquin Charter Winter PDP = 8 am-4 pm - Zoom Meeting
- 6 San Joaquin ESS Breakfast - 7 am - San Joaquin COE
- 11 Stanislaus Charter PDP Meeting - 7 am - TBD
San Joaquin Charter Board Meeting - 8:15 am - Zoom
- 12 Tuolumne Charter ESS Breakfast - 7 am - TBD
- 18-20 CEL Institute - Burlingame
- 19 State ACSA Leadership Assembly - Virtual Meeting
- 20 State ACSA Board Meeting - Virtual Meeting

Thank You Sponsors

GRAND CANYON UNIVERSITY



SHOOB photography
4640 Spyres Way Suite 1 | Modesto, CA 95356
209.567.0748 | info@shoobphoto.com

Shoob Photography provides schools with services and materials to help students achieve their potential.

shoobphoto.com



Region 7 Officers 2025-2026

PRESIDENT
Kristin Lilly-Porter
PRESIDENT-ELECT
Dr. Ben Howell
VICE PRESIDENT
Dr. Girlie Hale
TREASURER
Araseli Zamora

VICE PRESIDENT, PROGRAMS
Monica Lombardo
VICE PRESIDENT, LEG. ACTION
Tom Nipper
VICE PRESIDENT, MEMBERSHIP
Jennifer Backman

SECRETARY
Janelle De Greek
PAST PRESIDENT
Tami Garcia
STATE BOARD MEMBER
Deborah Rowe
REGION 7 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/

CONSULTANT
Mary Ann Sanders
REGION 7 COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST & FACILITIES DIRECTOR
Claudia Vicino

Charter Presidents 2025-2026

MOTHER LODGE
Jared Hungerford

SAN JOAQUIN
Dr. Girlie Hale

STANISLAUS
Michael Shroyer

TUOLUMNE
Gabe Wingo

RETIRED
Barbara Magpusao