

REPORTER

REGION XI • Association of California School Administrators • Winter 2011

Jim Vidak Honored at ACSA's Annual Leadership Summit

Jim Vidak, Tulare County Superintendent of Schools, was recognized as ACSA's 2010 Superintendent of the year. Vidak, along with other recipients, was featured as state ACSA's Administrators of the Year at the Annual Awards dinner held at the Manchester Grand Hyatt Hotel in San Diego on November 5, 2010.



This prestigious award was given to Vidak for his outstanding inspiration, leadership and expertise. He has been an administrator since 1968 serving as a principal for 10 years, then a deputy superintendent and becoming Tulare County Superintendent of Schools in 1991.

In addition to leading Tulare County schools, Vidak has served in numerous leadership roles. Statewide, he has served on the ACSA Board of Directors and as president of the California County Superintendents Educational Services Association.

Vidak has provided leadership by overseeing 200 programs for 46 different school districts. He continues to focus on what is best for students and how various decisions will affect them.

"I enjoy being a part of the positive growth our students experience," Vidak said. "I also enjoy seeing our programs grow – and in turn – how our staff grows as well."

One of Vidak's major successes has been the Character Counts program, implemented in 1994. The program teaches students ethical values of decision-making skills. The Tulare County program has become a national Character Counts model.

Vidak is greatly appreciated by those who work with him at the County office.

"The employees of the Tulare County Office of Education know they are fortunate to work for Jim and they know he is going to treat them with fairness and respect," said John Caudle, TCOE Assistant Superintendent of Business Services.

"In my opinion, Jim Vidak is long overdue for consideration of this award."

ACSA has also always played an important role in Vidak's career. Besides his service for three years at the State Board of Directors, he has been a charter president, member of the ACSA Legislative Policy Committee, and has chaired the ACSA/Tulare County School Board Association Spring Conference. He also hosts the well-attended Annual Tulare County Summer Institute with ACSA.

Vidak has been an outstanding recruiter for new ACSA members.

"I have appreciated ACSA in many ways for many years – the professional in-services, materials, networking opportunities and updates on state educational opportunities have been fabulous," Vidak said.

Another special feature at this year's leadership summit was the special recognition given to recipients of each of the 19 regions for the Every Student Succeeding (ESS) program.

Tyler Soria, a recent graduate of Golden West High School in Visalia was honored as Region XI's recipient. It took place as part of the Second General Session held on November 5, 2010.

Despite major challenges he faced in his home life, he graduated as a top student. Living with his aunt and uncle, Tyler viewed his new life as a second choice. He displayed determination and a positive attitude – turning his life around.

He became involved with the drama program, allowing him to become and feel more connected to school. He maintained a 3.67 grade point average and enrolled in

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From the President



Rebecca Mestaz
Region XI President

"I want to acknowledge the commitment, the hard work, and the dedication each of our 839 ACSA Region XI members have made to the youth in our five county area – you are to be commended for what you do each day on behalf of student learning!"

Hello ACSA Colleagues! As we greet 2011 with hope and anticipation, I am reminded of the importance of taking time to take stock of what we have accomplished, all the things we have to celebrate, and what we hope to accomplish in the coming months. I want to acknowledge the commitment, the hard work, and the dedication each of our 839 ACSA Region XI members have made to the youth in our five county area – you are to be commended for what you do each day on behalf of student learning!

In early January, our Administrator of the Year Awards Committee spent a wonderful afternoon looking through dozens of Award Nominations from all across Region XI. It was incredible to read the stories of the great work and amazing administrators who come to work each day to Make A Difference in the lives and learning of our students throughout our five county region. I came away from this experience with a heart full of appreciation for the work we do with our students and our community which results in the development of human potential – we are indeed surrounded with Greatness in our Educational Community in Region XI!

Our Sincere Congratulations to the following Administrator of the Year Award Recipients for 2011:

See President's Message on page 14

An ACSA Region XI Publication

Rebecca Mestaz, President

David Tonini, Executive Director

Richard A. Schlager, Editor

787 North "G" Street • Porterville, CA 93257

Phone (559) 784-1270 • Fax (559) 782-0381

email: raschlager1927@yahoo.com

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Region XI Membership Scoreboard

| <u>Charter</u> | <u>Dec. 2009</u> | <u>Dec. 2010</u> | <u>(+/-)</u> |
|----------------|------------------|------------------|--------------|
| East Kern | 61 | 55 | (-6) |
| West Kern | 331 | 324 | (-7) |
| Kings | 122 | 101 | (-21) |
| Tulare | 314 | 309 | (-5) |
| Inyo/Mono | 23 | 19 | (-4) |
| CSUB Student | 4 | 7 | (+3) |
| Non-Assigned | 15 | 14 | (-1) |
| Totals | 870 | 829 | -127 |

"WHAT THEY SAID"

Quotes: Leadership Summit 2010

"Serving ACSA is a humble experience."

Alice Petrossian, ACSA Vice President

"We need more than one piece of data to evaluate teacher effectiveness. Test scores are an inadequate way to measure teacher effectiveness."

Diane Ravitch, Keynote Speaker
First General Session

"Raising standards is unlikely to lead to better outcomes unless we improve learning conditions and respond more effectively to student needs."

Pedro Noguera, Keynote Speaker
Second General Session


"The Leadership Summit is ACSA's premier professional learning event."


Bob Noyes, ACSA President

"The stories of students featured through ACSA's Every Student Succeeding awards program highlight ACSA's goal of becoming the most student-focused and service-oriented educational association in the world."


Linda Rooney, Leadership Summit Committee Chair


Around the Region


 **David Tonini**, Region XI Executive Director, reports that 32 Region XI administrators attended ACSA's 2010 Leadership Summit held in San Diego on November 4-6, 2010.


