

Region 6 Leaders will be well represented at state ACSA with the election of Daryl Camp as the new Vice President of ACSA. Congratulations, Daryl!



Advance Newsletter

association of california
school administrators

region 6

May 2023

President's Message



Leading for Justice, a Work of "Heart"

Dear ACSA Region 6 Leaders,

As President of Region 6 this year, I chose the theme, "Leading for Justice, a work of 'Heart'." I chose this theme as I wanted to challenge us to push our consciousness and actions towards dismantling systemic racism, truly being antiracist educational leaders, and creating a more just and liberated society.

Grounded in that challenge though, is LOVE. Paolo Freire discussed that love is based in courage. It is a commitment to each other and the cause. Cornel West said that, "Justice is what Love looks like in public," and he also said that you can't lead people if you don't love them.

That last thought always gives me pause. Yet, we ask the same of those that work most closely with our youth. As we do this brave work, that necessitates strength and courage, let us remember that in order to be the best servant leaders for our students, we must care for our hearts, and our health as well.

I thank you for your service to students. Our role as school administrators continues to evolve and change, as the needs of our students change, and you all continue to answer the call to leadership while inspiring the next generation of school leaders.

As we end another school year and look to the next, not only do I end my term as President for ACSA Region 6 and as Equity Chair, I leave Region 6. I remain grateful for the opportunity to serve on the Executive Board for so many years and for the many friends and colleagues I have

made in that time. I am especially thankful to Tess Johnson, Rose Lock, Belen Magers, and Karen Sakata, these amazing Asian American women who welcomed me in 2007 with open arms. Thank you for paving the way, serving as my role models, and mentoring me all of these years. I can only hope to continue to make you proud.

I wrote this poem for our Awards Dinner and I share it here with all of you, for all of you. I hope it inspires you to not just lead, but lead for justice, lead with your heart:

*Leading for justice is a work of heart.
Especially in a system
that wasn't made for me
Glimpses of that work seem fleeting
Elusive
Nonexistent.
Yet I contend,
Every day on end,
Our hearts,
Rock solid and beating with the strength of our ancestors,
Live on in the eyes of our youth.
Those eyes that say,
You see me,
And I see you.
Our hearts work lives on in youth voices,
That protest,
That speak their truth,
That call out injustice,
That call on us to lead for them.*

*Our hearts work is our youth.
So with that,
Let us bear to mind
Of being Kind
Of being Love
And continuing to lead for justice
For it is and always will be a work of heart.*

In Community,
[Tracie Noriega](#)
Region 6 President
and Equity Chair



Congratulations, Tracie Noriega! **Appointed new ACSA Senior Director of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion**

It is bittersweet for Region 6 to say goodbye to Tracie. We are so thrilled and proud of her as she takes on state leadership as the next ACSA Senior Director of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. We cannot think of a more passionate and qualified person for this role. It's a critical time for our region to share Tracie with the rest of the state.

Region 6 is immensely grateful for Tracie's leadership and service to ACSA since 2007 when she

stepped up to be a Charter President. Since then, she has served in many board positions over the years. She has been most impactful as she shared her passion for equity and dedication to social justice. Region 6 is committed to this work for the long haul and will carry on her vision. We also know Tracie will continue to guide us as she begins her new role to lead ACSA's equity efforts throughout California.

Good luck, Tracie. We will miss you!

Read more about Tracie's appointment in the May 15, 2023 issue of EdCal or [at this link](#).



Region 6 Leaders Take on ACSA Leadership

At the May 11 ACSA Leadership Assembly, Dr. Daryl Camp was elected Vice President for 2023-24. He will now be in line to become President Elect the following year and President in 2025-26. He will join Parvin Ahmadi, who was installed as the next President of ACSA, on the Executive Board for 2023-24.



