

# REPORTER

## Regional XI's Annual Planning Retreat Sets Goals for 2013-2014

Region XI's Annual Planning Retreat was held on June 17, 2013 at Central Union School District's Board Room located in Lemoore with 22 administrators in attendance.

Tom Addington, Superintendent, Central Union School District and Region XI's 2013-2014 President, conducted the meeting with a wide range of topics on its agenda.

Region XI's leadership team members, under the leadership of Addington, spent much time in discussing and reviewing ACSA's strategic plan. The team decided to have Region XI focus and target three areas for the Region's goals during the 2013-2014 school year.

### **Goal 1 (Strategy I)**

We will be Authoritative Advocates for all matters pertaining to education and its leaders.

- 1) Developing a list of talking points representative of educational concerns for Region XI
- 2) Increasing Participation in Legislative Action (Single day, Multiple Contact and Local Involvement)
- 3) Increasing Connection with Local Representatives
- 4) Influencing the ACSA Voice with Region XI areas of importance

### **Goal (Strategy II)**

We will be the premier provider of an array of compelling learning experiences dedicated to developing the capacity of all education leaders

- 1) Surveying charter strengths, areas of expertise to build network of premier and compelling network opportunities.
- 2) Investigating the ability to co-sponsor with Educational Partners
- 3) Building Resource of workshops/curriculum/training within the Region Website as a repository of information
- 4) Supporting academies/ACSA Training sponsored during the Region XI area during the 2013-14 academic year

### **Goal (Strategy IV)**

We will build and maintain vibrant, purposeful networks of educational communities

- 1) Developing Job Alike Activities
- 2) Considering Board Position at Region XI (Mentoring/ Networking/ Job Alike) Networking Coordinator
- 3) Encouraging local charters to build Mentoring and job alike networking and interaction



*Attending this years Planning Retreat were Region XI Board Members: (L to R) Dr. John Snaveley State ACSA Board of Directos, Dr. Blanca Cavazos, President Elect, and Jose Morales, Past President.*

Addington led the group in an variety of topics following the goal settings session. He shared the various responsibilities of Region XI Board members. A review of the organization's by laws took place. There is interest in creating a new position for Professional Development.

Region XI's Professional Development opportunities were announced. The Region will be hosting an Innovative Technology Academy at Lemoore and a Principal's Academy at Visalia. The Leadership Summit (ACSA's Annual Conference) is another opportunity for professional development. It will be held in San Jose (November 7-9, 2013)

Other topics addressed at the planning retreat included:

- Legislative action update given by Terri Rufert, Region XI Vice President, Legislative Action.
- Set the Region XI's Budget for 2013-2014 in the amount of \$63,050.00. It will be presented for approval at the September 19, 2013 Region Board Meeting

*(continued on page 7)*

## Presidents Message



I hope by now everyone is in the swing of things and that your school year is going well. ACSA is deep into the mission of revitalizing our association and setting the path for years to come. We have our key elements for this shift which is focused around the nine points developed from the strategic plan.

For the 2013-14 school year, each of our region charters have also developed focus areas in line with the region's target areas.

Wonderful things are happening in Region XI and it is exciting to hear of the networking, mentoring, and legislative activity that each charter is undertaking. With respect to legislative activity, I want to remind you about the ease in which you can use CapWiz in order to send messages of importance to your legislators. As legislative policy is being developed, ACSA will send out requests for our members to provide feedback through the CapWiz interface. On ACSA's website you can locate this easily under the take action legislative button which can be found at the following link - <http://capwiz.com/acsa/home/>. I encourage each of you to make sure you are making those connections with your legislators as well as the local staffers within your area

Finally, ACSA is seeking input from our members to refine the One Voice initiative. This initiative was initially developed last year, and ACSA is revising the initiative to allow input from our members around key components in the development of this platform. Opinions and ideas will be sought from charters and the information will be forwarded on to State ACSA. Please look for this at your charter level.

