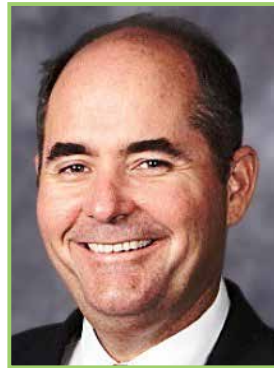




# REPORTER

## INTERVIEW WITH TOM ROONEY

*Tom Rooney, Superintendent, Lindsay Unified School District, was selected by the U.S. Department of Education as one of 100 top school leaders from across America to participate in the first-ever National Connected Superintendents Summit held at the White House on November 19, 2014.*



learners must leave our system as graduates ready for college, for a career, or for creatively designing their own future. It is my responsibility to provide the leadership necessary to empower and motivate every member of the organization to reach their fullest academic, personal, and professional potential. When each member of the organization is serving to their fullest capacity with an uncompromisingly learner-centered focus, then our learners will become the type of person our society deserves...citizens who are self-motivated, hard-working people who persevere through difficult times, are persistent in accomplishing goals, are culturally aware and globally responsible and see themselves as economic producers prepared to engage in solving the world's future challenges. As Superintendent, I am responsible, in part, for what our graduate becomes as an adult member of our society.

### 1) What has been your training, teaching, and administrative experience?

I have had the great fortune of loving every single day of my professional career. Getting up each morning looking forward to the challenges and rewards the education profession brings is what has been my only experience for the past 24 years. From teaching first graders how to read and problem solve, to working with upper elementary and middle school-aged learners on becoming people of character, to collaborating with my teaching colleagues on perfecting the art and science of teaching, to leading several school communities as an Elementary Vice Principal and Principal, to orchestrating the teaching and learning efforts as an Assistant Superintendent in Lindsay Unified, to empowering and motivating all stakeholders as a Superintendent...I have lived a rich and rewarding career as a public servant in education.

### 2) What is your major role as Superintendent in Lindsay Unified School District?

As the Superintendent of Schools in Lindsay Unified, it is ultimately my responsibility to ensure that each learner in our care leaves our school system with the academic knowledge and skills and personal attributes that will ensure they are a positive contributor to our democratic society. Lindsay

### 3) What are the characteristics of an effective educational leader?

Effective educational leaders are in the business of developing the human potential of learners, parents, classified staff, learning facilitators, and leaders. They fully embrace their responsibility to lead people to higher levels of effectiveness in order to bring the greatest good to our society. They serve with courage, conviction, and are mission driven; but most importantly, they serve with deep humility. The most effective educational leaders never look at their position as one of power or authority, but rather as one of service. They recognize the fact that they really are not smarter or better than anyone else; rather, they recognize that they must rely on the collective intelligence of all members of the organization in order to realize the unique vision for their organization. An effective educational leader is one who puts the needs of the learner at the very center of their work. With the learner at the center, with that great responsibility, the leader becomes highly committed to hiring, training, developing, and supporting all members of the organization to become invested in the learners they serve.

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## Presidents Message



One of the 2014-15 goals for Region XI is to build and maintain vibrant, purposeful networks of educational communities. At each Region meeting, we schedule time for 60-second networking among our members and also encourage our presenters to include audience participation in

their plan. A recent presentation by Nicole Anderson (ACSA's Diversity and Equal Access Executive) and Frank Silveira (Region XI representative to the Equity, Achievement & Diversity for Success Committee) focused on current equity issues and challenges. Nicole and Frank began their presentation by giving each table of participants a description of a historical event in education and asking members to discuss what resonated with them regarding the event assigned to their group. Some events dated back to the late 1700's. When the timeline was examined as a whole, it was apparent the challenge of equity in education was not new to educators. The second part of the presentation entailed the examination of Region XI data (grouped by charters) that included the ethnicity and gender of Region XI leadership, the ethnicity of administrators by county and state, and student demographics by county and state. As groups shared their analysis of the data, I mentally compared the work we were doing to that of scientists who identify a problem or situation, collect, group and sort data so they may look for patterns that might not otherwise be apparent. Through the analysis of these patterns, scientists attempt to better understand what they are studying in order to be able to influence or change the outcome. In addition, scientists publish and share their findings and methodologies so that as a profession, they can constantly improve their practice. As Nicole and Frank concluded their presentation, they encouraged participants to share their successful strategies for ensuring equity in their educational programs. The presentation was successful in not only in challenging members to examine their strategies for achieving equity, but was also effective in forming vibrant, purposeful networks of educational communities among Region XI members.

