



Association of California School Administrators

Mark Campbell - 2020-2021 President, ACSA Region 7

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It was a little over one year ago that we were collectively hit by the tsunami of COVID-19 and the resulting turbulence impacting programs, services, operations, people and your leadership continues. The only certainty quite often is the relative uncertainty that we must navigate most every day---made even more daunting when so many we serve and lead expect us to have all the answers to all the questions, in real time. Yet, lead we do, day in and day out, no matter the situation or conditions that confront us. I have seen so many examples in Region 7 of the best, strongest and most high-quality leadership---continuously and consistently amazing and gratifying.

ACSA as a collective entity--- at the state, region and charter level---has demonstrated the tenacity and capacity to rise and rally and meet the challenges of all moments. You all have represented what it means to be present, to be engaged, to be strong and to selflessly serve as educational leaders---and the staff and students who directly and indirectly benefit from your leadership are so much better as a result. ACSA recognizes, embodies and supports the powerful impact educational leaders have.

The work is hard and the toll is significant. Taking care of yourself as you prioritize taking care of all others in your orbit is never easy---but it is essential. Whatever you can do, however you can do it, please find the time, no matter the scarcity of your minutes and moments, to practice the self-care we all hear about and that we routinely request of others.

We will see this 2020/21 school year through, with all the ebbs and flows to come, to finish strong---and we will prepare for the great work to be done in 2021/22.

With gratitude for you and all you do in your respective roles.



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ACSA REGION 7 ANNOUNCES SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Region 7 awarded all of the eligible applicants a \$1,000 scholarship, in order to support the students whose education and/or graduations were interrupted and cancelled due to COVID-19. Congratulations to the following students:

- Katherine Aldridge – Gold Rush Charter School – daughter of Joe Aldridge
- Lilyana Castro – Liberty HS – daughter of Nancie Castro
- Alexandra Fereria – Ripon HS – daughter of Elizabeth Avila-Fereria
- Caleb Henry – Patterson HS– son of Toney Henry
- Christina Higle – Turlock HSI – daughter of Chris Higle

- Kira Huerta – Dos Palos HS – daughter of Shelby & Marcos Huerta
- Michael Megenney – Escalon HS – son of George Megenney
- Antonia Peters – UOP – daughter of Christine Torres-Peters
- Andrew Rich – Davis HS – son of Mike Rich
- Calvin Richey – Heritage HS – son of Deborah Richey
- Leena Sanchez – Pitman HS– daughter of Jose Sanchez
- Siera Sandoval – Central Valley HS– daughter of Mariana Sandoval
- Kevin Wise – Ceres HS– son of Brian Wise
- Jennah Zambrano – Manteca HS– daughter of Julio Zambrano

REGION 7 CHARTER REPORTS

Mother Lode Charter

by Andria Tiquet, President

The Mother Lode Charter enjoyed putting on a drive through event for our Every Student Succeeding recipients. Each student received a framed certificate along with a dozen donuts and pictures with their administrators. For the Employees Making a Difference awards, we are recognizing our amazing classified staff who go above and beyond by delivering a special token of appreciation to each of their sites. Our Spring PD was held on April 15th that included a legislative update from our State ACSA partners. A special thank you to Iván Carrillo, Diana Vu, and Jason Henderson from the ACSA GR Department for sharing information and answering questions from our members. The PDP was available for all Region 7 members to join. As we look ahead to the end of the school year, we are planning to hold our End of the Year Social at Renegade Winery on June 4th at 4:30 to celebrate the accomplishments that were experienced during this unusual year. Wishing everyone smooth sailing through the rest of Spring!!

Retired (RAC) Charter

by Cindy Murray, President

We are really excited! RAC has been able to meet twice in person since December, 2020. As a Charter, we have helped with the ACSA's Annual Awards selection committee and the Every Student Succeeding Awards selection committee. Our Charter meets once a month, for either breakfast or lunch. We keep up with current State ACSA business, try to support our local Charters and assist as needed. We love to meet and socialize! Now that more businesses are beginning to open up, we are hoping we will be able to get together and have fun! COVID restrictions has really put a crimp in retired lifestyle, we like wine tasting, attending plays, going to dinner, dancing, etc., and we really love to share what is happening in our lives. We would like to welcome all those administrators that are going to be retiring at the end of this school year. Our meetings are held on the first Tuesday of every month. Our May meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 4th, 11:30 a.m., at Oakdale Country Club and our June meeting will be on June 1st at 11:30 a.m., the place has not been determined at this point. Please come join us!