In the coming months, our region meetings will host visits from our president, Dr. Marc Ecker, our president elect, Dr. Randall Delling, and our executive director, Dr. Wes Smith. More information on these dates will be shared to your charter presidents, and I would encourage a strong delegation in attendance when our state leaders join us.

On a separate note, I encourage each of you to become involved, find your place, find your passion, and reach out and get engaged with ACSA. The most important aspect is networking, moving out of our comfort zone, reaching out to new colleagues, and discussing and learning from one another, for it is through our bond that we are strong for the students of California.

This is an exciting time in education with the move toward common core and 21st-century learning, we have a great opportunity to empower students for the coming century!

All the best,

Tom Addington  
Region XI President

## Region XI Membership Scoreboard

Charter	Oct. 2012	Oct. 2013	(+/-)
East Kern	63	59	(-4)
West Kern	300	299	(-1)
Kings	101	105	(+4)
Tulare	305	353	(+48)
Inyo/Bodie	19	24	(+5)
CSUB Student	5	4	(-1)
Non-Assigned	10	6	(-4)
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>803</b>	<b>850</b>	<b>(+47)</b>

## "WHAT THEY SAID"

"When it comes to school leadership, you deserve the full "star treatment." You balance diverse interest groups and difficult school budgets with high academic achievement and youth development."

**Jim Vidak**, Tulare County Superintendent of Schools

*Tulare County's Annual Summer Institute, Tulare, June 19, 2013*

"We are the experts. We would like to plan a junket to go to Sacramento to meet our State Legislators and present our ACSA agenda."

**Rob Hudson**, Kings County Charter President

*Charter Board Meeting, Lemoore, August 30, 2013*

"I want to commend your Tulare County Charter for your outstanding increase in your ACSA membership. Your current membership is 353 members."

**David Tonini**, Region XI Executive Director

*Tulare Charter Board Meeting, Tulare, October 11, 2013*

### AN ACSA REGION XI PUBLICATION

**Tom Addington**, President

**David Tonini**, Executive Director

**Richard A. Schlagel**, Editor

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## AROUND THE REGION

- Each of the five local charters had outstanding attendance of members at their first board meeting of the 2013-2014 school year.
- West Kern Charter, Matt Diggle, President, will be seeking sponsorships for several of their events. ACSA is currently sponsoring their Charter Board Meeting Breakfast held at Hodel's, Bakersfield prior to the regular Region XI Board Meetings.
- Region XI is once again co-sponsoring its Annual Fall Conference with CUE. It will be held at Cal State, Bakersfield on Saturday, October 19, 2013. Val Brown, Region XI Vice-President is Chairperson for this year's event.
- Robert Groeber, Vice President, Tulare County Charter is serving as Chairperson for this year's Annual Charter Conference. It is scheduled for Tuesday, February 18, 2014.
- Inyo/Mono Charter's President Don Clark is to be commended for his outstanding leadership with his Charter responsibilities. The Charter had its first meeting of the new school year on Monday, October 14. It was held in Bishop. David Tonini, Region XI Executive Director and Dick Schlagel, Newsletter/Handbook Editor, attended the Charter meeting.
- Ernie Bell, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources, Sierra Sands Unified School District, gave a very informative presentation at East Kern's Charter Meeting held on October 7, 2013 at 58 Cafe in Tehachapi. His topic was: Active Shooter, Security and Vulnerability. It focused on conducting a direct training program on safety at school sites.
- Greg Henry, Kings County Charter's President-Elect and this year's Annual Conference Chairperson, reports a very successful conference with approximately 150 administrators in attendance. It was held on Thursday, September 26 at Pioneer Elementary School District, in Hanford. The attendance was very outstanding as Kings Charter's Membership is currently 105 members.

## COMMENTS FROM YOUR REGION XI EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Hope your school year is off to a great start and the new state school funding formula is benefiting your district and school. ACSA is your resource if you need questions answered or strategies to follow when negotiating with your bargaining units regarding the additional funds you are receiving.