Kudos to our members who are actively and routinely achieving our Region XI goals!

Dr. Blanca Cavazos  
Region XI President

## Region XI Membership Scoreboard

Charter	April 2014	April 2015	(+/-)
East Kern	60	69	(+9)
West Kern	309	318	(+9)
Kings	108	119	(+11)
Tulare	407	443	(+36)
Inyo/Mono	25	25	(0)
CSUB Student	4	9	(+5)
Non-Assigned	7	1	(-6)
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>920</b>	<b>984</b>	<b>(+64)</b>

*Congratulations for this 7% increase over a year ago.  
Let's reach that special Milestone... 1,000 Members... by June 30, 2015*

## "WHAT THEY SAID"

"Dr. Silberberg did a great presentation at our West Kern Charter's Networking Social. I believe he is the salesman for ACSA."

**Matt Diggle, West Kern Charter President**

*West Kern Charter Board Meeting, Hodel's, Bakersfield, March 5, 2015*

"The cornerstone of the Vergara v. California ruling cannot be debated. Every student in California has a constitutional right to a high-quality education and equitable access to effective educators."

**Wesley Smith, ACSA Executive Director**

*EDCAL, January 12, 2015*

"The Vice-President, Legislative Action (VPLA) Committee has done amazing work under the leadership of Lisa Gonzales. I would like to continue that work, as well as work on motivating and empowering all our own members to get involved in our legislative process. We have so many amazing educational leaders, by we have to find the time in our busy schedules to work together to define what our students need to succeed."

**Terri Rufert, Superintendent, Sundale Union Elementary School District and Candidate for State ACSA Vice-President Leg. Action**

### AN ACSA REGION XI PUBLICATION

**Dr. Blanca Cavazos, President**

**David Tonini, Executive Director**

**Richard A. Schlagel, Editor**

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Email: raschlagel1927@yahoo.com

*"Serving Kern, Kings, Inyo, Mono and Tulare Counties"*

## ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETINGS

Charter	Date	Time	Location	Contact
East Kern	April 27, 2015	5:30 pm	The Grape Leaf Restaurant, Ridgecrest	Melisa Christman (760) 499-1690 • mchristman@ssusd.org
West Kern	June 4, 2015	6:00 pm	Rio Bravo Country Club Bakersfield	Matt Diggle (661) 588-3550 • madiggle@fruitvale.net
Kings County	May 15, 2015	4:00 pm	Dowd's Cabana 1810 N. Douty St. Hanford CA	Greg Henry (559) 583-5912 • ghenry@hjuhsd.k12.ca.us
Tulare County	June 17, 2015	1:00 pm	Edison Educational Center Tulare	Dr. Donya Wheeler (559) 592-9421 • dwheeler@exeter.k12.ca.us
Inyo/Mono	April 29, 2015	5:00 pm	Bishop	Don Clark (760) 932-7443 • dclark@esusd.org
Region XI	May 7, 2015	10:00 am	Hodel's Restaurant Bakersfield	Dr. Blanca Cavazos (661) 763-2330 • bcavazos@taft.k12.ca.us

## COMMENTS FROM YOUR REGION XI EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Spring is here and the end of the school year is quickly coming to an end. Your Association, Charter and Region Officers have been working hard on your behalf.

On March 15 and 16, twenty three administrators from the Region traveled to Sacramento to participate in Legislative Action Day sponsored by ACSA. Our Region had one of the larger groups attend. Close to four hundred ACSA members representing

all Regions in the state walked the floors of the state capitol talking to legislators who represent their Regions. The talking points were eliminating the district cap on reserves, additional funding for Common Core implementation, the need for a state school construction bond on the ballot, and continuing the funding for EL students for two years after they are re-designated. Tom Addington, your Vice President of Legislative Action, did an excellent job coordinating meetings with legislators and keeping the discussions on topic. One thing that became very evident is that our Region Legislators would like to visit schools and districts to see what our needs are and celebrate the good things that are going on.

In May, we celebrate the great work of School Administrators in our Region at the annual Awards Luncheon for Region Administrators of Year recipients in Bakersfield. Twenty three Region administrators will be recognized. Charters will also be recognizing their Charter winners in April, May, and June at scheduled events. Two Region 11 winners will be recognized in November at the Annual ACSA Summit in Sacramento. A big congratulations goes out to Kathleen Green-Martins, State

Confidential Employee of the Year and John Werner, State Adult Education Administrator of the Year.

