

**ACSA Region 8
Meeting in a Memo
Thursday, May 1, 2013**

Executive Board Reports & Items

President (Erik Burmeister)

Congratulations to Region 8's very own Wes Smith, Superintendent of Morgan Hill School District for being named ACSA's new Executive Director. We look forward to having a Superintendent (one of our own) who understands the challenges of leading schools and districts at the helm. Region 8 Proud!

R8 Executive Board needs to vote on a new contract for our Executive Director and Newsletter Editor. This will be done today during new business. E-Board annual end of year dinner information will be sent to E-Board members via email.

Erik would like to extend a personal invitation to a very special event: a celebration and book signing for a newly-released leadership book, "**The Multiplier Effect: Tapping the Genius Inside Our Schools.**" <http://amzn.to/14tu0Ud>. The Multiplier Effect provides a 21st century model for leadership that enables us to tackle our biggest educational challenges by amplifying the intelligence and talent of those around us. The book's authors, Liz Wiseman, Lois Allen and Elise Foster, will share highlights about the Multiplier Effect, and the program will include a panel discussion with school leaders and teachers who have put these Multiplying principals to work. This celebration will be held on **Thursday, May 16, 4-6 p.m.** at the Loyola Elementary School, 770 Berry Avenue, Los Altos, 94024. Light refreshments will be served, and books will be available for purchase (or you can bring a copy to be signed). If you would like to attend, please **let Erik know by this Friday**. This will be a small invite-only event; space is limited.

Please join Shelly Skelly Griffith for one of ACSA's periodic policy input conference calls this Friday, May 3 from 3-4pm to discuss *Future Generation API Indicators* including the Weights and Points Given to High School Graduation.

WHAT: ACSA Policy Conference Call: Future API Indicators

WHEN: Friday, May 3 – 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Call In – 1-866-740-1260 – Passcode 8412684#

Executive Director and President-Elect (Pat Einfalt and Colette Zea)

Nearly all appointed positions for next year have been filled. All charters are encouraged to get name of new charter presidents to Pat as soon as decisions are made.

Secretary (Ginny Fahimi)

April Ocho was sent on April 30; if you did not receive or you know of another Region 8 ACSA member who is not receiving, please let Ginny know. Our next and final Ocho issue of the school year is planned for the end of May. Ginny will send out a deadline notice via email. Thanks for everyone who submitted great Ocho articles this year. KUDOS to Ginny on another successful Ocho.

Program (Lety Villa Gascon and Tony Frascone)

May 10 2013 Awards Dinner/Dance...See you at the Corinthian.

On behalf of Lety Villa-Gascon and myself (Tony Frascone), it has been an honor to serve you this year and over the years. Our mission has always been to bring you engaging, timely and relevant programs, and to that end alone. Lety and I would like to inform you that we will be stepping down from the Region 8 Co-Chairs of Programs following our last event, ACSA at the Oscars. It's simply time to move on and to pass the torch. Lety has severed in this role for six consecutive years and I've been right by her side for the last five. Together we've pushed topics like mindset, technology in education, courageous conversations, and organizational leadership. Along the way we've taken you to places like CISCO, Siver Creek Country Club, The Ranch, The Almaden Cinemas, and the SCCOE. It's our sincere hope is that this mission has impacted your professional journey throughout our tenure. We look forward to serving ACSA and you in another capacity in the near future.

Strategic Planning (Lisa Gonzales & Erik Burmeister)

Strategic Planning Team met this past weekend to receive the presentations of the nine Stategic Action Teams. Team Leaders spent 45 minutes presenting recommendations for their respective teams. The SP Team accepted 41 out of the 45 Action Plans submitted. Specifically, the Planning Team accepted the following Action Plans (with stipulations for some):

Strategy I: 4 out of 4

Strategy II: 4 out of 4

Strategy III: 4 out of 4

Strategy IV: 5 out of 5

Strategy V: 1 out of 3

- Strategy VI: 5 out of 5
- Strategy VII: 14 out of 16
- Strategy VIII: Adopted principles for further work
- Strategy IX: 4 out of 4

The final draft of the Strategic Plan will be reviewed next week during our ACSA Delegate Assembly. Delegate Assembly will be an opportunity for members to provide feedback.