Two hot topics that your Association is addressing are transgender students and student suspensions. Guidelines are being developed to address how to meet the requirements of the law regarding transgender students. If you have a student or students who are transgender, contact state ACSA for guidance. Regarding student suspension, several civil rights organizations are pushing legislation to limit what students can be suspended for. A particular focus is wilful defiance (K). Their concern is that a disproportionate number of minority students are being suspended for wilful defiance. ACSA is speaking on your behalf regarding this issue and recognizes more training regarding alternatives to suspension for school administrators is one way to address this issue rather than to pass a law that restricts what you need to do to keep your campus safe and keep excellent learning environments in your classrooms. One suggestion is, when suspending students, to not use (K) if you can list another justification for student suspension.

We need your involvement in legislative advocacy. When you receive Legislative Alerts from ACSA, it takes less than 5 minutes

to respond. The letter has already been written for you. There are a couple of places you insert some personal information and comments and then you click send. Your letter is then emailed to you representatives. It is easy and important to do. Many times your representatives just count the letters for and against a bill with little time spent on the content. Your voice counts. ACSA with its 14,000 members can have even more influence on your behalf if all members respond to Legislative Alerts.

Mark your calendar for some important dates:

January 23 - Region Delegate Assembly in Bakersfield- Dr. Marc Ecker, the president of ACSA will be the speaker

April 10 - Region meeting in Bakersfield - Wes Smith, the Executive Director of ACSA is the speaker

All members are invited and encouraged to attend these two Region Assemblies. Contact your Charter President and plan to attend. In many instances car pooling is arranged.

All Region and Charter meetings are open to all ACSA members. You don't need to be an officer, board member or delegate to attend.

If I can be of assistance to you in any way, please contact me by email davidto02@comcast.net or by phone 559 280 6228

**David Tonini**  
Executive Director - Region XI

# TULARE COUNTY SPONSORS ANNUAL SUMMER INSTITUTE 2013

The Tulare County Office of Education and Tulare County Charter ACSA Co-Sponsored the Annual Summer Institute 2013. This professional Development and Awards event was held at the Edison Energy Education Center in Tulare on June 19, 2013.

Jim Vidak, Tulare County Superintendent of Schools welcomed the administrators.

"We know we have the best students in the state of California, but we also have the best school administrators in California," Vidak said in his opening remarks.

"I appreciate you Jim for your County Office of Education's support and its partnership with our Tulare County Charter ACSA," Frank Silveira, Tulare County Charter President, said as he gave greetings following Vidak's welcome.

This year's theme was: "We're rolling out the red carpet for you!" The red carpet event included a keynote speaker, a morning and afternoon break-out session, a delicious buffet lunch, and lively entertainment. Awards were given to Tulare County Administrators of the year along with student scholarships. Plenty of door prizes were given out at the conclusion of the institute.

Judy Carter, stand-up comic and author, gave the keynote address. "Laughing your way out of stress" was the title of her presentation, she shared some ways and techniques on how school administrators can deal with stress.

"It's not what happens in our life; it is what we do with it," Carter said in her opening remarks. "The best medicine is still laughter," Carter said. "Look for something that went right, not wrong."

She also urged administrators to use positive remarks. "Positive remarks can be powerful. Use the power of appreciation and express it in various ways with different problems and challenges you face," Carter said.

Carter encouraged the administrators to share their story, their life and their message. "You, your story, your journey has a message," Carter, in her closing remarks said, "There

is a small space between you as a victim, and you as a victor, tell your story."

Attendees had a choice to participate in four morning breakout sessions. They included: School Crisis Response: Managing active shooter incidents; The eight most critical expulsion errors; First look at the new state budget and common core mathematics update.

The four afternoon sessions were: School Crisis Response; Health care reform; Health plans overview, fire safety in schools and common core ELA/ELD update.

Following the delicious buffet lunch, Tulare County Charter ACSA presented an array of awards to administrators of the year and 12 student scholarships. The event concluded with the drawing for door prizes. 13 donors donated this year's prizes.

