

# OCHO

## ACSA Region 8 Newsletter

Santa Clara County

Association of California School Administrators

Issue: #4

May 2018

### In This Issue

[President's Message](#)

[Programs Update](#)

[Awards Update](#)

[Member Services Update](#)

[Ed Options Update](#)

[Retirement Update](#)

[Equity Update](#)

[Berryessa Charter](#)

[Campbell Elem Charter](#)

[DeAnza Charter](#)

[Retirees Charter](#)

[SCCOE Charter](#)



## President's Message

**Norma Rodriguez, Region 8 President 2017-2018**  
[nrodriguez@musd.org](mailto:nrodriguez@musd.org)

As I write my last President's Message, stating that this year went by too fast is an understatement. *Our purpose-- to fully support Region VIII educational leaders in the pursuit of equity and excellence to meet the diverse needs of all students* -- kept us all focused throughout the year. Reflecting on our theme, our goals, and the many purposeful enriching learning opportunities, I realize that even though we might not know precisely the direct and indirect impact of our collective work, I am certain Region VIII continues to be a diverse thriving organization with a strong support network.



This year's theme, *Equity: Take a Bold Action!*, deeply resonated with me because accepting the Region VIII Presidency was probably one of the boldest actions I have ever taken. Following the steps of all of our amazing past presidents was something I never thought I would do; even thinking about it paralyzed me. Now, I am thoroughly convinced that ACSA is about the TEAM, our collective work and common purpose. This unique experience, as well as being surrounded by mentors ready to support me, afforded me the opportunity to experience *Equity* first hand. I define equity as providing opportunity and access. I owe this opportunity and access to Dr. Joel

Ruiz Herrera (Region VIII President 2006-07), my mentor and dear friend. He did more than introduce me to ACSA. He was persistent and insistent that I get my voice heard and he ensured I was successful. Joel was there for me whenever I needed him. I now understand the importance and our responsibility to be intentional as we continue to open the doors of Region VIII to a diverse group of leaders. Diversity has been and will continue to be our strength! Everyone of us has a unique story to tell. When all voices and all stories are told and heard, we become a stronger organization because we are exposed to unique perspectives and experiences that broaden our ways of learning and leading. I hope this year, you all felt your voice and perspective was encouraged, heard and valued.

As your President, I am forever grateful for the opportunity to work alongside such a fine group of committed leaders ready to take BOLD actions everyday. I am pleased to say that I felt very supported, inspired, and honored to learn from all of you. Throughout this year, we kept our clarity of purpose with measurable goals aligned to STATE ACSA's vision and mission. We kept our commitment to honor and seek diversity, as well as ensuring equity remained at the center of our work. Your leadership roles at the state, region, and charter level were essential in getting us closer to reaching all of our goals.

Leadership Matters! YOU matter and YOU make this Region one of the most dynamic and engaged regions in the state. Our commitment continues to ensure ACSA Region VIII fully supports all of Santa Clara County school site and central office leaders in understanding the barriers to learning and leading; as well as creating solutions towards more just and inclusive environments where all students fulfill their potential. I look forward to celebrating with all of you at our Annual Awards Ceremony, Friday, May 11, at the Corinthian Club starting at 5:00 p.m.

In Service, Norma Rodriguez

## Programs Update

**Sheila Walters and Dawnel Sonntag, Co-Chairs - Programs**  
[sheila.walters3@gmail.com](mailto:sheila.walters3@gmail.com) / [dsonntag@campbellusd.org](mailto:dsonntag@campbellusd.org)

We will be celebrating our Leadership winners, our Every Student Succeeding winner and a number of 1st Year Administrator Superstars at our 2018 ACSA Region 8 Leadership Awards Dinner and Ceremony. We will be gathering at the **Corinthian Grand Ballroom in Downtown San Jose (196 N. 3rd St.) on Friday, May 11th**. The doors to the ballroom will open at 5:30 and shortly after, we will enjoy dinner, the awards ceremony and dancing!

