

Region 8 ACSA Meeting in a Memo

December 5, 2019
SCCOE

Region 8 ACSA Executive Board Meeting

EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORTS

President's Message

Dawnel Sonntag

It's hard to believe that it's already December and that we're nearly to the end of 2019! I hope that 2019 has been a good year for all of you, and I'm excited for what 2020 will bring.

The last couple of months have included some great events in Region 8!

In September, the Women's Leadership Network hosted "Empowering Self, Empowering Others." Dr. Mary Ann Dewan, Santa Clara County Superintendent of Schools, and the WLN team brought us a panel of women leaders representing education, government, and industry, who shared their insights and ideas.

In October, we met for the first of a 3-part Leadership Forum series featuring speaker and founder of EQ Schools, Roni Habib, who spoke to us about how to bring more joy and meaning to our work and lives in order to enhance our ability to effectively and courageously lead our schools and districts. We look forward to the next Leadership Forum event on February 6 at Fiorillo's Restaurant in Santa Clara; keep your eyes open for more information in January.

Finally, in November, many of us enjoyed a weekend of learning and networking at the ACSA Leadership Summit in San Francisco. The event was well organized and offered a wide variety of leadership and educational issues. We were also privileged to celebrate two of our Region 8 own; Sheila McGann-Tiedt, received the Robert E. Kelly Award for her contributions to public education, and Leo Chavez, a 6th grade student at Edenvale Elementary School in the Oak Grove School District, was recognized with the Every Student Succeeding Award for Region 8 for succeeding in spite of significant challenges. We are so proud of both of them and grateful that they represent Region 8!

VP Legislative Action

Michael Gallagher

Save the Date: Legislative Action Day April 20

On April 19 and 20, ACSA members from throughout the state will converge on the State Capitol to advocate for public education and for issues of critical importance identified by ACSA leaders. On Sunday the 19th, we meet in Sacramento to plan for our meetings the next day with our local legislators. All interested ACSA members are encouraged to attend and to participate in this valuable and educational activity. Meals and shared lodging are provided.

Watch for information after the first of the year to register for this event. Please let me know if you have any questions by emailing me at GallagherACSA8@yahoo.com.

State Legislature Endorsement Process

A team of ACSA leaders have been meeting with candidates for local state legislature races in advance of the March primary. State ACSA divides the races among the regions. Our job as a region is to recommend candidates to the State ACSA Board for its final determination of endorsement. In many cases, a recommendation or final decision to *not endorse* is also made, for a variety of reasons.

Senate District 15 (currently Jim Beall's district) and Assembly District 25 (currently Kansen Chu's district) are the two open seats that have been assigned to our region. We will be forwarding recommendations about these races along with recommendations for three uncontested races in districts with incumbents running for reelection, Assembly District 24 (Marc Berman), Assembly District 27 (Ash Kalra), and Assembly District 28 (Evan Low).

Our Region 8 team includes Mary Ann Dewan (SCCOE), Cheryl Jordan (Milpitas), Alyssa Lynch (Metro Ed), Juan Cruz (Franklin-McKinley), Heather Wellendorf (Campbell Elementary), and Michael Gallagher (Sunnyvale).

If you have any questions about the endorsement process or if you would like to get involved, please send me an email at GallagherACSA8@yahoo.com.

Awards

Alyssa Lynch and Mala Ahuju

New and Exciting! The 2020 [ACSA Awards](#) Dinner will be held at **Villa Ragusa** in downtown Campbell on May 8, 2020.

Which one of your colleagues will you nominate to be recognized for their commitment to your district? Click to see the [26 categories](#) available for you to nominate a colleague. Give your colleague and district the recognition they deserve. Click the [online nomination form](#) to see how easy it is to submit. All nominations are due by **Thursday, January 16th**. We will also recognize superstar first year administrators at the dinner.

Below are a few of the awards that have not had nominations over the past two years. Let's make this a **record year to recognize!**

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|------------------------------------|--|
| Secondary Co-Administrator | Continuous/Educational Options Administrator |
| Adult Education Administrator | Professor of Education |
| Career Technical Ed. Administrator | Technology Administrator |

If you have questions contact alynch@metroed.net or mala.ahuja@sesd.org

COUNCIL/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Superintendents Council

Shelly Viramontez

The meeting was held in Sacramento on October 30, 2019. We had a presentation from Megan Macy of Lozano Smith on AB 1505 – Charter Reform Bill. There is a toolkit

that can be obtained on the Lozano Smith website. It addresses the changes in approval criteria and appeal process. We also discussed the ACSA Strategic Plan's 3 areas of: Member Development & Support, Advocacy & Influence and Organizational Development and Stability. You can share your needs with ACSA through the button on the ACSA webpage and app, click and tell them what you need them to work on.