Judy Carter started her career as a magician and later as a stand-up comic, appearing on over one hundred television shows. She was the first woman to play the Close-Up Gallery at Hollywood's Magic Castle. She also formed Comedy Workshop Productions, a school for aspiring comics. She is the author of Standup Comedy and The Comedy Bible. Carter's success in corporate comedy has generated feature stories in The Wall Street Journal, Los Angeles Times, New York Times and Success Magazine. Her pioneering approach to turning "problems into punchlines" has been profiled on CNN, ABC World News and Oprah.



*Keynote Address*



## REGION XI LEADERSHIP TEAM 2013-2014



**Tom Addington**  
*President*



**Blanca Cavazos**  
*President-Elect*



**Valerie Brown**  
*Vice President*



**Terri Rufert**  
*Vice President  
Legislative Action*



**Jana Freeman**  
*Secretary*



**David Bowling**  
*Treasurer*



**Dr. John Snavelly**  
*State ACSA Board  
Director*



**Dr. Craig Wheaton**  
*State Superintendency  
Council*



**Kirsti Smith**  
*Past-President*



**Jeff Vandernoer**  
*Member Services*



**David Tonini**  
*Executive Director*

## REGION XI REPRESENTATIVES 2013-2014

### ACSA COUNCIL

Picture  
Not  
Available

**Terri Nuckols**  
Adult Education



**Warcester Williams**  
Educational Options



**Scott Chennault**  
Student Services &  
Special Education



**Robert Groeber**  
Business Services



**Deanna Clarke**  
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**Craig Wheaton**  
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Accountability



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ACSA/Xerox Alliance  
State Appointed



**Cindee Rael**  
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tion & Accountability



**Fernie Marroquin**  
Secondary Education

### ACSA COMMITTEE



**Courtney Kirchman**  
Co-Administration



**Bill Black**  
Retirement



**Sarah Koligian**  
Equity Achievement  
& Diversity



**Jeffrey Vandernoer**  
Member Services



**Jose Morales**  
Legislative Policy



**Philomena Hall**  
CAPEA



## KINGS COUNTY CHARTER SPONSORS 41st ANNUAL FALL CONFERENCE

Approximately 150 school administrators were in attendance at Kings County Charter ACSA as it conducted its 41st Annual Fall Conference. The event with its theme "It's a Jungle Out There" was held at Pioneer Middle School in Hanford on September 26, 2013.

Participants had the opportunity to attend two Breakout Sessions. These various professional development activities included an array of current educational topics: Elementary School Principals Networking, The Brown Act, Kings County Office of Education SARB, Updates on English Language Learners.

Other break out session topics were: What's New in Student Discipline, Common Core-Languages Arts, Curriculum Associates 1-Ready, Cyber Bullying, School Safety, ELD Standards, Employee Free Speech in the Electronic Era and Illuminate Education.

Adonai Mack, Legislative Advocate, State ACSA was the feature speaker and brought the keynote address.

A number of very favorable comments were made by various administrators attending this year's conference:

- They liked the round table discussion (new this year). The content was and should continue to be timely.
- The principal's round table was very informative.
- Continue the legal topics.
- Information about how to align all school district plans for both state and federal monies was very helpful.

Other participants were very positive commenting how helpful the sessions dealing with behavioral supports available to our students and student transgender information.

Greg Henry, Charter President-Elect and Conference Chairperson, shared results of the evaluation survey forms. Areas receiving a very favorable report included Conference Registration Process, Break-Out Presenters Sessions, and Content of the Conference Sessions.

The length of the sessions (45 minutes) received an outstanding ratings with 86% of the participants giving it a "Just About Right" evaluation. Only 14% evaluated the sessions too short and no one rated the sessions too long.

50% of the administrators rated the conference "Excellent" and 23% rated it very good. No attendee evaluated it as "Poor" or "Very Poor." Henry reported that there were nine presenters and 22 vendors for this year's conference.

Serving on this year's planing committee: Elizabeth Lozanto, Heiko Sweeney, Scott Chennault, John Raven, Antoniete Draxler, Susie Jimenez, Jennifer Solis, Kathi Felder, Karl Anderson and Greg Henry, Chairman.