Membership Report (Joann Vaars)

TGI Summer. Our Region 8 Summer Members Social. will be held on June 17, 2013 at Enoteca La Storia at 416 N. Santa Cruz Avenue in Los Gatos. This is a great place to enjoy wine, appetizers, and friends. Don't miss it. All Region 8 members are encouraged to attend AND potential members are encouraged to be brought along. Even summer is a great recruitment time.

Legislative Action (Lisa Andrews & Lisa Gonzales)

Region 8 was well represented at Legislative Action Day on March 17th and 18th. A twenty-six member delegation from 8 charters consisting of a superintendent, central office administrators, site administrators, adult education administrators, county office administrators and dedicated retirees spoke with state senator Jim Beall and assembly members Paul Fong and Nora Campos. Assembly members Rich Gordon and Bob Wieckowski sent senior members of their staff to meet with the group. Topics discussed included the proposed Local Control Funding Formula, restoration of previously cut funds, maintaining adult education in the K-12 system, monies for Common Core implementation, and flexibility in textbook purchasing. Legislators listened to personal stories that supported ACSA's position on the above mentioned issues as well as shared their positions and where they saw current legislation heading. Every voice of the delegation was heard making presentations of stories compelling and reliable. We would like to thank Liz Ambra, Hans Barber, Iris Berke, Erik Burmeister, Barbara Campbell, Pat Einfalt, Sandra Garcia, Angela Haick, Cheryl Jordan, Kevin Keegan, Tanya Krause, Bob Lowery, Victoria Maxson, Adrienne Moberly, Tish Nilsen, Rene Sanchez, Wes Smith, Jason Sorich, Julie Topliff, Richard Uribe, Shelly Viramontez, Sheila Walters, Joyce Yee, and Colette Zea for giving their time and energy to ensure the event was a success. **Mark your calendars for next year's event to be held on April 6th and 7th.**

Awards Committee (Tanya Krause and Shelly Viramontes)

Congratulations, again, to those folks who will be recognized on May 10 at the Region 8 Awards Dinner/Dance!

Dr. Wesley Smith	Superintendent	Morgan Hill Unified School District
Dr. Brenda Harris	Adult Education Administrator	Mtn. View-Los Altos UHSD Adult School
Ann Jones	Business Services Administrator	San Jose Unified School District
Thomas Green	Central Office Administrator - District	Alum Rock Union Elementary School District
Dr. Ruth Bareket	Curriculum & Instruction Administrator	Campbell Union School District
Dr. Shelly Viramontez	Personnel / Human Resources Administrator	Campbell Union School District
Matthew Patterson	Student Services Administrator	Milpitas Unified School District
Jennifer Keicher	Special Education Administrator	Cupertino Union School District
Kelly Calhoun	Technology Administrator	Santa Clara County Office of Education
Lisa Andrew	Valuing Diversity Award	Santa Clara County Office of Education
Nancy Cisler	Elementary Principal	Moreland School District
Norma Jean Ready	Associate Principal	Moreland School District
Gillan Briones	Every Student Succeeding	Oak Grove School District

Communication Chairs (Jason Sorich & Martha Martinez)

Big Goal: The communication chairs will increase collegiality, clarity, collaboration, and creativity amongst Region 8 ACSA administrators during the 2012/2013 school year.

To meet our big goal the following updates took place this month:

- Updated calendar of events
- Added event and meeting information to ACSA R8 Website

Charter Reports

Morgan Hill Charter (Patrick Buchser)

We are very proud of our superintendent Dr. Wes Smith for his new position as Executive Director of ASCA. He has set the stage for continued success in our district and will be greatly missed in our community.

SCCOE Charter (Lisa Andrew)

Plans are in the works for a charter luncheon on May 22nd. Discussion topics at the luncheon will be strategic planning updates, legislation updates, announcement of our \$800 Student Scholarship winner and a chapter from *Race to Relevance*. Charter award winners and the Student Scholarship recipient will be recognized at the SCCOE Leadership Team Meeting immediately following the luncheon. We are also planning an end-of-the-year social on June 28th to recognize COEAA members who have been promoted or are retiring. COEAA loves to celebrate its members!