Student Scholarship applications are being reviewed and winners should be announced in April and May. Congratulations to our Every Student Succeeding winner from Porterville, Eduardo Cardenas.

Our membership total for the Region is fast approaching 1,000. Regular members can join for \$2 a day and students can join for 25 cents a day through June. All new members who join between now until we reach 1,000 members will have their name put into a drawing for \$1,000 towards a regular membership and a year membership paid for a student, retired or associate member.

Some important dates to mark on your calendar:

- April 27 East Kern Charter Board Meeting and Recognition Dinner
- April 29 Inyo/Mono Charter Board Meeting and Recognition Dinner
- May 1 Tulare Charter Retirement Dinner
- May 7 Region Delegate Assembly and Awards Luncheon
- May 15 Kings Charter Officer Election/Reception
- June 17 Tulare Charter Board Meeting/Administrator Institute/Recognition Luncheon

A very important part of my job is assisting our members. Call me at 559 280 6228 or email me at davidto02@comcast.net if I can be of assistance

**David Tonini**  
*Executive Director - Region XI*

## CHARTER CHAT



Our annual spring conference was held on March 9th at Edison Education Center in Tulare. The event was a huge success thanks to our charter Vice President, Lucy Vanscyoc. Approximately 150 Tulare County administrators attended the event with Dr. Ernie Mendes presenting an impactful key note on being present to lead the future.

The charter will host our next networking social on April 16th poolside at the Visalia Marriot providing local administrators with the opportunity to collaborate with colleagues in a casual atmosphere.

Our third annual charter golf tournament will be held on April 19th at Visalia Oaks Golf Course. This fundraiser enables our charter to provide scholarships for Tulare County students.

We will have 15 Tulare County administrators recognized at the region's Administrator of the Year Awards ceremony May 7th in Bakersfield.

*Donya Wheeler, Tulare County President*



1. We held our winter social on March 4th, and it was well attended. We had a few non-ACSA members attend, and they were provided an application and information about joining ACSA.

2. We had 3 Kings Charter members attend Leg Action Day in March, with their report on activities coming at our next charter meeting on April 10th.

3. Student Scholarships are being turned in, with the final deadline for submitting is April 10th. We will be revisiting our Scholarship requirements for next year, as we need to be in line with the other charters and regions with our requirements and deadlines.

4. Nominations for officers and board positions are currently open, and Kings Charter is looking for Secretary, Treasurer, Vice President, and 3 Board positions. End of Year vote and social is Friday, May 15th.

5. Administrative Professionals Day is Wednesday, April 22nd at West Hills College, with the theme, "Time at the Beach". Luncheon starts at 12:00, and contact Glenda Woolley at [glendawoolley51@gmail.com](mailto:glendawoolley51@gmail.com) for more information.

6. The annual Tom Lasek Golf Tournament (fun tournament, not fund raising tournament) will be held on Friday, June 19th at Lemoore Golf Course. For more information contact tournament chair, Heiko Sweeney at [hsweeney@central.k12.ca.us](mailto:hsweeney@central.k12.ca.us).

*Greg Henry, Kings County President*



East Kern Charter had 5 members attend Legislative Action Day in Sacramento on March 15-16. Thanks to Kirsti Smith, Bonny Porter, Mike Vogenthaler and Heather Richter for their awesome contributions in supporting ACSA's positions. We met directly with Assemblywoman Shannon Groves and Senator Jean Fuller. All of us agree it was a

worthwhile, professional experience well orchestrated by our ACSA legislative action team. Special kudos to Tom Addington for his leadership.

Congratulations to Mike Vogenthaler who will be East Kern Charter's representative on the region board. Kirsti Smith has filled in this year for departed Clara Finneran until a replacement could be found. Mike will be a great asset to Region XI's board.

On April 27th we will be recognizing our Administrators of the Year and student scholarship winner at our yearly banquet at The Grape Leaf Restaurant in Ridgecrest.

*Melisa Christman, East Kern President*

## CHARTER CHAT



The West Kern Charter held its first annual social/mixer on February 19, 2015, at La Cabana Restaurant in Bakersfield. Thirty West Kern members attended the event. The event was organized by Gerrie Kincaid and Richard Morosa. Dr. Kevin Silberberg presented information on instructional apps for teachers and administrators.