 **Administrator of the Year nominations** are due by January 13, 2011. The selection committee to choose Region XI's recipients will meet at 12:30 p.m. at Hodel's Restaurant in Bakersfield on January 13, 2011.


 **State ACSA membership** has decreased by approximately 900 members this past year.

 **Kings and Tulare Charters** sponsored their Annual Fall Breakfast for retirees on October 26, 2010.

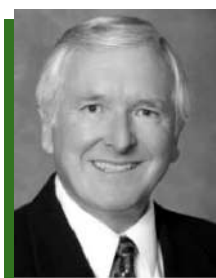
 **Upcoming golf tournaments:**
West Kern Charter, Seven Oaks Country Club – February 21, 2011
Kings County Charter, Lemoore Country Club – June 16, 2011

 **The spring 2011 issue of the "Reporter"** will be mailed by the Postal Service to each member. The summer 2011 issue will be emailed to each member. The Region XI Handbook and each of the four newsletter issues can be located at www.acsaxi.org

 **East Kern Charter** sponsored a poker fund raising tournament on October 9, 2010 in Mojave. It raised \$450 for student scholarships.

 **Region XI** was publically recognized at the State Delegate Assembly as one of the few Regions statewide which has decided to contribute to the Independent Expenditure Committee. Region XI at its October 14, 2010 board meeting voted to donate up to \$8,500 to the ACSA Independent Expenditure Political Action Committee (PAC) based up Region XI ACSA membership during the month of July.

Comments from your Region XI Executive Director



"There are advantages to being an A.C.S.A. principal. Recently fifty A.C.S.A principals in our Region have been given an opportunity to develop a partnership with Horace Mann to fund school incentives for school attendance and academic success. "

David Tonini,
Region XI Executive Director

It has been a busy and exciting six months as your Executive Director. Our Region and Charter Leaders are enthusiastically serving all of you and exploring new ideas to connect you with other A.C.S.A members through staff development opportunities and new networking opportunities.

Many of you attended the Kings Charter conference and Region Conference. If you were not one who attended, make sure these conferences are on your calendar for the future. Planning has already begun for these conferences next year. Let your Charter officers

know if you have ideas for conferences or professional development activities in the way of topics or speakers. Tulare Charter is in the process of planning their annual conference for this year and West Kern is exploring the idea of a professional development activity with some high profile speakers. Check our Region Website on a regular basis for upcoming dates. Contact your officers by email or by phone to share your ideas.

There are advantages to being an A.C.S.A. principal. Recently fifty A.C.S.A principals in our Region have been given an opportunity to develop a partnership with Horace Mann to fund school incentives for school attendance and academic success. Fifty A.C.S.A principals were randomly selected to participate. Congratulations if you were one of the principals selected.

Systems to facilitate job-a-like networking opportunities for A.C.S.A members are being

See Executive Director on page 16



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Region XI Conducts Annual Conference

Region XI's Annual Fall Conference was held at the College of the Sequoias campus in Visalia on October 14, 2010.

Connecting people was the theme of this year's conference with approximately 80 administrators in attendance. Participants had an opportunity to attend two breakout sessions.

Karen Stapf-Walters, Assistant Executive Director, ACSA Governmental Relations, presentation focused on the state's budget and current legislation. A possible special session will have legislators facing mid-year cuts and a school funding initiative for the 2012 ballot.

Future issues on the Federal Education Agenda will include common core standards, college and career readiness, defining effective teachers and leaders, turning around low performing schools and districts, teacher/leader evaluation and preparation, reward systems.

The state's future issues according to Stapf-Walters will focus on pension reform, teacher/principal evaluation, transparency, charter schools, open enrollment reform and the budget. 26 administrators were in attendance for this session.

Chad Houck, Assistant Principal, Burroughs High School in Ridgecrest, topic was "Time to Teach."

"If the whole school buys in to the Time to Teach program, the entire culture changes," said Houck. "Suspensions will drop dramatically."

His presentation emphasized that caring is the key, conflict is an essential part of growing up, good behavior can be taught, people can change and good discipline is only a matter of timing.

"The role of the classroom teacher has changed in today's world," said Houck. "More is expected yet adequate tools are not provided to meet these expectations."

The 19 administrators attending this session heard the five components of the Time to Teach (TTT) program. According to Houck, they are (1) we must maintain self control, (2) we must pay attention to the environment, (3) we must give time to teach, (4) we refocus and (5) we must give UPR (Unconditional Positive Regard).

He also emphasized that we must control ourselves, conflict is inevitable, and that we can no longer assume that students come to us knowing how to behave properly.



Kirsti Smith, conference chairperson (left) and Beve Estis (conference keynote address) give out door prizes at the conclusion of the conference.

"Research is clear, if kids know you value them as human beings, they will return it," said Houck. "Give the students the time of the day."

Houck's concluding remark was: "Don't ever give up!"

Other sessions included a presentation by George Manthey, ACSA Assistant Executive Director of Educational Services, focusing on the National Common Core Standards. ACSA has professional development programs and services on the Common Core Standards.

Marc Johnson, Superintendent, Sanger School District, and a leader of Professional Learning Communities for his District, session presented Sanger's District PLC's and how the program has progressed with this excellent format for collaboration of perpetuating of student learning.

Both Manthey's and Johnson's presentations were well accepted. There were also high marks for the workshops presented by Stapf-Walters and Houck.

Comments by various administrators included:

"Karen provided valuable insight about the critical role ACSA plays as an advocate for all education stakeholders."

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From the Region

Annual Conference

from page 5

"ACSA will continue to be a key player in shaping fiscal and legislative policy in California," said Matt Disgle, Administrator, Fruitvale School District.