San Joaquin Charter

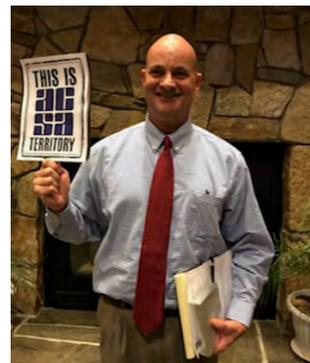
by Heather Sherburn, President

The San Joaquin Charter completed our book study on, *How to Be an Anti-racist*, by Ibram Kendi. Those participating agreed that participation in the book study allowed for a great dialogue and much food for thought personally and as leaders in education. Our newly launched San Joaquin Charter Newsletter this year has been well-received and has strong numbers of readership. We believe the newsletter has allowed us to have better communication and celebration throughout our Charter. We had our Spring PDP on March 25th with Heidi Hayes Jacobs. She presented on Post-Pandemic: What to Cut, Keep, and Create. The entire Region 7 membership was invited to attend. This was a fantastic event with practical tools shared to help our leaders with curriculum mapping plans for next year. We have launched our elections for the 2021-22 SJ Charter Board and are excited we have nominees to fill every position and we are adding representation from Stockton Unified to our Board. Lastly, we are planning an in-person end of year event at The Boathouse. We are looking forward to seeing our members in person!

Tuolumne Charter

by Diana Harford, President

The Tuolumne Charter recognized 40 recipients as Employees Who Make a Difference in April. We were excited that every district in the county participated in this event to recognize their special employees. Our spring PDP was held on April 9th, featuring Edgar Zazueta, Senior Director of Policy and Governmental Relations from ACSA. Edgar provided current information on legislation and policies relating to education. One of the benefits of the virtual meeting is that it allowed us to have attendees from other charters in Region 7, as well. A big congratulations to Dave Urquhart, our VP of Programs, for being recognized not only by Region 7 but also at the State Level as the Retired Administrator of the Year (Volunteer Service to ACSA). As we wrap up the 20-21 school year, we are making plans for the end of the year event and a chance to welcome our new TCACSA President, Mike Merrill, Superintendent of the Summerville Union High School District.



CHARTER REPORTS cont.

Stanislaus Charter by Tracy Manzoni, President

As we begin to wind down the school year, Stanislaus Charter is reflecting on our successes this year. What began as an unwelcome challenge of not being able to meet in person, transitioned to some of our best attended Breakfast PDs thanks to an online meeting format. We hosted a variety of speakers with topics focused around the theme of serving and caring for others, and for ourselves. In December we hosted Dean Dodd, CEO of Shower and Laundry Shuttles who shared how their mobile shower and laundry facilities support people experiencing homelessness. In February Audra Casanova shared how a teacher at her middle school changed her life and opened doors to a promising future. Audra's story helped illustrate how trauma-informed educators and school systems can better meet the needs of children.

ACSA also celebrated students with the annual Every Student Succeeding event, where we recognize those students who have overcome obstacles and achieved success. The celebration also extended to staff where we recognized exemplary efforts through our annual Employees Making a Difference. Both of these successful events helped us take pause and focus on the positives of an otherwise challenging year. In recognition of our collective perseverance, we also distributed 2020 survivor's mugs to all ACSA Region 7 members.

Our April guest speaker was David Collins and Carrie Albert who shared their expertise about Social-Emotional Learning. Don Gatti will present in May with a report on the state budget. While this year has been challenging, it also has pushed us into new ways to collaborate by sharing online training opportunities across all ACSA Charters in our Region. Thank you to everyone who helped make this collaboration possible!



Why ACSA?