Parvin giving an inspiring address to the Leadership Assembly after being installed as ACSA President



2023-24 ACSA officers after being sworn in: Gina Potter, VPLA; Daryl Camp, Vice President; Erin Simon, Past-President; Parvin Ahmadi, President; and Rafael Plascensia, President-Elect



Daryl giving his candidate's statement to delegates gathered at the Leadership Assembly



Sonja Neely-Johnson being sworn in along with fellow members for the 2023-24 term on ACSA Board of Directors.



Region 6 delegation to Leadership Assembly posing with Daryl Camp after his election as the new ACSA Vice President



Fortunate to have 2 last-minute alternates Christina Filios and Erin Roberts joining the R6 delegation



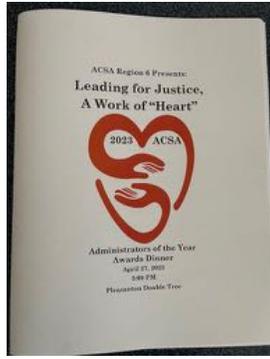
Administrator of the Year Awards Celebration

2023 Region 6 Administrator of the Year Awards Dinner was a SOLD OUT event! 300 ACSA members, family and friends came together on April 27 at the Pleasanton DoubleTree Hotel to celebrate all of our administrators of the year.

For those who were in attendance, you will agree that it was a party we won't soon forget! We

won't be able to top 3 power outages again! Thank you to our attendees for their patience and understanding throughout the dinner and keeping the spirit up. As we told the hotel staff, we are mostly school administrators and we know how to deal with the unexpected!

The 2023-24 ACSA Awards season will open on August 1. Check ACSA website!



Region 6 presenting our annual ACSA Administrator of the Year Awards Celebration



Vice President Pam Hughes welcoming honorees and guests to the evening's festivities



Mariachi Estrella del Pueblo from Pleasanton USD performing at the reception before our awards dinner



Erin Roberts and family enjoying the pre-dinner reception



Honoree Nadine Rosenzweig (left) gathering with her SRVUSD colleagues



Sonja Neely-Johnson and Steve Collins congratulating honorees from West Contra Costa USD



Region 6 President Tracie Noriega welcoming a large enthusiastic crowd tonight



A full house representing 19 charters ready to celebrate nearly 70 administrators of the year across our region



Incoming ACSA President Parvin Ahmadi welcoming honorees and guests



Incoming R6 Executive Board being sworn in by incoming ACSA President Parvin Ahmadi



2023-24 President-Elect Matt Chamberlain and President Raul Zamora will be leading Region 6



Outgoing Charter Presidents are acknowledged for their ACSA leadership and service



Appreciation to these R6 reps to ACSA state councils and committees for completing their 3-year terms



R6 Superintendent of the Year Dana Eaton receiving his award from President Tracie Noriega



ACOE Superintendent Alysse Castro and Tracie Noriega presenting R6 Valuing Diversity Award to Yvonna Rogers



Region 6 and state ACSA Special Ed Administrator of the Year Nanette Gray receiving her award



Julie Braun Martin receiving her award as the R6 and state Retired Administrator of the Year



Newark Administrators of the Year Leonor Rebosura and Ariel Dolowich proudly showing their awards



Tracie Noriega presenting Pam Hughes with the 2023 President's Award



2022 Winner Sonja Neely-Johnson presenting the Region 6 Nels Nelson Award to outgoing President Tracie Noriega



R6 Elementary Co-Administrator of the Year Margrette Wui being congratulated by her coach Donna Yokomizo, a long time ACSA member now retired



Bay Area Equity Symposium 2024

SAVE the DATE: February 9 and 10, 2024

Next year's symposium will be a collaboration again with Region 5 and Region 8. In addition, we will have the California Subject Matter Project (CSMP) as a new partner. Stay tuned.



ACSA Legislative Action Days 2023

"ACSA advocacy days return to capital" was the headline on the April 24, 2023 issue of EdCal. This is the first in-person Legislation Action Day event since 2019. Over 225 school leaders from throughout California including 13 from our region attended the 2-day event on April 17 & 18 in Sacramento.