The West Kern Charter will hold its annual Secretary's Day Luncheon on April 22, 2015. Office and support staff employees from the Bakersfield area will be honored at the event. All attendees will be treated to lunch and entertainment.

West Kern Charter's annual golf tournament will be held on April 25, 2015 at Sundale Country Club. The proceeds from the event fund college scholarships for graduating high school seniors.

*Matt Diggle, West Kern President*



The Inyo/Mono Charter is pleased to announce that our next Charter Meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 29th in Bishop at 5:00pm. This will be a dinner meeting followed by our business meeting. At this meeting we will be presenting our Charter Administrator of the Year Awards as well as our student scholarship award winner. Additionally, both Regional Leaders Dave Tonini and Bill Black will be making presentations at this meeting.

In the past month Charter President Don Clark has attended both the ACSA Small School District Committee Meeting and the Legislative Action Day in Sacramento.

*Don Clark, Inyo/Mono Counties President*

## REGION XI SPECIAL EVENTS

### DELEGATE ASSEMBLY



### ANNUAL AWARDS LUNCHEON

**Date: Thursday, May 7, 2015**

**Location: Hodel's Restaurant, Bakersfield, CA**

#### DELEGATE ASSEMBLY: 10:00 AM

- President Dr. Blanca Cavazos
- Annual Business Meeting
- Nomination of Officers and Directors for Region XI Board 2015-16
- Election...Region XI Board 2015-16

#### ANNUAL AWARDS LUNCHEON

- Delicious Buffet Lunch
- Chairperson: Valerie Brown, Region XI Vice President-Elect
- Administrators of the Year
- Student Scholarships Recipients
- Itzenhauser-Schlagel Retiree ACSA Life Membership Recipient
- Every Student Succeeding (ESS) Recipient
- Entertainment

## Q: WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE 2015 LEGISLATIVE ACTION DAY?



**Tom Addington** | *Superintendent, Central Union School District* | *Region XI Vice-President Legislative Action*

"Region XI Legislative Action Day was very successful. Our area was represented by 24 school leaders from throughout our region. Statewide, Region XI was one of the largest groups to represent ACSA at Legislative Action Day. The delegation had the opportunity to speak at length with Assemblymembers Grove, Mathis, and Salas, as well as speaking with Senator Jean Fuller."



**Terri Rufert** | *Superintendent, Sundale Union Elementary School District* | *Board of Directors, State ACSA*

"We had a very successful day. It was thrilling to watch and listen to amazing administrators talk with our Senator and Assembly members on ACSA's key issues. The personalized stories really seemed to hit home. Our VPLA, Tom Addington, deserves many thanks for coordinating this event for us. It was obvious that we were all well prepared BRAVO!"



## FACES AROUND THE REGION



**Dr. Craig Wheaton** | *Superintendent, Visalia Unified School District* | *Board of Directors, State ACSA*

"Legislative Action Day was a huge success for Region 11. We spent quality time sharing our views with legislators representing our region. Legislators need to hear from administrators as they consider developing policies that effect our students."



**Michael Vogenthaler** | *Principal* | *California City High School* | *Director, Region XI Board*

"My first experience attending the ACSA Leg Action Day was nothing short of extraordinary. Tom Addington was a great leader and mentor for Region XI. His experience preparing our team was commendable. Sal Villasenor's tips for successful advocacy set the pace for our visit to the Capitol building and our meeting with the legislators. The thing that I will remember most is our sit-down meeting with Senator Fuller and Assemblyman Mathis and the importance of "telling your story" to policy makers in Sacramento to guide legislation. Our voice is a powerful tool, and the passion of so many people advocating for CA children was an amazing experience to be a part of."



**Terry Wolfe** | *Retired Administrator* | *West Kern Charter Board Member*

"Region 11 had a very outstanding group. Tom did a fine job organizing everything from meeting with our legislators to eating at some of the best places in Sacramento at reasonable prices. The only problem was that Tom had no idea PF Changs has fabulous lettuce wraps. Meeting with the legislators in the Capital in a central room is very effective. Certainly beats going to the offices and having to reduce our representation. It was an awesome event and I would encourage some of our younger administrators to take advantage of this."