*Adonai Mack, State ACSA and Greg Henry, Principal Pioneer Middle School taking a break in between sessions.*

*(continued from page 1)*

- Job A Like/Mentoring Connections shared by Bill Black and David Tonini
- Executive Director's update on charters, Region XI and state ACSA events and activities. David Tonini thanked Kirsti Smith and commended her for a job well done as the Region President for 2012-2013.
- Region XI Annual Fall Conference Report by Val Brown, Region XI Vice President and Conference Chairperson. The Region will partner with CUE for the third year. It will be held on Saturday, October 19 at CSUB.
- Region Charter Membership update was shared by Jeff Vandernoer, Region XI Member Services Representative, and David Tonini, Region XI Executive Director.
- Newsletter and Handbook report was given by Dick Schlagel, Editor. Both publications may be found on our state ACSA website ([www.acsa.org](http://www.acsa.org)). The newsletter will also be emailed quarterly for each of the Regions 850 members.

Addington shared several pertinent remarks during the course of the planning session:

"If you have concerns, need information, etc., you should contact John Snavelly, Superintendent, Porterville Unified School District, who is our Region XI Director on State ACSA Board of Directors."

"Reach out to those you are responsible for as a council or committee Representative for Region XI.

"Each Charter is unique and could be a resource for other Charters in the Region on various topics."

"Communication is a key topic. We can grow our membership when we step out of our comfort zones and invite non-members to attend activities of ACSA."

The Planning session concluded with the awarding of various door prizes.





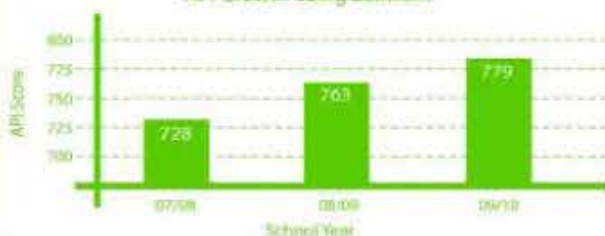
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## EAST KERN CHARTER'S MEETING FOCUSES ON SCHOOL SECURITY

Melissa Christman, President, East Kern Charter, conducted her first Charter Business Meeting. It was held at the 58 Cafe in Tehachapi on October 7, 2013 with 20 members in attendance. Paul Press, Region XI Director and Charter Membership Representative, gave an update on Charter Membership. He reported a current membership of 62 members. He also shared that the Charter's membership goal for 2013-2014 would be a 10% increase.

"Encourage your teachers interested in administration to join ACSA as associate members," Press said. Region and Charter goals for 2013-2014 were shared by Melissa Chritsman, Charter President.

### **ACSA East Kern Charter 2013-2014 Goals:**

1. We will be authoritative advocates for all matters pertaining to education and its leaders.
  - a. Membership
  - b. Legislative Action
2. We will be the premier provider of an array of compelling learning experiences to developing the capacity of all educational leaders.
  - a. Financial / Sponsor / High School Scholarships / ACSA Academies
3. We will build and maintain vibrant, purposeful networks of educational communities.
  - a. Network

The meeting's special feature was a presentation by Ernie Bell, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources, Sierra Sands Unified School District, focusing on school security. The title of his power point program was "Active Shooter, Security and Vulnerability." It outlined a very important training program which districts could incorporate at their various school sites. The major points of Bell's presentation were:

1. Responding to an active shooter
2. School safety and security
3. Vulnerability assessment

"The time factor and an alternative evacuation site are very important factors," Bell said. "Keeping an up-to-date training program focusing on good communication is very vital for each school site". The Charter's next meeting is scheduled for December 2, 2013.