This year, Programs is very proud to say that we successfully hosted a number of events that furthered the professional development of Region 8 members and guests. We would like to thank our Leadership Forum speakers Sheila Murphy-Brewer, Deanna Sainten, April Mouton, and David Yusem for helping us stay focused on our goal of taking bold equity actions. We are also very grateful to all of our wonderful presenters at our Region 8 Mini-Conference; thank you for all of the work you do to support the learning of our members so they can best

support students! Finally, we are excited about the upcoming ACSA Leadership Awards on May 11 and look forward to seeing all of you there!

## Awards Update

Joann Vaars, Mala Ahuja and Alyssa Lynch, Co-Chairs - Awards  
jvaars@busdnet, malaahuja@sesd.org, alynch@metroednet

Congratulations to our Region 8 Administrator of 2018 award winners listed below:

Category	Name	District
Superintendent	Alyssa Lynch	Metro Ed
Middle Grades Principal	Chris Mosley	Berryessa
Elementary Principal	Anita Lee	Sunnyvale
Central Office Administrator	Leslie Mains	Cupertino
Human Resources	Stacy McAfee	Cupertino
Pupil Personnel	Rosanna Palomo	Campbell
Retired Administrator	Gerry Chartrand	Retired
Technology Administrator	Phil Benfield	SCCOE
Curriculum & Instruction	Denise Kilpatrick	Campbell
Every Student Succeeding	Joelle Drake	Oak Grove
Robert E. Kelly	Laurel Olsen	Retired

## Member Services Update

Jeff Bowman, VP - Member Services  
bowman\_jeff@cusdk&org

During the 2017-2018 school year, we have been focused on updating our membership rosters for each of our Charters within Region 8. In doing so, we hope to have a clean and updated list by the time we begin our 2018-2019 year. As you close out the year, it is vital to continue to work to grow our membership. As new administrators enter our Region 8, please share the benefits of ACSA membership and ensure he or she registers their change to joining Region 8 with State ACSA.

Additionally, ACSA will be updating its strategic plan, resources, and website. Please go to [acsa.org](http://acsa.org) and create an account as that is the easiest way to update your information and increase the benefits of your membership. Remember ACSA has many resources that are free through your membership.

ACSA by the numbers

- 17,864 current members in ACSA
- 2,076 new ACSA members entering our system
- Approximately 400 ACSA members at the capital lobbying on Legislation Acton Day

## Educational Options Council Update

Mary Ann Dewan, Council Rep

[maryann\\_dewan@sccoe.org](mailto:maryann_dewan@sccoe.org)

The last Educational Options Council Meeting of the year was held on March 16th in Sacramento at the ACSA office. The meeting featured a presentation from Fred Van Leuven, WASC president regarding aligning goals with WASC, SPSA and LCAP into a unified document.

The council also discussed ideas for advocacy for next year including support for enrolling and exiting youth from alternative and continuation schools. The council selected Mike Ilic to serve as president for next year and the present elect was selected, Elsie Simonovski. The next meeting of the council will be on September 14 in Sacramento.

## **Retirement Committee Update**

**Sheila McGann-Tiedt, Committee Rep**  
[smcganntiedt@yahoo.com](mailto:smcganntiedt@yahoo.com)

The ACSA State Retirement Committee met at the CalSTRS headquarters building in Sacramento to hear an overview of plans for a new office building and to take a tour of the existing structure. The current building itself is a wonderfully designed, environmentally forward structure housing hundreds of regular employees and temporary workers (contractors). CalSTRS projects needing 200 more stations for workers due to growth and the planned transition to just permanent employees. This change to all permanent employees will save money. CalSTRS has designated \$8 million to study a possible new building, one that will last the organization for the next 30 years. CalSTRS will be delivering a cost analysis to the CalSTRS board in November, 2018. The state legislature must approve a new building which, if built, is estimated to cost \$180 million. Other options being considered are: leasing an office building in downtown Sacramento in 2019 or purchasing modular structures that can be moved on-site to house 150 employees. The current CalSTRS site has land that can be utilized for either a new building or for modulars.

The committee questioned the need for a new office tower considering whether workers need to be on site every day at a formal work station when many workers are now working from home part of the time and many office buildings don't have work stations, just places to sit and plug in as needed. Conference rooms for meetings are usually part of the layout. In the next 30 years, we question the need for so much extra space and would rather see the satellite service center program looked at carefully. With only five service centers statewide (one is here in San Jose), the committee felt that individualized assistance was becoming very difficult for retirees to access. The question arises whether money wouldn't be better spent serving educators closer to home.