"George Manthey gave valuable information on the Common Core Standards. He shared information and knowledge that was new in regards to how the current standards align to the new Common Core Standards," said Loretta Black, Learning Coordinator, Lemoore United Elementary School District.

"The impact of the newly adopted California Common Core Standards will have a positive impact on student learning in ways that are less intrusive than some may think," said Crescenciano Camarena, Charter School Dean, Lemoore UESD.

The conference's keynote address was given by Bev Estis, retired principal, Sierra Sands Unified School District. Her presentation, "Positive Promotion of Pupil Potential," included an array of various school programs, events and activities that administrators could use on their campuses.

Superstars, Celebrated Learning, Wow Cards, Students of the Month, Class Awards, Silver Lunch Pail (sponsored by noon supervisors), Silver Tiger Award (sponsored by office manager) Silver Sack (sponsored by the office staff) Principal's Award, Birthday Book Club, Millionaire Club were some of the recognition programs outlined by Estis.

Recognition and award programs not only focused on the students; staff members, parents and parent councils were also honored throughout the school year.

Kirsti Smith, Region XI Vice President and Administrator, Sierra Sands Unified School District, was this year's conference chairperson.

"Our conference was great and our speakers and presenters were awesome," said Smith. "I had hoped to have more attend."

One of the major purposes of the conference is to raise funds for the Region's student scholarship program.



Chad Houck's workshop featured a presentation focusing on "Time To Teach."



Karen Stapf-Walters (center), Assistant Executive Director, ACSA Government Relations, presented a session at the conference addressing the state budget, and future issues at both the Federal and State levels. Diane Cox, Kings County Charter President (left) and Matt Diggle, Administrator, Fruitvale School District, were in attendance.

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From the Region

Leadership Summit

from page 1

classes at the community college to further his education.

This year's Leadership Summit's theme was: Moving Our Mission Forward: Developing and Equipping Leaders for Today, Tomorrow and Beyond.

State educators at all levels of administration had opportunities to listen to world-renowned speakers, attend member workshops, participate in seminars and a variety of opportunities to network with administrators across our state.

This year's conference program featured six strands focusing on: ACSA's Core Values: public education, leadership, service, unity and diversity, continuous improvement and enjoyment.

Bob Noyes, ACSA President, in his opening remarks at the First General Session said: "Leadership really truly matters and we are very proud of you."

Other speakers at the opening session were Bob Kowba, Superintendent, San Diego School District, who remarked, "Education in California is really at the crossroads."

Bob Wells, ACSA Executive Director, gave special recognition to Larry Aceves, candidate for State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

"Larry is one of the greatest leader and educator that I have ever been associated with," said Wells.

Aceves who recently lost in the race for SPI said: "You have been aspiring. I thank you from the bottom of my heart for your support and the opportunity I had."

The opening session keynote speaker was Diane Ravitch, Research Professor of Education at NYU.

"We are seeing federalization of U.S. education," said Ravitch. "I am tired of the 'badmouthing' of education that is going on. People have actually given public education a very high rating."

Ravitch continued her presentation by saying that there are powerful forces who want to privatize public education.

She encouraged administrators by stating: "Don't let them do it. They will set public education back 150 years."

Ravitch outlined what she feels is needed as the result of her 40 years of experience. They are stable staffs, experienced principals, strong superintendents, a change in the Washington, D.C. message, no mandates from the federal government.

"Stand strong, tell the public about education. You are the leader," said Ravitch, in her closing remarks.



Dr. Joe Santos, Tulare Charter President (left) and David Tonini confer before the summit's opening general session.



Every Student Succeeding (ESS)Tyler Soria, Region XI's ESS State recipient met with his uncle Rick, aunt Karen Nordell and cousin Seth prior to receiving the special recognition a the leadership summit's second general session.



Region XI Leadership Team greets ESS recipient... Dave Tonini, Region XI Executive Director (left); Tyler Soria, award winner; Rebecca Mestaz, Region XI President; and Dr. Joe Santos, Tulare Charter President.

From the Region

The Second General Session featured Pedro Noguera, author, activist, award winning educator and professor at NYU.

His presentation focused on: “Bold Leadership in Tough Times.”

The three major points of his address were failures and past reforms, changes needed to how schools respond to student needs and building partnerships between schools, local government, universities, CBOs, etc.

“Many school reforms have not been implemented because they do not have the right focus,” Noguera said. “I am not opposed to charter schools, but I am concerned about them; one thing we do know about charter schools is that they are not all good.”

“Develop a greater clarity among policy makers about what might be done to change to improve struggling schools and districts,” said Noguera. “You need to focus on more than just test scores when you talk of implementing change in your schools.”

He emphasized that professional development for teachers should be based on student needs.

“Intervene early, personalize the learning environment, engage parents in effective partnerships that reinforce child development and learning,” said Noguera.

He closed his presentation by telling administrators: “I encourage you to take care of yourself, and continue to share with each other. California can again be the beacon. I wish you the very best.”

There were 32 administrators from Region XI in attendance at this year's Leadership Conference, according to Dave Tonini, Region XI Executive Director.

Next year's conference will be held on November 3-5, 2011 at the Sacramento Convention Center.



Dr. Joe Santos (right) meets with second general session speaker Pedro Noguera, following his address: “Bold Leadership in Tough Times.”



Terri Rufert, Superintendent, Sundale Union School District and Dr. Joe Santos, Principal, Sequoia Middle School, Porterville (right) congratulate Jim Vidak for being recognized as Administrator of the Year in the Superintendent's category. Vidak was the recipient of this special award.



Jim Vidak, Tulare County Superintendent of Schools (left), chats with Dr. John Bogie following his award presentation as ACSA's Superintendent of the Year.