*East Kern Charter keynote presenter, Ernie Bell, Human Resources, Sierra Sands Unified School District. Joanna Rummer, Superintendent SSUSD, was in attendance at the Charter's Fall meeting.*

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## KINGS COUNTY CHARTER CELEBRATES 41st ANNUAL CONFERENCE



*Participants listening to Benjamin Rosenbaum from Lozano Smith, talking about "What's New in Student Discipline"*



*Dave Tonini talking to Liz Lozano Assistant Superintendent-Central Union Elementary, about the benefits of ACSA at the ACSA Vendor Table*



*Heidi Woodward and Jeanette Sasser, Sasser Specialties, talking about products that they offer.*



*Brian Curwick, Instructional Technology Services-- Fresno County Office of Education, talking about the Language Arts Common Core Implementation*



*Tammy Airheart, Math Consultant Kings County Office of Education, talking about the Math Common Core Implementation.*



*Shawn Kiehn, Lexia Media talking to Juan Ruiz, Principal Avenal High School and Eric Smyers, Assistant Principal Avenal High School about the benefits of Lexia.*





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## WEST KERN CHARTER GOALS

### Goal #1

Provide relevant professional development opportunities to administrators and teachers in the West Kern Charter service area.

### Goal #2

Co-sponsor a professional development conference with school districts within the Charter's service area.

### Goal #3

Seek sponsorships for Charter activities such as the Secretary's Day Luncheon and the West Kern Charter Award Ceremony.

### Goal #4

Increase membership by promoting ACSA with district level administrators.



Region XI Planning Retreat  
"Coffee Break"



## INYO/MONO CONDUCTS CHARTER MEETING AT BISHOP

Inyo/Mono Charter, the smallest of the five Region XI Charters, had 12 members in attendance at their first 2013-2014 meeting. Don Clark, Superintendent/Principal, Eastern Sierra Unified School District, conducted the business meeting following the dinner.

Clark shared events he participated with other Region XI administrators. He spoke of his attendance at State ACSA's Annual Legislative Action Day held in Scaramento last spring. He indicated in his remarks how meaningful this event was as they met with various legislators throughout the day. He also shared highlights of Region XI's Annual Planning Retreat held in June at Central Union School District in Lemoore.

David Tonini, Region XI's Executive Director, gave an update of Region XI and State ACSA events and activities. Topics shared by Tonini included: State and Region Annual Awards for administrators, Annual Leadership Summit held next month in San Jose, Region XI's Delegate Assemblies, Social Security issue which now takes away at least 1/3 of a members earning, Legislation, ACSA academies and professional development activities.

Inyo/Mono needs to recruit a Director for a 3 year term on the Region XI Board. The Charter is also looking at increasing the number of members on its Charter Board.

Dick Schlagel, Newsletter/Handbook Editor, concluded the fast moving meeting by awarding President Clark with a \$50.00 bill for being the winner of a 10 question quiz titled: "How's your ACSA I.Q.?" Rosanne Lamporiello, Charter Secretary, placed second and received \$10 for her outstanding efforts on the quiz. Their next Charter meeting will be held in December.



*Inyo/Mono Charter Meeting...(L to R)  
Don Clark, President; David Tonini, Region XI Executive Director, and  
Steven Childs, Principal, Eastern Sierra Unified School District.*

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# REGION XI CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## November 2013

1	Tulare Charter, Apple Annies, Tulare	7:00 am
6-9	State ACSA Leadership Summit, San Jose, CA	
15	Kings County Charter Board Meeting, Kings Co. Office of Education, Lemoore	7:00 am
19	Tulare County Charter Retirees Breakfast, Apple Annies, Tulare	8:30 am
21	West Kern Charter Board Meeting, Hodels, Bakersfield	7:00 am
21	Region XI Board Meeting, Hodels, Bakersfield	8:00 am

## December 2013

2	East Kern Charter Meeting, Bernardinos, Inyo Kern	5:30 pm
19	Region XI Board Meeting, Video Confrence, Charter Sites TBD	8:00 am
20	Kings County Charter Board Meeting, Kings Co. Office of Education, Lemoore	7:00 am

## January 2014

10	Tulare Charter, Apple Annies, Tulare	7:00 am
17	Kings County Charter Board Meeting, Kings Co. Office of Education, Lemoore	7:00 am
23	West Kern Charter Board, Hodels, Bakersfield	7:00 am
23	Region XI Delegate Assembly, Hodels, Bakersfield	8:30 am

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- **College/Adult Education** •  
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