## 2015 LEGISLATIVE ACTION DAY



***This is ACSA Territory!!!***  
*Region XI was well represented by Administrators from the five Charters.*



*Administrators from Region XI had opportunity to share "their district's stories" with State Legislators.*



*Rob Hudson, Superintendent, Alpaugh USD VP, Legislative Action, Kings County Charter, reminds everyone that they are in ACSA Territory doing their thing while taking a break, meeting with Region XI Legislators. Assemblyman Mendez, left of Rob Hudson, was one of the Legislators meeting with Region XI Administrators.*



*Front Row: Tom Addington, Region XI Vice President, Legislative Action, Terri Rufert, Member, State ACSA Board and Region XI President, Dr. Blanca Cavazos join their peers from Region XI as they visit State Legislators on March 16, in Sacramento.*



*Candidates for State ACSA Vice-President - Legislative Action (l to r) Linda Kaminski, Ed. D., Superintendent, Azusa Unified SD, Dr. Joe Ruiz Herrera, Director of Human Resources, Cupertino Union ESD, Terri Rufert Superintendent, Sundale Union ESD*



## TOMADDINGTON, REGION XI VP - LEGISLATIVE ACTION REPORTS ON 2015 LEGISLATIVE ACTION DAY

Region XI legislative action day was very successful. Our area was represented by 24 school leaders from throughout our region. Statewide, Region XI was one of the largest groups to represent ACSA at Legislative Action Day. The delegation had the opportunity to speak at length with Assemblymembers Grove, Mathis, and Salas, as well as speaking with Senator Jean Fuller.

The key issues presented during our legislative meetings centered on continued support with common core implementation, funding to support of our English Learners, and items related to the proposed state budget are primary concerns for educational leaders throughout the State. ACSA is supporting two bills presently working their way through the legislature, AB 631 and SB 460. AB 631 dedicates \$900 million to provide for instructional materials, professional development and technology to ensure LEAs have the resources to fully implement CCSS and NGSS and the computer-adaptive, Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) assessments. With our English Learner (EL) population, ACSA is supportive of SB 460 (Allen), which will allow LEAs to continue receiving supplemental and concentration grant funding under the LCFF for two additional fiscal years after the EL pupil has been reclassified.

The Region XI group also reiterated the concern over restricting the size of school district reserves, which could threaten the solvency of school districts around the state. As was articulated by several of Region XI school administrators, the decisions about reserve levels are a key component of the annual choices school districts and boards make about the allocation of resources. Across the State, there is wide diversity that weighs upon these local decisions. However, in the spirit of the Local Control Funding Formula, local management of reserve levels allow districts to handle cash flow, mitigate funding volatility, address unexpected costs, save for large purchases, and reduce borrowing costs. Allowing local responsibility to establish their own reserve levels furthers the concept of local control accountability. The vast majorities of school leaders are principals and vice principals at neighborhood schools. Other school administrators manage the essential programs and services that support students and classroom teaching. These leaders need your continued support to meet the high expectations California has set forth for public education.

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## TERRI RUFERT SEEKS STATE ACSA'S OFFICE OF VICE-PRESIDENT, LEGISLATIVE ACTION



*Terri Rufert, Superintendent, Sundale Union Elementary School District in Tulare County is one of three candidates seeking the office of State ACSA Vice President, Legislative Action. She has served as Charter President, Region XI President (two terms) and four years as the Regional Vice President-Legislative Action. She is*

*currently on the State ACSA Board of Directors as a Member-at-Large.*

### **“Quotes” from Candidate Terri Rufert**

*“My leadership role began as a head teacher for TCSD. I moved to Sundale Union Elementary School District to be the vice principal, then principal and superintendent.”*

*“I have the best of all my positions in one. I get the honor of working with kids, parents and staff, as well as having the ability and influence to dream big with my staff and put those dreams into action to give every student opportunities and experiences to help them succeed.”*

*“You have to be in your leadership role because you believe you can make a difference for kids. Being a servant leader, decisive, caring, confident, a problem solver, as well as having vision, excellent people and communication skills and the ability to develop other leaders and be a good steward of resources.”*

*“I am pretty comfortable wherever I am. I love new experiences and challenges.”*

*“The main role is to lead the Legislative Action Committee and work with the Board. Within those areas, the VPLA needs to be able to support the representatives to the regions to do the work they need to do back home. That will look different for each region representative.”*

*“I have been in ACSA for over 20 years, and have been very active at the charter, region and state level for 18 years. I have been the Region XI's VPLA at the region and state level for four years. Last year, I was the state ACSA's VPLA representative, along side another VPLA, to the Legislative Policy committee. I was part of the strategic action plan development.”*

*“I have attended Legislative Action Day for the past 10 years.”*

*“The VPLA committee has done amazing work under the leadership of Lisa Gonzales. I would like to continue that work, as well as work on motivating and empowering all of our members to get involved in our legislative process.”*