Video Conferencing... attending Region XI's video conference at the Tulare County Office of Education on December 9 were Tulare Charter Board Members (l to r), front row, Dave Tonini, Rebecca Mestaz; back row, Dr. Joe Santos, Terri Rufert and Diane Graziani-Orton.

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Getting to Know Our Region XI President:

It has been my privilege to serve as a member of the ACSA Region XI Board for the past four years in a variety of positions – Secretary, Vice President, President Elect and currently as President. During this time, the legacy of ACSA Region XI has been passed down to me by the modeling and mentoring of those who have served in the positions ahead of me. I am fortunate to have the mentorship of Past Presidents, Terri Rufert and Chris Andrade to guide me along the way to the President's position.



The biggest challenge for our organization is to recruit and retain our membership in this time of budgetary constraints. As we look at shrinking budgets, administrative positions may be vulnerable to reduction. At the same time, it has never been more evident that a strong Administrative Organization is more important than ever - we need the strength of numbers and a strong voice in state and federal matters. ACSA provides each of us with the support, advocacy and voice that is much needed in today's

challenging educational climate.

Region XI Goals for this year are: **Membership, Communication, Legislative Action & Alignment**

- **Membership:** Connect, Retain & Recruit
- **Communication:** State – Region – Charter – Individual
- **Legislative Action:** Increase our Voice
- **Alignment of Goals:** State – Region – Charter

I have the good fortune to be surrounded by a strong and supportive family network. My husband Bill and I live in a country home outside of Lindsay – our home is nearing its 100th birthday, and has a great deal of character and history imbedded within its walls and memories.

We have three children and one granddaughter – who is (of course!) a wonderful, brilliant & beautiful seven year old first grader! Bill & I find great satisfaction in spending time with our family, tending our herb gardens, and working on our family cabin in the mountains above Springville.

I've had the great fortune to be in School Site Administration for the past ten years. My experience has shown me that High Expectations, A Strong Work Ethic, Commitment, Consistency, Persistence and a Sincere

See Mestaz on page 13

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Association of California School Administrators Region XI Goals for 2010-2011

Heartfelt THANKS! to the Region XI Board and Executive Committee for creating the following goals for 2010-2011 during our June 2010 planning retreat. We will look at our goals at each region meeting and track and monitor our progress throughout the year.

Membership: Connect, Retain & Recruit

- Identify current members & non-members & update monthly
- Connect with existing & non-members within our district and/or network group
 - Provide opportunities to network within charters & at the region
 - Identify & articulate reasons why ACSA is an important organization
- Set a membership goal for 2010-11
 - Each charter sets own goal & reports on progress at each region meeting
 - Region sets overall goal based upon the charter's recommendations and tracks progress at each board meeting

Communication:

State–Region–Charter–Individual

- Attend committee & council meetings & give reports at each region board meeting

- Charter directors and/or presidents give the reports at the charter meetings

- Give timely information to the region & charters regarding state ACSA's influence and actions at the state and national level

- Provide e-mail information regarding region & charter events

Legislative Action: Increase our Voice

- Provide time at each region board meeting to give & receive specific feedback regarding current legislation
- Provide feedback to the e-mail requests for information/feedback when appropriate

Alignment of Goals: State–Region–Charter

- I would like each charter to create charter goals to support and align with region & charter goals. Ideally this would be done during the first charter meeting.

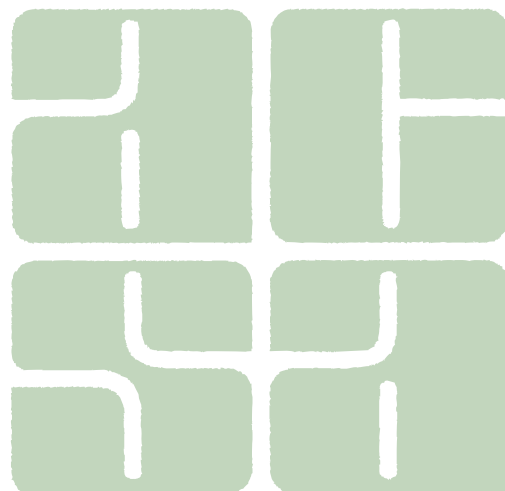
- Charter presidents or directors will be asked to report on the progress of their charter goals at each region board meeting

Mestaz

from page 11

Appreciation for my Learners and Team Members are key factors in being an effective leader. The thing I enjoy most about my position is the joy I find in working with my team and my learners –and seeing them grown, learn and develop to their full capacity. Although some may call me crazy – I absolutely *LOVE* working with My Middle School Students – they are Amazing!

Why am I a Member of ACSA? The path of an administrator can, at times, be a solitary journey – and the friendships, connections and support I receive from my ACSA colleagues – at the Charter, Region and State levels – provides me with support, friendship, information and assistance in my role as an administrator. My network of professional support is only an e-mail, phone call or a meeting away; ACSA is a Necessary Part of my Professional Life!