More discussion of this proposal by CalSTRS is needed. The State Retirement Committee will make a recommendation to ACSA.

The amount of money in the SBMA (Supplemental Benefit Maintenance Account) is currently 5.6 billion. This is more than the state's rainy-day fund. It is to be used solely for purchasing power however there is some talk about putting in the CalSTRS General Fund.

The Committee asks whether some of this extra fund can be a one time increase to members who retired before 1999. ACSA needs to have a voice in the CalSTRS discussion of the SMBA so the dollars aren't just swept into the general fund. The Committee is recommending working with CalRTA, they are asking for our support.

## Equity Committee Update

**Sheila Murphy-Brewer, Committee Rep**  
[smurphy@musd.org](mailto:smurphy@musd.org)

The Equity Committee had an amazing end of the year reflection day on Wednesday, May 2. We reviewed and rewrote our purpose and began coming up with SMART goals for the upcoming year. We hope to unveil all the work we have done after the new person at ACSA headquarters begins. We had a debriefing from Ivan Carillo in regards to SB 607 Willful Defiance - the equity committee's stance is to support K - 12, but it has been opposed by in large due to middle and high school. Many new Bills to address safety and mandatory SROs on campuses. Cooper Bill AB 2497 and SB1111 (ACSA Supports this Bill).

ACSA has put together a Fatal School Violence Task Force. The focus is on Prevention (mental health), Preparation (drills, facilities), Response, and Recovery (dealing with trauma). We will begin receiving one-page info sheets soon.

They still have not found anyone to replace Nichole Anderson so the posting has gone back out. Please visit [Edjoin](#) to apply if you are interested.

## Berryessa Charter News

**Virginia Pender, Charter President**  
[vpender@busd.net](mailto:vpender@busd.net)

It's hard to believe the end of the year is fast approaching. Berryessa is very busy starting to celebrate and honor those who have accomplished much this year. To begin with, on April 11th, we held our English Learner Reclassification Celebration where we celebrated and acknowledged 462 EL students that were being reclassified as English Proficient. Each student received a medal at the ceremony and were handed a certificate at each school site. We were honored to have Ms. Thelma Boac as the guest speaker and she was very inspirational with her message and empathy of being an English Learner herself. The entertainment was fantastic as we enjoyed dance routines from the Chinese and Mexican Cultures as well as had music students perform beautifully before and after the event. It all culminated with a treat for everyone to enjoy as things were winding down.

The district is also holding an Employee Recognition Event on May 10th. Employees will be recognized and honored for their multiple years of service and Employees of the Year will be announced as well. The event will take place from 3:00pm-5:00pm.

We are also very excited for the annual Berryessa Art and Wine Festival on May 12th from 10:00am-5:00pm. It will take place in the

field next to the Berryessa Community Center. All are welcome and it's a great day to get out and enjoy beautiful arts and crafts with the family.

## **Campbell Elementary Charter News**

**Dawnel Sonntag, Charter President**  
[dsonntag@campbellusd.org](mailto:dsonntag@campbellusd.org)

The CUSD Charter is winding down the year and starting to focus on next year. As we head into the last weeks of the school year, we are reflecting on our success as a charter this year. We had several successful events, both social and professional; among them were a holiday party and several "Admin Support Network" socials, as well as a CalSTRS presentation. We are also looking forward to celebrating three of our members at the ACSA Leadership Awards on May 11.

We are currently in the planning stages for our end of the year party and are starting recruitment for our 2018-19 board; we are facing the need for an almost completely new board next year because of term limits and board members having new jobs. This may make next year a bit difficult for the new board, but the CUSD Charter is committed to continuing to be an active presence within ACSA Region 8.

This year, Programs is very proud to say that we successfully hosted a number of events that furthered the professional development of Region 8 members and guests. We would like to thank our Leadership Forum speakers Sheila Murphy-Brewer, Deanna Sainten, April Mouton, and David Yusem for helping us stay focused on our goal of taking bold equity actions. We are also very grateful to all of our wonderful presenters at our Region 8 Mini-Conference; thank you for all of the work you do to support the learning of our members so they can best support students! Finally, we are excited about the upcoming ACSA Leadership Awards on May 11 and look forward to seeing all of you there!