DeAnza Charter

The De Anza Charter had a social event on April 25 at Flight Wine Bar in Cupertino. We wished our CUSD colleagues well as they develop their district charter. Trudy Gross will continue as president for the 13-14 school year and work with Mala Ahuja from SSD to continue professional and social events for the De Anza Charter.

The members of the Cupertino management team voted to create their own charter and have applied to be recognized by Region 8. We will vote on their application today. Adora Fisher, Director of Instructional Services, is Cupertino's President; Jennifer Tyson, Principal of De Vargas Elementary School, is their President Elect. Assuming this action is approved, Sunnyvale and Fremont Union High School District will make up the membership of the DeAnza Charter.

Committee/Council Reports

Women's Leadership Network (Jenay Kiddoo)

The Women's Leadership Network wrapped up its year of events with a casual, social evening at JJ's Blues in San Jose. Bobbie Infelise and club owner Gloria Hayes-Perkins coordinated the refreshing event where we networked with women across the valley and listened to great music. It was also a special occasion as we honored Linda Aceves, who led the way to bring a WLN to Region 8 and is soon retiring. We appreciate Linda's pioneering spirit and she will be missed!

This year of WLN events proved to be dynamic, relevant and fun! We kicked it off in October with a wine tasting and technology pairing at Xilinx, led by Lisa Gonzales and Cheryl Jordan. This was a BYOD (device) event and members learned a lot about tech tools that enhance communication, social connection, and efficiency. In December we held a breakfast event at EMC, led by Alyssa Lynch and Karen Bacica. A panel of women leaders in technology and education shared their success stories and insights on leadership and balance. The third event was held at the Santa Clara County Office of Education and featured a panel of mentors and mentees that have benefited from a membership model. Panelists shared their experiences in programs offered by CALSA, ACSA, and SCCOE and the evening was facilitated by Guiliana Crosby and Martha Martinez.

Although it has been a tremendous year for the Women's Leadership Network, it isn't over yet! We have one outstanding offering that you don't want to miss. WLN is now accepting applications for our annual scholarship award for one member to attend the ACSA Leadership Summit, WLN Conference, or any ACSA professional development of your choice, up to \$200 in tuition. The deadline for this event is June 1st. For more information and to download the application go to the ACSA Region 8 website: <http://regions.acsa.org/8/about/womens-leadership-network>. If you're interested in participating in the leadership committee of WLN, or want to be involved in the event planning for next year, please join us on May 30th for our annual planning meeting. We'll meet from 4-5:30 at SCCOE in the Palo Alto room. I hope to see you there!

Middle Grades Council (Karen Allard)

The last ASCA Middle School Council meeting was held on Thurs., April 11th in Sacramento. Some agenda items included the following:

- *Alternatives To Suspension*
AB 420 to reduce suspensions for willful defiance. Data is skewed depending on the system used by the school. Originally could only suspend for certain items for 9-12 only. K-8 would have more of a 3 strikes system. Bill is being amended to allow 6-12, with prohibition at K-5. Provision of 3 documented cases prior. Definition of willful defiance would be helpful. Workshops and trainings will be coming from ACSA, strand at Leadership summit on options to suspension. SB744 role of SARB on involuntary transfers to day schools. Originally meant to provide due process, now morphed to placement with parental consent and revoke Privileges. Allows a student to apply to return to the same classroom. ACSA is opposed at this time. Amendments are continuing. There are 5-6 bills on teacher evaluations. Discussions concerning alternatives to assessment and the need for professional development and training for VPs.
- *Regional Middle Grades Networks*
There is no longer a CMGPN and no middle grades office at CDE. There was a discussion on creating a similar network through the Council. How could we create a network and open up to our members around the state?
- *Planning for 2013-14*
The council decided to focus on these three topics for the 2013-14 school year: CCSS/21st Century Skills, School Safety, Positive School Discipline. The Council came up with the following Council goals for the next 2 years:

To bring CMGPN under the MG Council's umbrella; develop this and provide leadership. An activity design will be submitted for this purpose. AND To be an ambassador and authoritative voice for middle grades in the state.