*“I absolutely love the work required of this office. I have always looked forward to and found it to be a rewarding challenge to meet with our legislators, CDE, SBE and governor and trying to get them to support us or change their view, I believe it is absolutely crucial for us to make sure our voices are heard.”*

*“I will continue to support ACSA now and in the future in areas my talents, skills and passions are best suited.”*



## INTERVIEW WITH TOM ROONEY (Continued from pg 1.)

Continued from Pg. 1

### **4) In November 2014, you had the opportunity to attend the first-ever National Connected Superintendent's Summit in Washington, DC. What was the major focus of this summit?**

The focus of the National Connected Superintendent's Summit was to increase the awareness of K-12 public schools to embrace the power of technology as a critical tool for transforming education. The Summit kicked off President Obama's Future Ready Initiative to equip every American learner with the connectivity, devices, and access to learning needed to learn and compete in the 21st century. There was a genuine interest on the part of the Federal Government to interact and learn from those of us in the field who have made great progress in ensuring all learners and adults have the technological tools, access, and training needed to most effectively serve today's future-focused learner. Many success stories were shared and strong networks were established as different districts throughout the country begin to collaborate on solving the myriad of issues related to technology and learning. Follow-up Future Ready Summits have been scheduled throughout the country and districts are encouraged to participate in a summit in their region.

### **5) Did you meet the President while in our nation's capital?**

Yes, I did have the opportunity to meet the President and have a brief exchange of words. I was fortunate enough to sit in a seat that allowed me to listen to the President's speech from a very short distance and actually shake his hand as he passed by my seat. In our short exchange of words, I was able to express to the President that "We all need to remember that it is not about the technology, but about the person, particularly the learner." I am not sure if he understood what I said, but he smiled, looked me in the eye, and said, "Absolutely, tell everyone back home I said 'hello!'"

### **6) Lindsay Unified is being recognized nationally, what are some of the reasons?**

The focus in Lindsay Unified is on the Lindsay learners and ensuring that they are empowered and motivated for today and tomorrow. The national recognition or attention is because the entire learning community, including the School Board, parents, learners, classified staff, learning facilitators, and leaders, have courageously embraced the responsibility to build a future-focused, learner-centered system that is now known as the Lindsay Unified Performance Based System (PBS). PBS essentially honors the basic principle that people learn in different ways and different time frames. In honoring

that principle, we are building a system in which learners come to school every day, they are met at their developmental learning level, they are challenged, they are successful, and they leave school wanting to return tomorrow. In the Lindsay PBS, it is not about how old you are or what grade you are in... it is about where you are in the learning. We have dismantled many of the traditional school structures that were designed over 125 years ago and we have replaced those structures with learner-centered systems that actually make sense for guaranteeing learning and ensuring learners have the opportunities to reach higher levels of academic and personal excellence. Through the Lindsay PBS, we have become a leading national voice with regard to personalized learning, systems change, and transformational leadership. Learners in Lindsay Unified are now empowered to take ownership of their learning and ultimately personal responsibility for their future.

### **7) What are some of your District's important accomplishments in the past few years?**

There are many accomplishments to celebrate in Lindsay Unified. Our graduation rate has increased from 78% to over 91%, even with the more rigorous academic expectations. The percent of learners being accepted or conditionally accepted to a 4-year university has increased from 21% to 32% (the national average for districts of poverty is 18%). The high school exit exam proficiency scores have increased incrementally over time and our reading and math scores on local assessments show very promising gains. In addition, we have established an Engineering Academy at Lindsay High School and have a very comprehensive Academy/Pathway system in place that includes film production, computer repair, health careers, business, and construction management. Lindsay learners have more opportunities than ever before. But perhaps the greatest celebration comes with the results of the 2014 School Climate Index. In the areas of school safety, school climate, and school culture, Lindsay High School has established itself as one of the top high schools in the state. According to the CA Healthy Kids Survey, Lindsay High School showed exceptional gains since 2011 in the areas of low violence, low bullying, high connectedness with adults, high expectations for learning, and low drug use on campus. After decades of being known as an unsafe campus, Lindsay High School now ranks at the 99th percentile of similar schools, making it the safest and most learner-connected campus amongst all schools of poverty throughout the state. Come and meet the Lindsay learners, the Lindsay Learning Facilitators, and the Lindsay Leaders...there is much to be proud of in Lindsay!