The last election also brought many new members to the State Senate and Assembly. These advocacy days provide school leaders to build relationships with our law-makers as well as educating many of them about the reality of what's going on in our schools and districts.

ACSA identified the following issue areas for this year's advocacy:

1. Robust and stable school funding
2. Preserving the arts, music, and instructional materials block grant
3. Safe and Modern Schools
4. Staff shortage: recruitment and retention
5. Streamlined accountability

These two Legislative Action Days also drew many first time attendees to the advocacy process. One of our region's delegate who attended for the first time was Bethanee Witczak, an elementary principal from San Lorenzo USD. She spoke to her experience.

"It was my first time attending ACSA's Legislative Action Day in Sacramento and I'm so glad I attended. I learned a lot from the speakers, which included California Superintendent of Schools Tony Thurmond, and I had the opportunity to share information with legislators about the challenges we face in our schools today. I was able to share stories from my own school to advocate for funding and a focus on school safety."

As a region, we hope to continue this advocacy work with our law-makers at the local level. If you are interested, please contact [Kathy LaCome](#), our Vice President of Leg Action.

Download these documents from LAD. They may be helpful when you want to share these issues with your community.

[Talking Points 2023](#)

[Leave Behind 2023](#)

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!



ACSA Legislative Action Day in Sacramento on April 17 & 18, 2023



Region 6 delegation advocating for students and public education in California



R6 Team visiting with Liz Ortega, recently-elected Assembly Member representing AD 20



Region 6 advocates posing with



SPI Tony Thurmond after his
uplifting keynote

San Lorenzo Superintendent
Daryl Camp always speaking
out on behalf of students

Region 6 President Tracie
Noriega making advocacy for
education a priority



Awards Luncheon

After a 3-year pandemic hiatus, the Region 6 Awards Luncheon was held on April 20 to recognize 14 Bob Blackburn Student Scholarship recipients, mini-grant winner Paulette Smith, and 6 nominees for the ACSA Every Student Succeeding Award. Each scholarship recipient received their \$1000 check and shared their higher education plans.



Amazing students being recognized at Awards Luncheon



Principal Paulette Smith receiving a R6 mini-grant while her student was recognized as an Every Student Succeeding nominee



ACSA Academies 2023-24



ACSA is Your Career Partner

The Association of California School Administrators provides a full range of academies, in 10 leadership specializations, to meet your needs as a school administrator, confidential employee or classified manager. Learn more about ACSA academies for 2023-24 on the ACSA website [at this link](#).

Region 6, as well as ACSA, provides scholarships to its members for these academies. Check [Region 6 website](#). Application will be posted in August. Information about ACSA scholarships can be found using the above link for ACSA.

Download [Academies at a Glance](#)



From Your Region Executive Director

ACSA Region 6 for 2023-24

Region 6 is busy planning for 2023-24 just like all of you are for your school or district. Our goal this coming year is to share the schedule of events with you as early as possible so you can get them on your calendar. Be sure you check the Region 6 website regularly for updates.

We have scheduled 4 membership networking events (2 in the fall and 2 in the spring) throughout the region. We hope you can join us for them to connect with fellow administrators. One of the most valuable benefits of ACSA membership is networking. These events are planned to be fun and purely social!

CALLING ALL RETIRING ADMINISTRATORS! Don't let this issue be your last. Do you know that your ACSA membership does not automatically continue after you retired. You must apply for Retiree membership. Stay connected with the education community and informed on educational issues. Apply for new retiree membership [on ACSA website](#). This is a great way to transition into retirement! Trust me...

Here's [the link](#) to an article in the May 22 issue about staying with ACSA in retirement.

I wish all of you a slower pace in the next few weeks. Take care of yourself!