From the Region

President's Message

from page 1

| Award Category | Name | Position & District | Charter |
|--|------------------------------------|---|---------------------|
| Superintendent | Carolyn Kehrli | Superintendent, Cutler-Orosi | Tulare |
| Secondary Principal | Yolanda Valdez | Principal, Dinuba High School, Dinuba Unified School District | Tulare |
| Middle School Principal | Fred Molina | Principal, Mountain View School Lamont School District | West Kern |
| Elementary School Principal | Steve Duke | Principal, Quailwood Elementary School Fruitvale School District | West Kern |
| Central Office | Kelley Petty | Character Counts! Coordinator Tulare County Office of Ed | Tulare |
| Secondary Co-Administrator | Chad Houck | Burroughs High School Sierra Sands Unified School District | East Kern |
| Elementary Co-Administrator | Rick Mitchell | SCICON Director Tulare County Office of Ed | Tulare |
| Classified Leader | Robert Groeber | Assistant Superintendent Administrative Services Visalia Unified School District | Tulare |
| Confidential Employee | Shirley Wasnick | Sundale Union Elementary School District | Tulare |
| Personnel / Human Resources | Bill Jones | Assistant Superintendent Kern High School District | West Kern |
| Adult Education | Melissa Calvero | Director of Community Services Cutler-Orosi | Tulare |
| Career Tech Education Administrator | Randy Wallace | School-to-Career transition Director Tulare County Office of Ed | Tulare |
| Special Education Administrator | Lu Fleming | Administrator of Special Ed Kern High School District | West Kern |
| Superintendent / Principal | Sue Sherwood | Superintendent/Principal Three Rivers Elementary School District | Tulare |
| Business Services | Dr. Clare Gist | Assistant Superintendent, Business Services Tulare City School District | Tulare |
| Pupil Personnel Administrator | Diane Graziani-Orton | Deputy Superintendent / Director of Personnel Exeter Public Schools | Tulare |
| Curriculum & Instruction | Linda Bastrire | Director of Elementary Curriculum Visalia Unified School District | Tulare |
| Continuation / Educational Options | Sandi Lowe | Principal, Jamison High School Lemoore Union High School District | Kings |
| Professor of Education Every Student Succeeding | Dr. Scott Meier Tiffany Johnson | ProfessorPoint-Loma University Strathmore High School Porterville Unified School District | West Kern Tulare |
| Marcus Foster | Joanna Rummer | Superintendent Sierra Sands Unified School District | East Kern |
| Ferd Kiesel | Michael D. Lingo | Superintendent Bakersfield City School District | West Kern |
| Robert E. Kelly | Bill Black | Retired Educator & Community Service Volunteer | Kings |

Region XI Board Meeting Highlights

November 18, 2010

- Met at Hodel's Restaurant in Bakersfield with 18 members in attendance with Rebecca Mestaz, Region XI President Presiding.
- Reported an additional expense of \$8,500 to the ACSA PAC
- Heard reports from charter presidents Bonnie Kaufman (East Kern); Dr. Joe Santos (Tulare) and Dave Bowling (West Kern).
- Discussed the Region XI Fall Conference held at COS in Visalia on October 14, 2010.
- Appointed Andrew Burkasky, Administrator, Lindsay Unified School District, as Region XI's representative on the State Human Resources Council

replacing Dennis Martinez who is retiring.

- Presentation by Eric Snow, representative for Horace Mann, outlining the company's program to help schools by sponsoring various programs focusing on (1) Educator scholarships, Fellowships, Perfect Attendance incentive program, Reach Every Child and Teacher recognition programs.
- Discussed the Horace Mann program and recommended that the Region participate.
- Heard reports from David Tonini, Region XI Executive Director; Membership, Steve Bogan; Kelly Richers, Middle Grades Education Council.
- Awarded door prizes at the conclusion of the meeting.

December 9, 2010

The meeting was conducted by video conferencing with East Kern Charter meeting at Sierra Sands District Office at Ridgecrest, West Kern Charter meeting at KCOE in Bakersfield and Tulare County Charter meeting at TCOE in Visalia at 8:30 am with Rebecca Mestaz, Region XI President presiding. Kings Charter was unable to participate due to technical problems. Items of business included:

- Legislative update given by Terri Rufert, Region XI Vice President - Legislative Action
- Membership information shared by Dr. John Bogie, Member Services representative
- Discussion held at membership update of emails for the members of Region XI
- Treasurers report given by David Tonini, Region XI Executive Director
- Charter reports were shared by Bonnie Kaufman (East Kern); Dr. Joe Santos (Tulare) and Dave Bowling (West Kern)

• Request by President Mestaz that members give an update of schools and/or districts participating in the Horace Mann Program presented by Eric Snow. This update should be given at the Region XI Board Meeting to be held on January 13, 2011.

- Council vacancy for another representative on the Urban Council was announced
- Selection committee consists of a representative from each charter will meet at 12 pm on January 13, 2011 with Jose Morales, Region XI President-Elect, to choose the Administrator of the Year for 2011
- Report given by David Tonini, Region XI Executive Director
- East Kern meeting for December 13, 2010 at Tehachapi will be rescheduled
- Region XI newsletter/handbook updates reported by Richard Schlagel, Region XI Newsletter/Handbook Editor
- 13 Region XI Board Members participated in the meeting; East Kern (2), West Kern (5), Tulare (6)
- Meeting adjourned at 9:20 am.

From the Region

Executive Director

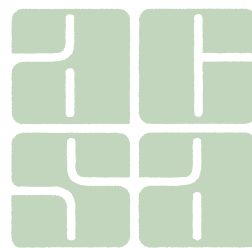
from page 3

explored by your charters and the region. Frank Silveira, Tulare Charter membership chair, has put together an initiative that is being started in Tulare with networking leaders being identified. Your Region Membership Chair Steve Bogan and Charter Presidents are presently reviewing this initiative for future consideration as a region.

Dr. David Hewitt, a Pathologist, at Kaweah Delta Hospital, recently shared his ideas with some Tulare County principals regarding the issue of determining the truthfulness of what is on the internet and in advertisements. He has put together some ideas as to how to teach students to determine the truthfulness of what they hear and see. He is willing to share his ideas with any interested principals and other educational leaders. All who attended his presentation were impressed. There is no charge for his presentation and it is not a standalone program. The ideas can be easily integrated into daily lessons. If you have an interest in meeting with Dr. Hewitt, email me.

John Wooden once said it takes ten hands to make a basket. A.C.S.A. is our vehicle for working together as administrators to make the very best things happen for our students. We expect our teachers to work together and collaborate. Now is the time for all A.C.S.A members to work together in job a likes to improve our practice and serve our students at the level they deserve. Bob Wells, our association's Executive Director, stated recently at an A.S.C.A employee retreat that our professional organization's purpose is the make the world a better place. Let's work together to achieve that purpose.

