



Advance Newsletter

association of california
school administrators

region 6

June 2019



President's Message

Bold and Courageous Leaders,

As my term as President comes to an end, I want to thank all of you for the opportunity to serve in this capacity. It has been a valuable experience both personally and professionally. ACSA is a well-respected and highly-regarded administrators association, and it has been such an honor just to be a part of this executive board.

I have been fortunate to have worked closely with such a quality board, committee and council members. I am very appreciative of all you have done this year. Our accomplishments have been impressive and it was truly a team effort. There have been so many noteworthy moments as I write this last message; I look forward to attending the Annual Region 6 Leadership Summit featuring our first job-alike sessions. I truly believe this is the result of listening to the members input, focusing on their needs first, and providing a quality, affordable conference!

This year has been great. Our theme was *bold and courageous leadership*. Here are a few of the highlights of our Region 6 work:

- Inaugural 2-day region leadership retreat (A's Game and Strategic Planning)
- Reactivated North Alameda Charter
- Inaugural 1-day Equity Symposium
- Three Women's Leadership Network events – well attended!
- Leadership Assemblies in October, February & May
- Legislative Action Day with 14 attendees in April
- Supported the election of Contra Costa County Superintendent Lynn Mackey and State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond
- Professional development/coaching support – 15 academies scholarships, 37 mentees in our mentor program, 5 Charter PD events
- Awarded 10 student scholarships, 13 Mini-Grants & 7 Every Student Succeeding scholarships
- Social media presence on Facebook and Twitter

Again, thank you to Region 6 administrators and a special thank you to Region 6 staff - Bob Giannini, Rose Lock and Steve Collins for their support! I look forward to working as the Past President with our new President Pam VandeKamp! Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to serve; I walk away with memories and friendships that I will forever cherish.

Remember to continue to be *bold and courageous* in your leadership and advocacy for our children!

Sincerely,
[Sonja Neely-Johnson](#)



Every Student Succeeding

At the April 23 Awards Luncheon, the following students were recognized for demonstrating tremendous resilience and courage in overcoming challenges in their life's journey to achieving success. Each student was awarded \$250. They were nominated by the ACSA members listed. Congratulations go to:

- Bryan Canty, Dozier-Libbey Medical HS, Antioch USD (Scott Bergerhouse)
- Jennifer Flores, Alameda Science/Tech Institute, Alameda USD (Tracy Corbally)
- Tania Gonzalez, Crossroads HS, Mt. Diablo USD (Christina Filios)
- Malia Hempel, Altamont Creek Elementary, Livermore USD (Tara Aderman)
- Giovanni Martinez, Centerville JHS, Fremont USD (Walt Lewis)
- Raven Richardson, Pinole Valley HS, West Contra Costa USD (Kibby Kleiman)

Region 6 winner Armando Wright from Decoto School for Independent Study in New Haven USD received a \$1000 scholarship. He was nominated by ACSA member Grace Kim. As a region winner, Armando will also be recognized at the annual ACSA State Conference in San Francisco in November. ACSA is also filming a video about each region winner. Look for his story on the [ACSA website](#)

Student Scholarships

Bob Blackburn Student Scholarships

Region 6 was pleased to present ten \$1000 scholarships to children of ACSA members at this year's awards luncheon. Congratulations to these outstanding students:

- Tyler Rohlfs, Heritage HS, Liberty UHSD (Guy Rohlfs)
- Stella Mohammed, Livermore HS, Livermore USD (Roxana Mohammed)
- Ajani Byrd, James Logan HS, New Haven USD (Akilah Byrd)
- Matthew Cruz, Monte Vista HS, San Ramon Valley USD (Rafael Cruz)
- Jackson Berg, Dublin HS, Dublin USD (Jacob Berg)
- Andrew Pereira, Amador Valley HS, Pleasanton USD (Heather Pereira)
- Emily Roberts, Heritage HS, Liberty UHSD (Erin Roberts)
- Haileigh Davis, Millennium Charter, Tracy (Andrea Antypas)
- Bria Deadwiler, James Logan HS, New Haven USD (Cheryl Cotton)
- Jenna Rogenski, UC Davis Law (Keith Rogenski)



Region 6 Every Student Succeeding winner Armando Wright here with Sonja Neely-Johnson, Essence Phillips, and Grace Kim.



So proud of our recipients of student scholarships and Every Student Succeeding scholarships



Legislative Action Day 2019



Our Vice President of Political Action, James Parrish, conducting briefing with Region 6 delegation prior to LAD in the Capitol.



Region 6 team reviewing issue papers and preparing for their visit with legislators.