[Rose Lock](#), Region 6 Executive Director



WHY ACSA? Congratulations to Long Term Members

Do you remember how and when you became an ACSA member? Many of us joined ACSA when we were students in our administrative credential program. We were told that ACSA was our professional organization as we embarked on an educational administration career. So, we enthusiastically became members of this premier organization.

In Region 6, there are 37 active administrators who have been ACSA members for over 20 continuous years. Thank you for their confidence and dedication to our professional organization.

- Edward Diolazo (21)
- Lauren Kelly (21)
- Robert A Martinez (21)
- Jennifer Vargas (21)
- Timothy Erwin (22)
- Linda Granger (22)
- Kevin Honey (22)
- Michael McLaughlin (22)
- Amy McNamara (22)
- Michael Murphy (22)
- Robert Patrick (22)
- Essence Phillips (22)
- Nia Rashidchi (22)
- Helen Rossi (22)
- John Thompson (22)
- Dana Eaton (23)
- Karen Heilbronner (23)
- Linda Pete (23)
- Jennifer Sachs (23)
- Leticia Salinas (23)
- Raul Zamora (23)
- Parvin Ahmadi (24)
- Daryl Camp (24)
- Craig Lang (24)
- Reginald Marsh (24)
- Adam Clark (25)
- Kevin Collins (25)
- Ramon Cusi (25)
- Denise Rugani (25)
- Eric Volta (25)
- Nancie Castro (26)
- Cindy Hicks (26)
- Scott Pizani (26)
- Frank Wells (26)
- Roxane Jaablonski-Liu (28)
- Keith Rogenski (28)
- Marie Morgan (29)

A BIG shout-out to a large group of Region 6 retirees who have continued to maintain their ACSA membership. 193 of them have been members now for 21 to 52 years! These ACSA members are clearly proud of their profession and career as educational administrators!



Member in the News

Sonja Neely-Johnson is our current Region 6 representative to serve on the ACSA Board of Directors. In addition to this volunteer position, Sonja is also the SELPA Director in the West Contra Costa USD and a mother of a 21 year old son with special needs.

Recently, EdSource published an article about her district's first prom for students with special needs such as autism and intellectual abilities. She was one of the event organizers and her son attended this inaugural district event. Sonya feels that it is a goal to eventually have traditional proms be inclusive enough that all students and families feel comfortable attending.

You can read about this heart-warming event at this [link](#).

Note: EdSource is a nonprofit newsroom devoted to covering equity in education with in-depth analysis and data-driven journalism.(edsource.org)



Welcome to New ACSA Members



Region 6 welcomes the following new ACSA members in March and April.

Antioch USD

Amanda Gallagher, Alison Stroot

Fremont USD

Michael Murray

Hayward USD

Terrance Christianson

Liberty UHSD

Jaja Atenra

Mt. Diablo USD

Josie Kirkland

Pittsburg USD

Martha Campos-Lopez

Pleasanton USD

Alphonso Powell



Region 6 Partners Corner

Thank you to all our Region 6 Partners for supporting our programs in 2022-23.



[Contact Us](#)

We welcome your feedback and suggestions.

[ACSA Website](#)

[Region 6 Website](#)

Region 6 Staff

[Rose Lock](#), Executive Director

[Steve Collins](#), Consultant

Region 6 Leadership

President: Tracie Noriega

President-Elect: Raul Zamora

Past President: Mark Neal

VP, Staff Development: Lorianne Ventura

VP, Programs: Pam Hughes

VP, Legislative Action: Kathy LaCome

VP, Membership: Renee Lama

Secretary: Christy Glaser

Treasurer: Annette Heldman

Equity Chair: Tracie Noriega

Communication Chair: Marcus Walton

ACSA Board Director: Sonja Neely-Johnson

At-Large Representatives: Christina Filios,

Nanette Gray, Evan Powell, Harvey Yurkovich

The Association of California School Administrators is the driving force for an equitable, world-class education system, and the development and support of inspired educational leaders who meet the diverse needs of all California students.

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