“ACSA gave me the great opportunity to work alongside fellow administrators to better serve the needs of our students, staff, and community. The tremendous networking opportunities have given me the chance to meet and connect with some outstanding leaders throughout the state of California.

At a recent Harvard graduation, Amy Poehler told the graduates to “find a group of people who challenge and inspire you, spend a lot of time with them, and it will change your life.” I cannot think of a better testament for ACSA. Involvement in ACSA has empowered me to a higher level of leadership.”



Greg Leland
Principal, Lathrop High School
Manteca Unified School District

REGION 7 MISSION STATEMENT

“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.”

Be sure to visit our website (<http://regions.acsa.org/7/>) and stay up-to-date on Region 7 and Charter events as well as committee and council reports and more!

Make the Most of Membership.....Get Involved !

The State Level

Opportunities for involvement at the state level include serving as an elected officer, a member of the Board of Directors, or a representative to the Delegate Assembly. ACSA members serve on statewide professional committees, task forces and advisory bodies. This cadre of committed volunteers is a vital professional network for ACSA members. State ACSA's leaders can be located on the State ACSA website under ACSA Leadership.

The Region Level

ACSA's 19 regions divide the state geographically and provide valuable opportunities for professional involvement with administrators in nearby school districts. The regional structure allows your voice to be heard on education issues. Each region elects regional officers who also serve as the region's voice at the statewide Delegate Assembly. In addition, regions elect a representative to ACSA's State Board of Directors. ACSA regions offer networking opportunities, professional development workshops and programs tailored to meet local needs. A portion of your dues is rebated to regions for these programs and activities.

The Charter Level

More than 200 charters have been created within regions to address the local interests of members in one or more school districts. The charter structure gives ACSA its grassroots strength. If you are new to a district, the local ACSA charter is an excellent forum in which to meet your colleagues, share experiences and learn about district issues. Charter presidents are listed on the State ACSA's website under Regions section.

MEET YOUR COUNCIL REP

Who: Roberto Perez, Jr.

Council: Business Services Council Representative

Job: Chief Business Official (CBO), Riverbank Unified SD

Roberto is the Chief Business Official for Riverbank USD. He oversees the following departments: budget, accounting, purchasing, payroll, nutrition services, and information technology. Roberto has been at Riverbank USD for nine years and in school finance for 12 years.

Roberto actually came into school finance by accident. He was leaving the financial services industry and his dad brought him a job posting from Santa Ana USD and that was it. He fell in love with the work, the ability to mentor staff and of course the purpose to ensure that teachers and students have the resources they need to be successful.

Roberto loves all aspects of running, but has not been able to dedicate too much time with his doctoral program. He is hoping to return to running now that school is over and he has more free time.

His spare time is taken up by his daughter's travel soccer training and events. Roberto is glad to see them playing again. He currently serves on the board of Modesto Youth Soccer Association.

Roberto earned a BA in International Business from Cal State Fullerton, an MBA in Finance from Fordham University and recently earned his Ed.D. in Organizational Change and Leadership from the University of Southern California.

Something of interest: Roberto lived in New Jersey for 10 years and worked in NYC and was in the city during the big blackout and the World Trade Center attack.



LEGISLATIVE ACTION DAY 2021

by Joe Aldridge, VP Legislative Action

Legislative Action Day was held on April 13, 2021. ACSA reports that there were approximately 600 registrants statewide. This is a great number considering we usually have about half that number. Region 7 had about 20 participants. We were able to meet with 4 of the 5 legislators assigned to our region. Our membership was able to meet with legislative staff from Assembly Districts 5 (Bigelow) and 12 (Flora). On the Senate side, we were able to meet with staff from Senate Districts 5 (Eggman) and 8 (Borgeas).