Respond to requests for input in areas of legislative advocacy

Develop or strengthen existing networks to gather input and give feedback in each of our regions for middle grade issues

Give input to ACSA from the middle grade perspective

Incorporate and educate others re: ACSA's Strategic Plan and ensure our goals and actions are aligned with this plan

Adult Education Committee (Laura Stefanski)

April was a busy month for adult school administrators and staff. A large number of Bay Area adult schools either had their local legislators visit them or they visited their legislators' home offices. Then it was time to make our collective voices heard at the Capitol in Sacramento. Legislation Day, April 17th, was sponsored by two adult education organizations who are working in concert with AE ACSA: CAEAA, (California Adult Education Administrators' Association) and CCAE, (California Council for Adult Education). Dozens of adult school administrators, teachers and students convened with legislators or their aides to advocate for the elimination of Governor Brown's budget proposal to shift adult education to the community colleges and to seek a separate funding source for K-12 adult schools in California.

We are fortunate in this part of California to have strong support for keeping adult schools in the K-12 system. As adult school advocates, we are now seeking a single funding source – supported in great part philosophically, but still lacking a concrete source. One proposal put forward by our LAO, Dawn Koepke, and adult school leaders is to take the state funding proposed for community colleges to serve adult school students, combine it with flex funding currently used to serve students at adult schools, and distribute these monies to adult schools statewide at their near funding levels of 2007-2008. The little time left in April and May is being spent working towards this goal and other viable options. In the meantime, the Governor has been emphatic that he is intent on reforming education in California and that there is no stopping him. It is unclear if those who oppose some of his finance or educational policy views will be able to persuade him to accept other logical and more reasonable approaches to some of his more complicated reforms. We continue with our efforts to do so.

Co-Admin Committee (Nico Flores & Norma Jean Ready)

We will be having a Ready-Talk conference call on Wednesday, May 8.

Mentor Program (Iris Berke)

Region 8's Mentor Program will be partnering with Regions 6 and 10 to offer a Mentor Training Session at the SCCOE, Tuesday, July 9. Applications will be available soon. Contact irisberke@aol.com 408-871-2933 if interested. New Protégés are invited to apply, and current or former Protégés are asked to promote the Program to their colleagues.

Curriculum Instruction and Assessment Council (Ruth Bareket)

The Council meeting on April 19th was full of important and, oftentimes, surprising information. Much of the surprising information was related to assessment, both STAR and Smarter Balanced:

Assessment Update:

1. **STAR 2013-14 may be eliminated.** Deputy Superintendent, Deb Sigman, indicated that they requested and “have a good chance of receiving a **bye** for next year.” The reason is that in 2013-14, 60% (!!!) of all CA students will be field-testing the Smarter Balanced assessment. The CDE is requesting that all PI related statuses remain frozen at the current levels.
2. **No CMA in Smarter Balanced assessment, but there will be CAPA.** SBAC is adaptive. So there will only be accommodations for the most severely involved special education students.
3. **You must teach your students (and teachers) several things about technology before SBAC.** In this spring's field test, there are proving to be a myriad of hiccups. Comments from the field:
 - a. Students don't know how to right click.
 - b. Headphones are needed for each student taking SBAC.
 - c. There are strikethrough and highlight features for students to use with no instructions on how to do so. Students must be taught how to highlight sections of text they want to refer back to or strikethrough multiple-choice responses that they can eliminate.
 - d. The test is not timed. We need to plan for how to deal with students when hours can pass between the first finisher and the last.
 - e. Logging in is a logistical challenge. Students must use their name as it appears in CalPads. One tested district prepared individual index cards for each child with last and first names as they appear legally along with their student id numbers.
4. **Free Technology enhanced items are being shared by San Diego COE:** ccas.sdcoe.net
5. **Take the practice test open to everyone on May 29;** it only has 7 questions.

6. **The “early” STAR results are really not so early.** While we will get the STAR results for our students in June, the district level reports including AYP will arrive at the “regular time.”
7. Other Updates:
 - a. **Basal Alignment Project has vetted lessons using a 10-point rubric.** The project has “Common Core-ized” existing ELA adoptions.
 - b. **Look for regional forums on what the new accountability system in CA should like aka changing API composition.**
 - c. **Take my job, please!** Seriously, it has been a pleasure to serve on this Council for Region 8 for the last 2 years. It was worth the time as the information was practical, timely, and helped me do my job at home better. I highly encourage anyone interested to let the Region know that you would like to assume this role. The dates for 2013-14 are:
 - i. 9/27/13 from 10:00 – 12:00 a webinar
 - ii. 11/6/13 from 10:00 – 3:00 a full day meeting in San Jose the day before the Leadership Summit
 - iii. 1/17/14 from 1:00 – 3:00 a webinar
 - iv. 3/20, 21, 2014 – (beginning at 10:00 on the 20th and ending at 3:00 on the 21st) 2 day retreat in Ontario at the ACSA center
 - v. 5/16/14 1:00 – 3:00 a webinar

For your information...