Tom Aremilino of CCEE discussed the 21st Century California School Leadership Academy (CSLA) to support teams and development. New State Board member, Linda Darling Hammond is a big supporter of this.

We had a report from California Department of Education - Lupita Cortez Alcala, Chief Deputy Superintendent. She shared the desire from the State Supt and the Governor to have schools stay open that are not in eminent danger. While 291 schools closed because of the Kincaid Fires, another 421 closed because of the Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS). We shared what schools need to remain open: Generators, Clean Water, Running Toilets and the Ability to Communicate. CDE is looking to collect data around building resources to shelter in case of emergencies

Edgar Zazueta shared an update of Full and Fair Funding. The 2020 initiative sponsored by ACSA and CSBA. It is polling well and if it passes in November will result in an additional \$15M per year for CA public schools. They also discussed AB 48 Facilities Bond, which is a mixed bag for districts ability to collect developer fees. The Legislators and the governor have been busy, the Governor Newsom signed 1,169 Bills and Vetoed 172. It is estimated that it will cost schools approximately \$1.5B to implement the various legislation. In the budget update, it was shared that we are likely to be in a COLA only funding unless we get Full Fair Funding passed. Challenges of hiring enough bus drivers, special educators and substitutes was also shared. We also discussed the need for advocacy for containing the costs of Special Education, with the suggestion that we work on an amendment requiring districts to only pay for the percentage of parents' attorneys based on findings. For instance, currently if there are 10 allegations and the parent prevails on one, the district must pay for all of the attorney fees. We would like for the district to only be responsible proportionally, so in this instance, the district would pay one tenth of the parents' attorney fees.

Student Services and Special Education Council

Trudy Gross

The Every Child Counts Symposium will be held Wednesday-Friday, February 5-7 at the JW Marriott Resort & Spa in Palm Desert: <https://www.acsa.org/Professional->

[Learning/Conferences/every-child-counts-symposium](#). The theme this year is Transforming Schools Into An Oasis of Hope. This Symposium is designed for both beginning and veteran educational leaders and focuses on the latest in the field of student services and special education. From model programs to classroom practices and legal advice this is a one-stop “shopping” experience. And the keynote speakers are always top notch with Dr. Pedro Noguera as part of this year’s line-up. Don’t delay, register today!!

Curriculum, Instruction and Accountability

Cheryl Jordan

The *Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment Council* met just before the Leadership Summit in San Francisco on November 6th. In addition to discussion about goals, ACSA’s Strategic Plan, and other business, Laura Preston shared with the group the power of relationship. It is important that our local legislators know who we are before we come to them with requests for support on legislation. How to do that? Simple, invite them for coffee, lunch, or a tour of your school/district. Investing in relationship will prime our legislators with a better understanding of our students because they have already established context with us.

Speaking of students’ needs, have you seen the latest on the power of curriculum in closing the opportunity gap? We know that strong teachers, high expectations, and building safe learning environments all assist in narrowing the gap. Multifaceted, cohesive and dynamic curriculum may be the lever that skilled teachers and educational leaders need to **close** the gap. For more details, take a look at this presentation which references work by [TNTP: Considerations for Curriculum Implementation](#).

CHARTER UPDATES

Cupertino Charter

Jeff Bernstein

The CUSD Board met on 12/2/19. We finalized the details of our social event which is scheduled for 12/9 -- this will be a fun event for members and non-members. We hope

to recruit new members at the event. We also talked about a professional development opportunity with astronaut Steve Smith and we discussed a few additional social/recognition events we hope to make happen this year. The next CUSD ACSA-CESAA board meeting will be held on 2/3/20.

Morgan Hill Educational Leadership Association

Patrick Buchser

We are currently working with our LCAP and SPSA's to align our practices with an equitable mindset to support all students through the MTSS process and effectively analyzing meaningful data. A strong effort is being put forth to increase positive attendance rates and progressive stages of assistance to support regular attendance. Our school District recently won the Golden Bell award for an effective LCAP and our team is attending the CSBA conference to receive this award.

Our school district is advocating strongly at the City Council level to prohibit storefront sales of marijuana and vaping products and providing data regarding the impact on mental health and physical well-being of our youth.

Our professional development is focusing on equity practices and providing effective feedback for walk-throughs and evaluation. We feel fortunate to have an amazing team with a unified vision for teaching and learning and the greater good of the community as a whole.