## **DeAnza Charter News**

**Trudy Gross, Charter President**  
[trudy\\_gross@fuhsd.org](mailto:trudy_gross@fuhsd.org)

On March 28 the De Anza Charter held its 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Every Student Succeeding event. Administrators in Sunnyvale School District and the Fremont Union High School District were invited to nominate one student from their school site. Thirteen nominations were submitted. Charter members Mala Ahuja, Tasha Dean, Mike Gallagher, Anita Lee, Rachelle Romander and Nancy Sullivan reviewed all submissions and after much discussion selected one student to be advanced to the region. Continuing the tradition of hosting within the FUHSD, the event was held in the cafeteria at Homestead High School. This is a fun way to welcome future high school students. Trudy Gross, Mike Gallagher, Rachelle Romander, Mala Ahuja and Anita Lee presented various aspects of the program.

Each student was presented either by the administrator who had

nominated them or members of their school team. It was heartwarming and inspiring to hear the stories of perseverance and effort that have been part of the educational success of these students. The event was full of family and school team members, many of whom commented on what a joy and honor it was to recognize these students. Each student received a certificate of recognition and a gift card from Leigh's Favorite Books. The event and gift cards were generously sponsored by the Rotary Clubs of Cupertino and Sunnyvale. School board members from each district and a representative of each Rotary club congratulated the students.

The final event was to share with the audience that one student was selected for advancement to the region. Cage Anderson was named and presented with a star shaped trophy. This was an inspiring event and the Charter is already looking forward to 2019!

Honored students and their nominators were:

**Kathryn Li - 2<sup>nd</sup> grade**

Cherry Chase - Anita Lee, Principal

**Michael Inger - 4<sup>th</sup> grade**

Cumberland - Edy Mourtos, Principal;  
Laurie Carson, Asst. Principal

**Michaela Johnson - 4<sup>th</sup> grade**

Fairwood Explorer - Rachelle Romander, Principal

**Sebastian Sanchez - 4<sup>th</sup> grade**

Bishop - Suzanne Cicala, Principal

**Jose Luis Ramirez Valenzuela - 5<sup>th</sup> grade**

Lakewood Tech EQ - Pamela Cheng, Principal

**Allison Rodriguez - 5<sup>th</sup> grade**

Vargas - Kathryn Armstrong, Principal

**Ashley Rodriguez - 5<sup>th</sup> grade**

San Miguel - Christina Ballantyne, Principal

**Cage Anderson - 8<sup>th</sup> grade**

Sunnyvale Middle - Ron Gantvoort, Asst. Principal

**Abel Ochoa Valencia, Jr. - 8<sup>th</sup> grade**

Columbia Middle - Mary Beth Allman, Principal

**Narsedalia Juarez-Aguirre - 11<sup>th</sup> grade**

FUHSD Ed Options - Alison Coy, Director of Ed Options

**Matthew Kimball - 12<sup>th</sup> grade**

Cupertino High - Kami Tomberlain, Principal

**Daniel Milutin - 12<sup>th</sup> grade**

FUHSD Middle College - Trudy Gross, Assistant Supt.

**Apoorva Sirigineedi - 12<sup>th</sup> grade**

Monta Vista High - Mike White, Asst. Principal

## Retirees Charter News

**Sheila McGann-Tiedt, Charter President**  
[smcganntiedt@yahoo.com](mailto:smcganntiedt@yahoo.com)

Accolades to Will Ector for being named to the Black Legend Hall of Fame. He is the recipient of the Banks-Gage Education Award which is sponsored by the Black History Museum of Silicon Valley. Will has recently retired as Superintendent from the Berryessa Union School District where he was honored as Region 8's Superintendent of the Year, 2017.

The Retiree Charter has been informed that members Laurel Olsen and Gerry Chartrand have also been named for awards. Laurel has received the Region VIII and State ACSA Robert E. Kelly Award and Gerry has been selected as the Region VIII Retired Administrator for 2018. They will be honored at the Region VIII Annual Awards celebration on May 11 and Laurel will also be recognized at the State ACSA Leadership Summit in November.