I would appreciate your thoughts and comments. Let me know how A.C.S.A can support you. Email: davidto02@comcast.net



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Region XI Council / Committee Updates

Adult Education Council

Nancy Williams

1. Branding

The ACSA AE Council joined other adult education professional organizations over the past two years to develop a statewide logo and tagline. This was done in an effort to create an identity for the adult school movement. The logo and tagline are in use in most organizations at this time.

2. Adult Education Strategic Plan

The new strategic plan is in its draft form at this time. It deals with demographic, fiscal, job-market, curriculum and accountability issues that need to be brought in the context of the new decade. Some of the notable points in the 70-page document include:

- an estimate of the cost of inadequate academic preparation on 2- and 4-year colleges
- negative fiscal effect of lack of appropriate training to allow for the preparation of generational replacement workers for the job market
- an estimate of a \$2.4 to \$4.2 TR increase in the GDP if the adult academic gap were closed
- the proposed use of collaborative leadership models that include partnerships with other education providers, workforce and business groups, social service agencies, etc. to leverage resources and to eliminate some of the

duplication of services in evidence

- transitional services and transitional centers, as a path to leveraging resources between adult education providers
- alignment of fiscal resources with statewide needs in a way that will not de-incentivize local adult school programs

3. Waiting List Survey

The National Council of State Directors of Adult Education submitted a report on Adult Ed waiting lists indicating that California had the second highest number of prospective students on waiting lists, topped only by Pennsylvania.

4. Management of School Closures and/or Program Reductions

Several schools that were told they were closing in the spring were able to begin small programs, either based on specific grant funds or on credit-recover programs for high school students. Funding is still bleak, but schools are doing all they can to maintain a presence in their community so that when the financial “turnaround” occurs, they will still be a recognized entity.

5. ACSA Adult Conference

There will be a conference call on Monday morning, October 18, in which council members will tally their local members’ votes on the issue of discontinuing the ACSA Adult Conference, and opting to become a strand of “Big ACSA”.

Classified Employee Leadership Council

Robert Groeber

The Classified Employee Leadership Council met on Wednesday, September 22, 2010 beginning at noon at the Doubletree Hotel in San Jose. This fall meeting is held in conjunction with the CEL Institute which was scheduled the following 2 days at the Doubletree.

Normal business was conducted first, including appointing this year’s council secretary and liaisons to the Human Resources Council, Membership Services Committee and Legislative Policy Committee. There was also discussion on the loss of statewide classified membership and how to promote and increase membership.

The unfortunate forced cancelation of last year’s the CEL Institute due to low attendance was then discussed in relation to this year’s modest registrations. This year’s

institute was held in the North and that was a break from a long-standing tradition of holding it in Southern California where participants could also do single day registrations.

Nearly 80 registrants were pre-registered and the council felt that was a good showing following a cancelled year and for being in a new location. Our Region XI was well-represented with 6 attendees from Cutler-Orosi, Earlimart, Visalia and Woodlake.

The council also discussed ways to increase classified participation at the region and chapter level. Effort is being made to create regional classified member email lists to increase communication. Some regions highlighted the classified specific training and networking opportunities that help promote membership and communication.

In the on-going effort to reduce costs, our next CEL Council meeting will be held via video conference on January 14, 2011. The meeting adjourned at approximately 4:00 pm and was followed by informal planning for the CEL Institute.

Region XI Council / Committee Updates

Business Services Council

John Caudle

Review of 2010-2011 Council Goals and Objectives

1. **Membership growth support** – How can we get more CBOs to participate in ACSA?
2. **Communication in newsletter** – recommendation for ACSA Business Council to submit articles to be published.
3. **Website involvement and maintenance**
 - a. We need to post more council information to promote communications to members and regions. Council members need to look at the ACSA webpage, sign up into the web community, recommend what the council can do with providing information in the community.

Council Membership and Other Efforts

1. 14,168 members today, almost at 18,000 two years ago
2. Down 1,300 members from prior year
3. 230 CBOs, 825 Superintendents
4. Suggested letter from Council to accompany ACSA marketing material (include testimonials from council members) to be delivered to the business services personnel.
5. Invite CBO colleagues to participate in the January Council Conference call to allow colleagues to hear what the council does and how ACSA is involved in the School Business Community – Adonai Mack to detail phone

conference etiquette in email to limit who speaks – council members to ask questions – CBO colleagues to listen in.

Hot Topics for Future Meetings and Publishing Best Practices Articles under Business Services Council Banner

1. Open to articles by individuals, groups, etc. Open to article topics related closely to the Business Services Council.
2. JVF – suggested articles relating to what the council has recently done/accomplished – too political? – picture of council meeting at capitol with write up could be informative and promote council, in turn promote involvement via membership.
3. David Gasser – visibility would be a good thing
4. JVF – articles not worthy of publication – articles can be posted on our website/community
5. Adonai Mack – FAQ posted on web/community
6. Karl Christensen – right an editorial on the end of categorical flexibility to provide input/impetus for lobbying.
7. Mays Kakish – Suggest Council develop an FAQ for Ed Jobs funding

Hot Topics

- a. JVF use the conference call to develop a platform
- b. Karl Christensen – take council members to legislators versus Rick Simpson
- c. Ann Jones – Flexibility issue, STRS issues, and cash flow issue.