Toby Hopstone, Beth Cutter, Alex Eckert, Will McGee, Sonja Neely-Johnson posing with State Senator Steve Glazier following their meeting



Region 6 delegation all set to hit the Capitol on April 8, 2019



2019 Region 6 Leadership Summit

Thriving on the Vine: Cultivating Creative, Bold & Courageous Leadership

June 19-20, 2019

Casa Real at Ruby Hill Winery in Pleasanton

Don't miss this outstanding conference with a lineup of presenters including:

George Couros - *Innovator's Mindset*

Monique Morris - *Education is Freedom Work*

Rushton Hurley - *Making Your School Special***

Victor Rios - *Project GRIT: Generating Resilience to Inspire Transformation*

Alyssa Gallagher & Kami Thordarson - *Design Thinking for School Leaders*

Laurie Grossman & Ursula Stoller - *Mindfulness Creates Brain Changes for Increased Resiliency*

David Foster & Cecilio Dimas - *Creating a Vision for Effective Mathematics Instruction*

Ricky Robertson - *Building Resilience in Students Impacted by Childhood Experiences*

Heather Hough - *Social-Emotional Learning*

Vern Hazard - *Relational Leadership*

Bay Area Discovery Museum - *Try It Truck!*

Multi-Tiered Systems of Support Panel

Nick Zefeldt, Carol Loflin, Erin Dinday, Jennifer Whitney

Speed Learning and Networking

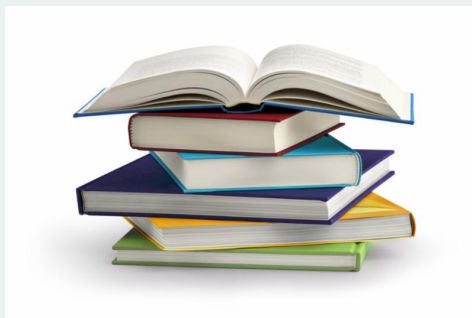
Matt Chamberlain & Christy Glaser

Administrators of the Year Awards Dinner on June 20

[Click here](#) for Summit flyer

[Register Now](#) on Eventbrite

Leadership Summit schedule now on ACSA app, download from your app store



Book Exchange at the Summit

Back again for the 3rd year!

Many of us have cherished professional book collections that are hard to part with. Consider sharing them with other educational leaders. Bring these professional books (relatively current) to the Summit. We will have a table set up so attendees can give and take these valuable resources.



It's Been Busy in Region 6!

Retiree Charter

President - Dick Lloyd

Save these dates for next year's luncheon meetings: October 8, 2019; February 11, 2020; and May 12, 2020.



Retired members listening to ACSA Advocate Ivan Carrillo's update on school funding, current legislations on pensions, and relevant court cases



Retiree Charter President Dick Lloyd and ACSA Board member Linda Hutcherson thanking Ivan for his informative presentation



Women's Leadership Network



Nick Zefeldt engaging participants in reflecting how they find work/life balance in an always connected world.



Angela Ehrlich (Newark USD) and Brian Inglesby (Orinda UESD) at the May 2 networking event sharing their strategies and insights with each other.

For WLN activities in 2019-2020, check Region 6 website in the fall. [Click here](#). If you have other ideas and would like to get involved in planning WLN activities, contact [Rose Lock](#), Region 6 Executive. The network is not limited to women leaders.



Proud of our Region's ACSA Academies Graduates!

Congratulations to the following ACSA members in Region 6 who completed an academy this year. We commend these leaders for making the commitment to continue to learn and grow in their profession.

Personnel Academy

Keziah Moss Sandstrom (San Leandro USD)
Jennifer Chiarelli (Dublin USD)
Thomas Doppe (Martinez USD)
Dustin Gacherieu (Castro Valley USD)
Nimarta Grewal (Pleasanton USD)
Catherine Ingham-Watters (Newark USD)

Principals Academy

Julie Buschanan-Plaisa (Newark USD)
Nicole Chaplan (San Ramon Valley USD)
Caroline Fields (Pleasanton USD)
Wendy Fruit (Oakley UESD)
Janet Gates (Pleasanton USD)
Lauren Griggs (Brentwood UESD)
Michael Hans (Alameda USD)
Osi Juergens (San Ramon Valley USD)
Megan Keefer (San Ramon Valley USD)
Elizabeth Lyons (Pleasanton USD)
Deborah Mattes (Oakley UESD)
Elizabeth Pagano (San Ramon Valley USD)
Hue Phan (Pittsburg USD)

Pupil Services Academy

Jennifer Clark (Pittsburg USD)
Deborah Collins Babb (Orinda UESD)
Joseph Ianora (San Ramon Valley USD)
Julie Johnson (Mt. Diablo USD)
Amy McNamara (Acalanes UHSD)
Patrinia Redd (Castro Valley USD)