At the upcoming General Meeting in May, the Charter will honor five aspiring administrators who will receive scholarships. The scholarship recipients have been invited to enjoy lunch and to describe how they will use their scholarships in the coming year. In addition, scholarship winners from last year have been invited to discuss how the award made a difference for them. A huge thanks to Barbara Malaspina who has organized this program for the past few years, to Region VIII and the members of the Retiree Charter for on-going support.

### **Retiring? Join ACSA Region VIII Retired Charter!**

- Local membership is \$25.00 per year for the Region VIII Retired Charter.
- State ACSA membership is a separate membership (\$125 per year or \$700 for life.)
- The benefits of belonging to the Region VIII Retired Charter include:

-four general luncheon meetings per year

-outstanding speakers on topics of interest to retired educators and opportunities to meet and make connections with other retired administrators.

- The Retiree Charter also sponsors several scholarships for aspiring administrators. These scholarships have helped to support top level candidates as they move forward in their careers.
- Critically, ACSA supports important issues affecting California schools and fights to maintain strong pensions.

Be aware that joining ACSA after retirement adds to the strength of an organization that is fighting for educators every day. It's a great way to keep up with what's happening in education, pensions, and much more.

**If you are planning to retire, please let us know. We look forward to welcoming new members at our 2018-2019 meetings!**

## **SCCOE Charter News**

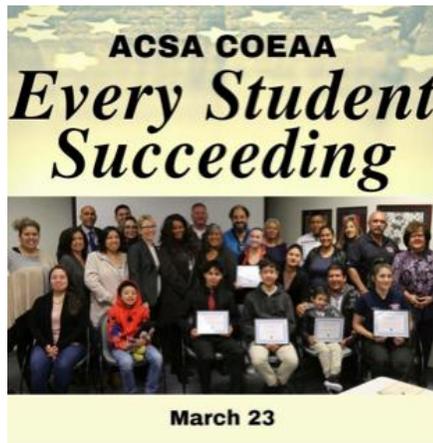
**Matthew Tinsley, Charter President**  
[matthew\\_tinsley@sccoe.org](mailto:matthew_tinsley@sccoe.org)

The Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) in partnership with the Metropolitan Education District (MetroED) and the County Office Administrators Association (COEAA) held its first Every Student Succeeding Breakfast on March 23. The breakfast and student scholarships were co-sponsored by a generous donation from Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo (AALRR).

Over 50 guests attended the ceremony, including the students, their families, Trustee King from SCCOE, Trustee Castellanos from

MetroED, and representatives from Alternative Education, Foster and Homeless Youth, Migrant Education, Opportunity Youth Academy, Special Education, State Preschool, Walden West, and MetroED's Adult Education and Silicon Valley Career Technical Education.

The event is in support of one of the County's four primary goals to improve student equity and access to high quality education and was an opportunity to honor students who exceed expectations and the adults who support them along the way. Nine students from County and MetroED were recognized for their outstanding achievements while overcoming challenges that are social, emotional, physical or financial. Dr. Dewan, MetroED's Superintendent Alyssa Lynch and COEAA President Dr. Matthew Tinsley assisted Meredith Brown of AALR in honoring students' successes and presenting certificates and \$100 scholarships.



On March 30, COEAA held its third Annual Chili Cook-Off. We had ten entries and about 40 guests sample the chilis and/or buy a bowl to raise funds for our Every Student Succeeding scholarships. Our panel of distinguished judges, Phil Benfield (recently named Region 8 and State Technology Administrator of the Year), Peter Daniels (SCCOE Chief of Public Affairs) and Alyssa Lynch (recently named Region 8 Superintendent of the Year) selected Brian Freund's entry as best chili - secret ingredient cocoa powder!

*Region 8 ACSA Members,*

*This is our fourth and final electronic issue of OCHO newsletter for the 2017-18 school year. We no longer print hard copies of Ocho newsletters.*

***Sincerely,***

*Virginia Fahimi, Editor of OCHO Newsletter  
Region 8 - Association of California School Administrators  
region8acsa@gmail.com*

[SafeUnsubscribe™ klarson@sccoe.org](#)

[Forward this email](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by [region8acsa@gmail.com](#) in collaboration with



Try it free today