Human Resource Council

Dennis Martinez

1. There was a round-robin introduction of members of the Human Resource Council with a short discussion about issues in their regions. I mentioned that all seemed well in Region 11 and that some of us were now involved in the negotiation process in our districts, and that some districts were now starting to investigate the need for early retirement incentives to deal with budget shortages.
2. There was some discussion that ACSA needs to provide current information to districts concerning state wide goals in negotiations as does CTA and CSEA. The discussion centered on ACSA establishing a similar process to counter act CTA and CSEA. It was implied that those organizations speak with a more united message across the state with the direction of their negotiation demands.
3. Michael Bossi, ACSA Director of Leadership Coaching, made a presentation on a ACSA Mentoring Program for Administrators and Coaching Program that deals with technical and managerial skills. He provided

ACSA pamphlets for each program.

4. There was also much discussion on the evaluation process for teachers, Principals, and other administrators. This is the up and coming topic for this year. The Human Resource Council set up a sub committee to gather more information and discussion.
 5. Support for Larry Aceves as Superintendent for Public Instruction was also discussed.
- Following the Human Resource Council meeting, there was two and half day conference for the ACSA 2010 Personnel Institute. We had nine members from Region 11 attend. It was informative and well received by all in attendance, besides giving personnel administrators a chance to network with others from all over the state.

Region 11 provided a \$100 gift card as one of the many raffle prizes.

The next meeting is scheduled in January 2011 in Universal City, prior to the Personnel Negotiator's Symposium.

Region XI Council / Committee Updates

Curriculum, Instruction and Accountability Council

Diane Graziani-Orton

1. ACSA must Define Effective Teachers and Leaders and make a role for itself in these decisions.
 - Criteria for evaluations
 - Disagree with the 4 interventions all of which include releasing principal
2. Teacher Evaluations
 - Evidence of student engagement, differentiation, multiple assessments and measures in addition to CST
 - Task Force to set the bar high
 - Issue about annual evaluations – state should decide this but they should be more collaborative
 - Multiple observations
 - EFFECTIVE AND IMPLEMENTED
3. Principal Evaluations
 - Set a high bar
 - Focused more on student needs
 - Self-assessments
 - Current arbitrary decisions are of great concern

4. Current Issues of Interest and Influence
 - How to make the grades 4 & 7 writing assessment more meaningful
 - How to make the CST more meaningful to secondary students
 - Can we create a single formula of accountability
 - Currently 8 formulas: AMO, AMAO, AYP, API, open enrollment, charter, program improvement
 - Need consensus as to what defines lowest 5%
5. Sponsoring Legislation
 - Fuentes Bill: requires standards commission to insure ELD is aligned to common core standards.
 - CTE standards aligned to common core standards
 - Achievement Gap Bill: framework and adoption to address ELD in 4 core content areas; special ed. Addressed in common core standards.
 - Training option for teachers in RTI (state funding)
6. Requested feedback on adoption cycle with regards to new core standards and assessment timeline – do we want “bridge” materials from current to new materials or next adoption be new materials aligned to core (take the leap)?
7. Assessment timeline: 2014-15...not finalized.

Member Services Committee

Steve Bogan

Regular

1. Certified or classified management/supervisory employees, confidential employees, professors of education, charter school administrators, employees of California Department of Education (CDE) or Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC).
2. Dues .0090 of prior year's salary.
3. AD (average dues) for 2010-2011 are \$974.80; minimum dues are \$370.20; maximum dues are \$1,475.00.

Consolidated

1. Regular members in Los Angeles USD, Fresno USD, San Francisco USD or San Diego USD
2. Dues .65 x AD; \$633.60 for salary exceeding \$60,000.

Associate

1. Members reassigned to non-administrative positions

2. Individuals meeting credential requirements, but not employed in a qualifying administrative positions
3. Education consultants
4. Early retirees
5. Former members not qualifying under other membership categories
6. Other individuals as approved by the Board
7. Professors of education, employees of CDE or CTC (can elect either regular or associate)
8. Dues: \$235.00

Student

1. Students enrolled in educational administration programs leading to the administrative credential and who are not employed in management or supervisory positions.
2. Dues: \$105.00

Retired

1. Individuals not working in the field of education and receiving compensation from STRS or PERS, including members who are medically disabled.
2. Dues: Full retired, \$105.00; Emeritus/Life, \$630.00; Retired Special Services, \$52.50.

Region XI Council / Committee Updates

Education Options Council

Chris Dutton

1. Adonai Mack – ACSA Legislative Advocate

- **Budget:** Situation will become very crazy and dicey in the next few years.
- **Jerry Brown:** Known to be fiscally conservative. ACSA will meet with him in the next 30 to 60 days.
- **State Budget:** Latest budget in CA history, but districts are budgeted more \$\$ than the May revision. However, the majority of the increase will be deferred until the 11-12 year.
- **ACSA:** Budget deferrals. About 30% of district resources are deferred to next year. Deferrals have crept up, so that \$7 billion is deferred from year-to-year, which amounts to about 30% of yearly funding.
- **ASAM eliminated:** This year graduation & attendance for ASAM was collected in CalPADS. But governor has now vetoed CalPADS. ASAM school data will likely roll into the traditional API system.
- **Pensions:** All pension bills vetoed. Bills on spiking and what can be included in compensation were vetoed. However, expect to see these return.
- **AB187:** Foster students low on course credits who transfer during 2nd semester of 11th grade onward, are required only to pass state core requirements to earn diploma.

2. Laura Preston – ACSA Legislative Advocate

- **Retirement Reform:** A lot of retirement reforms will be based on “transparency.”
- **Form 700:** “Conflict of interest” forms. The new legislation requires an addendum to the Form 700 that would show ALL compensation earned. Example: A superintendent that also earns \$150k per year as a Scholastic consultant. Clearly a conflict of interest.
- **STRS:** Some claim STRS will be unsupportable in 20-30 years. There is talk on caps, limits, exclusions, etc.
- **Social Security Windfall Elimination Act:** CalSTRS members get only 40% of SS when retired. Only 13 states have this type of restriction on people that have earned Social Security in addition to STRS.
- **Teacher Evaluations:** ESEA Task Force has created a Teacher and a Principal evaluation template per the RTT mandate.
- **ACLU suing LA Unified:** ACLU invoking the law that teacher evaluations be based on state models – they are

looking at ACSA models. Feds want districts to identify ineffective principals and teachers.