A former ACSA member who now works with Partners with School Innovation asked that I share this information with you.

1) Summer Institute:

Have you experienced any of these challenges in your Instructional Leadership Team (ILT)?

- Lack of staff buy-in or resistance to decisions made by the ILT or the ILT in general
- Difficulty defining membership of the team
- ILT members are not invested in process or outcomes
- Issues of trust or challenges with interpersonal dynamics
- Vision, goals, roles and ways of working of the ILT are unclear

If so, this is a fantastic opportunity! On June 18-19, Partners in School Innovation’s team will present our second annual Summer Institute, “Developing Results-Oriented Instructional Leadership Teams.” This workshop is for school and district leaders seeking a systematic approach to school change. It is ideal for new, developing and existing teams with a desire to deepen impact on teacher practice and student learning. Partners has a successful 20-year track record of strengthening and sustaining improved teaching, learning and achievement in public schools and districts. Partners focuses on instruction, leadership and teacher professional development to advance educational equity. Principals and their lead teachers will experience uninterrupted time to plan together with the guidance of Partners in School Innovation facilitators. Participants will:

- Agree on their purpose, goals and ways of working together as an Instructional Leadership Team
- Draft an action plan for next school year for how the team will create and lead professional learning communities that enable teachers to deliver instruction that meets students’ needs
- Develop a toolkit for leading change, including frameworks and protocols for team building, identity formation, communication, data analysis, inquiry and action planning.

Your team can emerge a more powerful force for impact on teacher practice and student achievement.

Here is also the Flyer:

[Institute Flyer 6.13 FINAL.pdf](#)

And a website:

<http://www.partnersinschools.org/event/developing-results-oriented-instructional-leadership-teams/>

2) And for our open Positions:

Many well-meaning, dedicated educators want to improve educational outcomes but get discouraged by the current realities of our schools and districts. Working at Partners In School Innovation (Partners) is an opportunity to have real impact! We have a proven model to create lasting change in historically under-performing schools and districts serving primarily African-American, Latino and English-language learners. We work directly and deeply with district and school leaders, teachers and coaches, developing change agents that will continue our work once we leave. After a successful 20 -year track record of advancing educational equity, we are scaling our impact in exciting and innovative ways. We are currently growing our teams in Alum Rock and Franklin-McKinley and are looking for School Innovation Partners (SIPs). SIPs are extraordinary urban teachers, principals or other school leaders who have gotten breakthrough results in their own classrooms and schools and know first-hand that all children can and will learn at high levels. As a SIP, your main focus is on supporting teachers on a deeper, more meaningful level. You will support instructional leadership and adult practice in a collaborative setting with the principal, teachers, and district office.

Partners not only offers a competitive salary but also real internal growth opportunities, and visible success in schools opens opportunities to go on to leadership positions in education. We are hiring is on rolling basis with a start of mid-summer. Interviews are happening now. For more information about the role of a School Innovation Partner and to apply please go to: <http://www.partnersinschools.org/connect/join-our-team/apply/>

Please share this with others you feel may be interested.

ACSA Region 8 Executive Board Meeting
AGENDA
May 1, 2013

Orders of Business

Call to Order

Introductions

Approval of the Minutes

Meeting in a Memo

Questions, Answers, Clarifications

Treasurer's Report

Region Consultant/Executive Director Report

Miscellaneous Reports

Matters of Decision

New Business

New Cupertino Charter

Executive Director Contract

Newsletter Editor/Retreat Coordinator Contract

ACSA Region 8 2013-14 Election

Discussion Items

Looking forward to 2013-14 R8 Exec Board Dates (Pat E & Colette Z)

Well wishes for those leaving the Board