Continued on Pg. 13

## TULARE CHARTER'S ANNUAL SPRING CONFERENCE FEATURES DR. ERNIE MENDES



### *Theme . . . . Being Present to Lead the Future: Mindfulness Based Strategies for Powerful Leadership*

Dr. Ernie Mendes, professional development trainer and organizational consultant, gave the keynote address at the Tulare Charter's Annual

Spring Conference held at Edison Education Center in Tulare. Approximately 160 administrators were in attendance at the March 9, 2015 event.

Dr. Donya Wheeler, Tulare Charter President and Deputy Superintendent, Exeter Unified School District, introduced Mendes who has been a secondary and post -secondary educator for a combined 23 years.

Mendes presented an array of ideas and strategies as his message to Tulare County administrators focused on "Being Present to Lead the Future." He shared two "Big Ideas" with the administrators at the beginning of his power point presentations:

1. Power will come from the ability to adapt information, not simply from knowledge. Cognitive agility will be key.
2. Past skills and approaches may not work in the future, yet fundamentals of leadership will not change. Mood Management is a priority.

"A study of 130 executives found that how well people handle their emotions determined how much people around them preferred to deal with them," Mendes said in his opening remarks.

"The primary cause of derailment in executives were deficits in emotional competence," Mendes said. "The top three were: 1) Difficulty in handling change 2) Not being able to work in a team. 3) Poor interpersonal relations."

He shared about a study of 270,034 (K-12th grade

students.) When they improved their social skills, attitudes and behaviors, academics achievement showed a 11 percentile point gain.

Dr. Mendes shared and also had the audience participate in several activities and strategies. He encouraged the participants to create mental and emotional space for working and learning.

His timely tips as you work with your colleagues include: Say "hello" and goodbye each day, return borrowed items, note birthdays and acknowledge, member things of personal importance: pets, children, parents, travel, hobbies, sports, workouts, etc., laugh with them, give encouragement when they are having a difficult time or also when they have success.

"You should avoid not being attentive or responsive to others, blaming (you always - you never), acting horribly negative," Mendes said. "You should also do away with sarcasm or put-downs and not clearing up misunderstandings."

Other features of this year's conference included a vendor faire with 11 vendors, entertainment by Dr. Guadalupe Solis, Assistant Superintendent, Instructional Services, TCOE., a raffle consisting of an array of prizes, chaired by Mimi Bonds and Jana Freeman, Tulare Charter Board Members, and delicious Hors d'oeuvres.

Sliverio Montoya, Educational Sales Consultant, Destiny Learning, was awesome as he sang the National Anthem just prior to the keynote address by Dr. Mendes.

Lucy Vanscyoc, Tulare Charter Vice-President and Principal, Tulare Western High School, was the Chairperson of this very successful Charter Spring Conference. She reported that 4,726 dollars was raised for the Charter's High School Students' Scholarship Program, an annual event sponsored by the charter.

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## ACROSS THE REGION

- **West Kern Charter** will be sponsoring its 12th Annual Golf Tournament on April 25, at Sundale Country Club. A goal of \$8,000 for student scholarships has been set. Terry Wolfe is Chairperson for this annual event. He may be contacted at (661) 565-2773 for details.
- **David Bowling**, Region XI Secretary, is working with leaders from Region IX, X and XII as they are exploring a four Region Conference to be held in Spring 2016. Members had the opportunity to complete an on-line comprehensive survey to give the committee input on a proposed conference.
- **Kings County and Tulare County Charters** will once again sponsor Retiree Breakfast. Kings will be held on Tuesday, April 21 at 8:15 am at the Vinyard Inn, Lemoore. Tulare's is scheduled for Thursday, April 23 at 8:30 am at Apple Annies, Tulare.
- **Nicole Adneron**, State ACSA, met with the Region XI Board on February 4, 2015. She gave a very comprehensive report on current equity issues.
- **ACSA** has recently announced the recipients of the 21 Job-a-Like Administrator of the Year Awards. We want to commend and congratulate Region XI's two winners:
  - Confidential Employee of the Year, Kathleen Green-Martins, Project Coordinator, Tulare County Office of Education
  - Adult Education Administrator of the year, John Werner, Assistant Principal, Curriculum and Instruction, Visalia Unified School District.
- **West Kern Charter and Kings County Charter**, will once again be sponsoring their Annual Secretary's Day Luncheons on April 22, 2015. This special event is one of the Charters highlight recognition programs as they honor a very committed and dedicated group of classified personnel.