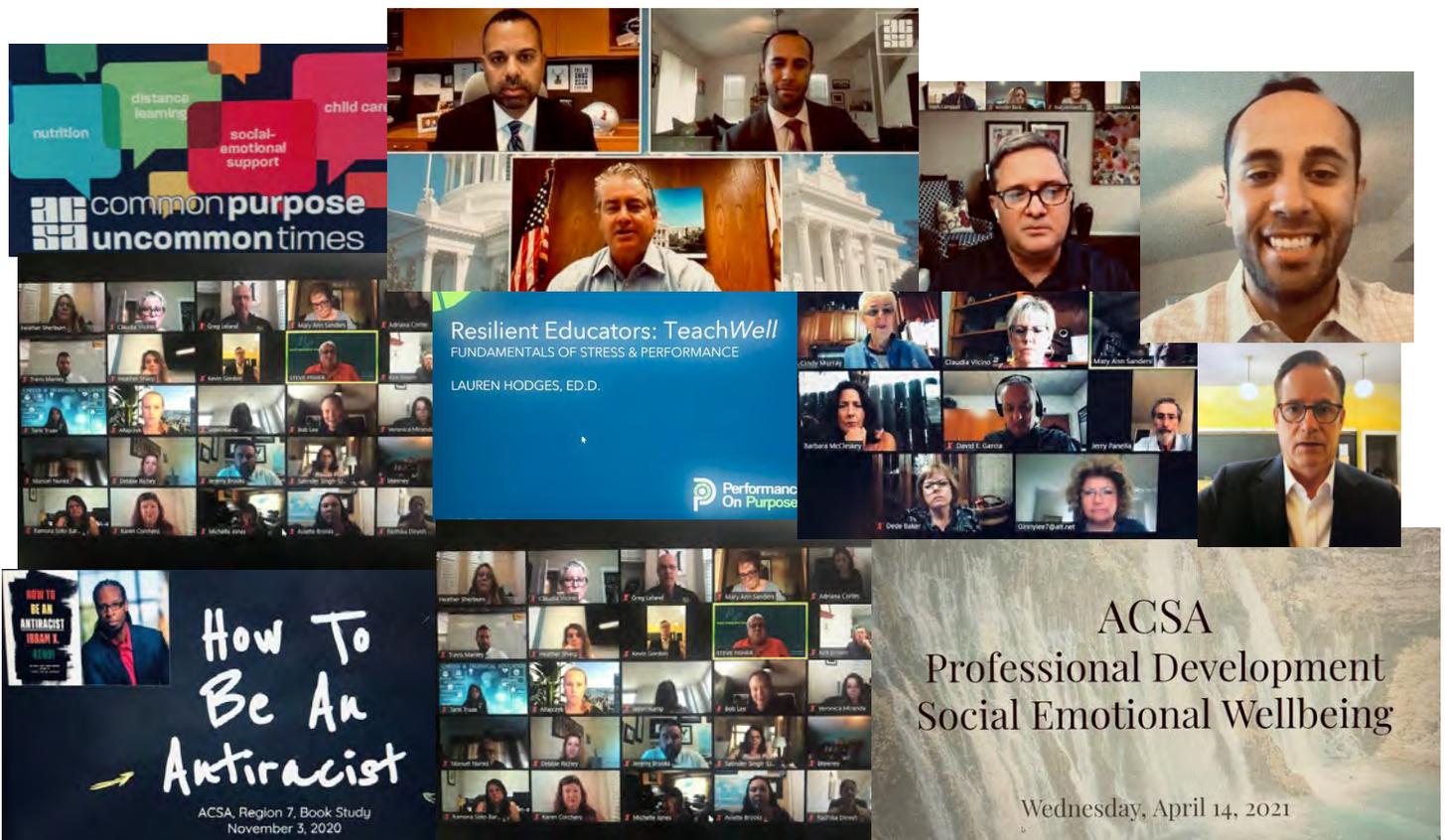
The focus issues for the meetings centered around the response to COVID, a focus on a need for assessment flexibility, and a reminder that though the pandemic funding has been generous (and we appreciate it!), we still have deficits on the horizon.

A huge thank you out to the folks who volunteered to host the meetings! And a huge thank you to all who participated. Please feel free to reach out to Joe Aldridge jaldridge@cusd49.com with any questions or comments about how to continue Legislative Outreach in your school and district.