- **Charter Schools:** Rumor that Charter School Association that would prohibit districts from converting schools to charters.
- **Charter School Oversight:** ACSA working on a template on Charter School oversight. Laura fears that if we don't step up now, we will be sorry down the road. This will help ACSA to train its members.
- **Fingerprints:** Charter Schools are not required to conduct LifeScan.
- **ACSA relationship with Jerry Brown:** ACSA President Bob Wells on a telephone call basis. Do not know what Brown's School Board will look like and ACSA is not sure how Torlakson will operate.

3. Sherry Skelly Griffith – ACSA Legislative Advocate

- **ESEA:** NCLB has been top-down, punitive, and prescriptive. Obama also comes from a place of “do it this way or we remove the principal or superintendent.”
- **ESEA & Alt Ed:** Alt Ed is not reflected in ESEA, particularly in terms of assessment.
- **Common Core:** We adopted the Common Core in August which creates more of a balance between academic & career tech. Also more focus on technical subjects, such as science.
- **STAR testing:** Sun-setting in 2013 and implementation of a new assessment will be a big deal.
- **Testing:** Needs to be more flexible and more performance based.
- **SB219:** Test scores go back to original school of residence.

4. May 2011 meeting – align with CCEA? CCEA: Marion St. Amant stnanna@pacbell.net 323.819.3595

- Oakland Hope to meet in Oakland on Thursday, May 5th
- Kathleen will bring computer, camera & PC projector to Skype with ACSA Leg Advocates.

5. Goals for 2010-2011

- Increasing Ed options visibility
- Assessment
- Legislature
- ACSA membership

6. Meeting dates for 2010-2011

- November 3, 2010, San Diego
- February 18, 2011, Sacramento
- May 5, 2011, Oakland

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Dr. John Bogie

Executive Director - Region XI

David Tonini

Newsletter Editor

Richard Schlagerl

CALENDAR

January 2011

| | | |
|----|--|---------|
| 13 | West Kern Charter Board Meeting | 7:00am |
| 13 | Hodel's Restaurant, Bakersfield | |
| 13 | Region XI Board Meeting | 10:00am |
| 13 | Hodel's Restaurant, Bakersfield | |
| 14 | Administrator Awards Selection Committee | 12:30pm |
| 14 | Hodel's Restaurant, Bakersfield | |
| 14 | Kings County Charter Board Meeting | 12:00pm |
| 21 | Pioneer Union ESD Board Room | |
| 21 | Tulare County Charter Board Meeting | 7:00am |
| 21 | Apple Annie's Restaurant, Tulare | |

February 2011

| | | |
|----|--|---------|
| 10 | State ACSA Delegate Assembly | |
| 10 | Ontario, CA | |
| 11 | Kings County Charter Board Meeting | 12:00pm |
| 11 | Pioneer Union ESD Board Room | |
| 18 | Tulare County Charter Board Meeting | 7:00am |
| 18 | Apple Annie's Restaurant, Tulare | |
| 21 | West Kern Charter Annual Golf Tournament | |
| 21 | Seven Oaks Country Club | |

March 2011

| | | |
|-------|--|---------|
| 3 | West Kern Charter Board Meeting | 7:00am |
| 3 | Hodel's Restaurant, Bakersfield | |
| 3 | Region XI Board Meeting | 8:30am |
| 7 | Hodel's Restaurant, Bakersfield | |
| 7 | East Kern Charter Board Meeting | 5:30pm |
| 11 | Location: TBD | |
| 11 | Kings County Charter Board Meeting | 12:00pm |
| 11 | Pioneer Union ESD Board Room | |
| 13-14 | State ACSA Legislative Action Day | |
| 13-14 | Sacramento, CA | |
| 18 | Tulare County Charter Board Meeting | 7:00am |
| 18 | Apple Annie's Restaurant, Tulare | |
| 31 | Tulare County Charter Annual Spring Conference | |
| 31 | Location: TBD | |

April 2011

| | | |
|-----|--|---------|
| 1 | Tulare County Annual Support Conference | 8:00am |
| 1 | Visalia Convention Center | |
| 7 | West Kern Charter Board Meeting | 7:00am |
| 7 | Hodel's Restaurant, Bakersfield | |
| 7 | Region XI Board Meeting | 8:30am |
| 7 | Hodel's Restaurant, Bakersfield | |
| 7 | Region XI Student Scholarship Selection Committee | 10:30am |
| 8 | Hodel's Restaurant, Bakersfield | |
| 8 | Kings County Charter Board Meeting | 12:00pm |
| 13 | Pioneer Union ESD Board Room | |
| 13 | Kings County Charter Administrative Assistant's Luncheon | TBD |
| 15 | Location: TBD | |
| 15 | Tulare County Charter Board Meeting | 7:00am |
| 25 | Apple Annie's Restaurant, Tulare | |
| 25 | East Kern Charter Board Meeting | 5:30pm |
| 26 | Location: TBD | |
| 26 | Kings County Charter Retiree's Breakfast | 8:15am |
| 27 | West Kern Charter Annual Secretary's Luncheon | 11:30am |
| 29 | STARS, Bakersfield | |
| 29 | Tulare County Charter ESS Breakfast | 7:00am |
| TBD | Visalia Unified School District Board Room | |
| TBD | Tulare County Charter Retiree's Breakfast | 8:30am |