*East Kern Charter Meeting  
Keynote presenter Dr. Randall Delling, State ACSA President  
and Melissa Christman, Charter President*

## “Key Quotes” from Dr. Randall Delling State ACSA President, Presentation

### **TO OUR LEGISLATORS:**

“I want to supply the very best services. We currently do not have the resources to do that. We need additional resources for teacher training.”

“If you don't want to lower this gap, then you need to lower you expectations.”

### **TO BUSINESSES TECHNOLOGY FIRMS:**

“We are training your future customers. Our students will soon be buying your products.”

### **TO OUR MEMBERSHIP:**

“We need to be more active at the table at the Federal level, one of the strategies we will be focusing on.”

“We are getting to meet with our Legislators more often”

“Running for State ACSA Offices is a very tough job.”

“Work up the Region, get on State Committees and Councils, get on the State ACSA Board of Directors.”

## INTERVIEW WITH TOM ROONEY

*Continued from Pg. 10*

### **8) Why should a school administrator or aspiring administrator join ACSA?**

The Tulare County ACSA Charter is becoming recognized throughout state-level ACSA circles as a Charter “to watch”. The membership has increased dramatically in recent years and the involvement and influence of it's members on legislative and educational issues throughout the state and country are clearly on the rise. By joining ACSA, you will become involved in an organization that offers a wide variety of leadership development opportunities and a great community for professional learning. The local ACSA Charter hosts a variety of events throughout the year and provides a very relaxed, but professional network of support for anyone involved in educational leadership.

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Email: [jeffw@myeecu.org](mailto:jeffw@myeecu.org)  
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# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**April 1, 2015 .....June 30, 2015**

## **REGION XI . . . DR. BLANCA CAVAZOS, PRESIDENT**

- Delegate Assembly, May 7, 2015 at 10:00 am
- Annual Awards Luncheon, May 7, 2015 11:30 am
- Annual Planning Retreat, June 15-16, 2015, at Visalia  
Executive Board, June 15  
Region XI Board, Council/Committee Reps., June 16

## **EAST KERN CHARTER . . . MELISSA CHRISTMAN, PRESIDENT**

- Annual Business Meeting, Awards Dinner, April 27, 2015, 5:30 pm  
The Grape Leaf Restaurant, Ridgecrest

## **WEST KERN CHARTER . . . MATT DIGGLE, PRESIDENT**

- Annual Secretary's Day Luncheon, April 22, 2015, 11:30 am,  
Star Theater, Bakersfield
- 12th Annual Golf Tournament, April 25, 2015, Sundale Country Club
- Annual Awards Luncheon, June 4, 2015, 6:00 pm,  
Rio Bravo Country Club, Bakersfield

## **TULARE COUNTY CHARTER . . . DR. DONYA WHEELER, PRESIDENT**

- Spring Networking Social, April 16, 2015, 5:00 pm, Marriott Hotel, Visalia
- 3rd Annual Golf Tournament, April 19, 2015, Valley Oaks Golf Club, Visalia
- Retiree Spring Breakfast, April 23, 2015, 8:30 am, Apple Annies, Tulare
- Every Student Succeeding (ESS) Annual Breakfast, April 24, 2015, 7:00 am,  
Visalia USD Board Room
- 44th Annual Recognition/Awards Dinner, May 1, 2015, 6:00 pm,  
White Horse Inn, Three Rivers
- Tulare County / Kings County Student Charter (First Meeting), May 7, 2015,  
5:00 pm, Cruz Bustame Learning Center, Visalia Unified School District
- TCOE/Tulare Charter ACSA Annual Summer Institute, June 17, 2015, 8:00 am,  
Edison Educational Center, Tulare




# CONTINUED CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## **KINGS COUNTY CHARTER . . . GREG HENRY, PRESIDENT**

- Spring Retiree Breakfast, April 22, 2015, 8:15 am, Vineyard Inn, Lemoore
- Annual Administrative Assistant Luncheon, April 23, 2015, 12:00 pm  
West Hills College Conference Center, Lemoore
- Annual Election of Officers, Awards, End-of-Year Social, May 15, 2015,  
Dowdy's Cabana, Hanford, 4:00 pm
- Annual Tom Lasek Golf Tournament, June 19, 2015, Lemoore Golf Course

## **INYO/MONO COUNTY CHARTER . . . DON CLARK, PRESIDENT**

- Annual Business Meeting and Award-Dinner, April 29, 2015, 5:00 pm, Bishop



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