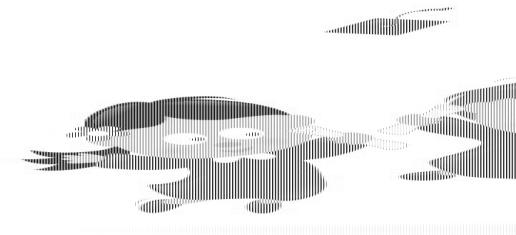
Special Ed Academy

Akilah Byrd (Newark USD)
Amanda Goliher (Newark USD)
Sonja Neely-Johnson (West Contra Costa USD)

Superintendents Academy

Chris Calabrese (Brentwood UESD)
Anthony Molina (Pittsburg USD)
Harvey Yurkovich (Knightsen USD)

[Click here](#) for 2019-2020 Academies



From Your Region Executive



Region 6 President Sonja Neely-Johnson is recognized by ACSA President-Elect Linda Kaminsky and President Holly Edds



Linda Hutcherson is recognized for serving as an At-Large Rep on the ACSA State Board of Directors for the past 3 years



Region 6 Delegates discussing region progress on Year 1 milestones of ACSA Strategic Plan



Region 6 delegation to ACSA Leadership Assembly

At the May Leadership Assembly in Sacramento, your Region 6 President, President-Elect and Treasurer participated in a leadership training with ACSA leaders and staff. This was an opportunity for region leaders to develop a deeper understanding of ACSA and its current focus. Much time was spent on the second day with region delegates on the progress of ACSA's Strategic Plan in meeting Year 1 milestones. Region delegation was given time to plan for Year 2 milestones. You will hear more during this coming year.

ACSA is only as strong as the engagement of members at the local charter and region levels. Those administrators who are ACSA members know the value of the organization not just for them as individuals but also for the good of public education in California. It is THE professional organization for school administrators in our state. Please commit to sharing information with colleagues who may not understand all the benefits of being an ACSA member. Region 6 leaders and staff are also eager to come to your districts and share the information with administrators.

Thank you to Sonja Neely-Johnson for her outstanding leadership as our Region President this year. Her theme of *Bold and Courageous Leadership* guided our region's work this year as noted in her President's Message above. Sonja is a stellar example of a leader of leaders who is passionate about her profession and dedication to students. Above all, she has the most positive attitude about how we can all make a difference for children.

There are many leadership opportunities in ACSA. If you are interested in being more involved in Region 6 or at your charter level, don't hesitate to contact me.

Don't forget to check the Region 6 website regularly. We will be updating it this summer with information on minigrants, scholarships, PD events, etc. Of course, follow us on Twitter and Facebook!

Enjoy your summer and I look forward to serving you in 2019-2020.

[Rose Lock](#), Region 6 Executive



Welcome to new ACSA members



Region 6 welcomes the following new members:

Alameda COE

Mercedes Henderson

Antioch USD

Sonja Bell

Brentwood UESD

Daniel Hawley

Dublin USD

Melissa West

Emery USD

Eddie Scruggs Smith

Mt. Diablo USD

Jorge Melgoza

Erin DeMartini

Elizabeth Kim

Newark USD

Julie Calderon

Orinda UESD

Tracey Lewis

Pittsburg USD

Jeannine Manguiat

Sonia Trujillo

Cecilia Valdez

Oakley UESD

Teresa Bryson

Retirees

Rafael Cruz

San Leandro USD

Doris Castillo-Shadic

Michele Felarca

Jason Strickland

San Ramon Valley USD

Rebecca Ingram

West Contra Costa USD

John Al-Amin

Nick Berger

Michael Small

Kudos to the following ACSA member for recruiting new members this quarter:

Sara Walke



Region 6 Newsletter

Congratulations to **Felicia Stuckey Smith** of Mt. Diablo USD and **Nick Zefeldt** of Contra Costa COE who won Starbucks gift cards for carefully reading the March issue of this newsletter! If you are reading this issue of our ACSA Region 6 Newsletter, we thank you for your engagement and support of our effort to communicate with you. [Click here](#) and you may win a prize!



[Contact Us](#)

We welcome your feedback and suggestions.

[ACSA Website](#)

[Region 6 Website](#)

Region 6 Staff

[Rose Lock](#), Executive

[Steve Collins](#), Consultant

Region 6 Leadership

President: Sonja Neely-Johnson

President-Elect: Pam VandeKamp

Past President: Essence Phillips

Vice President, Staff Development: Hilary Dito

Vice President, Programs: Cindy Matteoni

Vice President, Political Action: James Parrish III

Vice President, Membership: Kris Martin-Meyer

Secretary: Pam Hughes

Treasurer: Kathy LaCome

Comptroller: Lorianne Ventura

Equity Chair: Tovi Scruggs

ACSA Board Director: Parvin Ahmadi

At-Large Representatives: Kevin Grier, Bruce Burns, Tracie Noriega, Jacob Berg

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." - Nelson Mandela