IS DIGITAL HERE TO STAY?

by Claudia Vicino, Communications Specialist

When the United States went into lockdown due to the COVID-19 pandemic, events and meetings had to work very differently. Physical meetings went digital and face-to face discussions became screen to screen. The focus of conversations changed and in-person events changed to online events for the remainder of the school year. The COVID-19 crisis caused huge changes in our personal and working lives as we began to adapt to this “new normal.” State ACSA, Region 7, and the Region Charters have done an excellent job adjusting to the “new normal.” Zoom meetings, webinars, and YouTube are just a few examples of how our leadership has kept members informed, connected, and provided professional development opportunities. Our charter presidents have done an excellent job throughout the year providing PDPs and inviting all region members to attend. One thing was noticeable – the member participation rate at all the PDPs and charter/region meetings was higher than in-person meetings. I think virtual meetings are not only here to stay, but have been one of the brighter moments in an otherwise challenging year. Thank you to our ACSA Leadership for your hard work providing members with the best virtual experiences throughout the year!





Superintendent of the Year

Dr. Sara Noguchi, Superintendent – Modesto City Schools

Secondary Principal of the Year

Angela Freeman, Principal – Pitman HS – Turlock USD

Middle Grades Principal of the Year

Dr. Isaias Rumayor, Jr. – Norman Glick Middle School – Empire Union SD

Elementary Principal of the Year

Ernesto Calderon, Principal – Oroville Wright Elementary School – Modesto City Schools

Central Office Administrator of the Year – County/District

Dr. Amy Peterman, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services – Ceres USD

Secondary Co-Administrator of the Year

Joni Hellstrom, Associate Principal – Mountain House HS – Lammersville Joint USD

Elementary Co-Administrator of the Year

Dr. Jeffrey Persons, Assistant Principal – Sandra Tovar Medeiros Elementary School – Turlock USD

Classified Leader of the Year

Aaron Castro, Sr., Supervisor, Environmental Health & Safety – Modesto City Schools

Confidential Employee of the Year

Chrissy Mastras, Administrative Assistant to the Associate Superintendent, CIPD – Modesto City Schools

Personnel/Human Resources Administrator of the Year

Mike Henderson, Associate Superintendent, Human Resources – Modesto City Schools

Adult Education Administrator of the Year

Jared Hungerford, Director Curriculum & Instruction/Adult Education – Calaveras COE

Special Education Administrator of the Year

Saundra Resendiz-Day, Director III, Special Education – Stanislaus COE

Business Services Administrator of the Year

Marjorie Bettencourt, Assistant Superintendent, Finance & Accountability – Turlock USD

Student Services Administrator of the Year

Gil Ogden, Director of Student Services – Turlock USD

Curriculum & Instruction Administrator of the Year

Ricardo Chavez, Assistant Superintendent – Escalon USD

Continuation/Educational Options Administrator of the Year

Rachelle Elledge Barkus, Senior Director, Educational Options – Modesto City Schools

Professor of Education

Dr. Denise Wickham, Deputy Superintendent, Ceres USD

Retired Administrator of the Year (Volunteer Service to ACSA)

Dave Urquhart, Retired Superintendent – Tuolumne Charter

Valuing Diversity Award

Kenneth Fitzgerald, Director of Student Programs – Patterson Joint USD

Partners in Educational Excellence

Calaveras County Public Health

Bob Price Distinguished Service Award

Dr. Amy Slavensky, Superintendent – Amador County USD

Bill Ullom Award

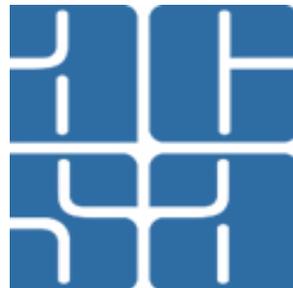
Dr. Scott Siegel, Superintendent - Ceres USD

Elementary Board Member of the Year

Jeff Reed, Board President, Keyes Union SD

High School Board Member of the Year

Dennis Spisak, Board President, Summerville Union High SD



Region 7 Welcomes New Members

Mother Lode Charter

Raymond Fausel Principal, Vallecito Union SD

San Joaquin Charter

Nathan Baroni, Principal, Ripon USD

Tracy Beck, Vice Principal, Manteca USD

Jovan Jacobs, Executive Director, SELPA/Special Ed Stockton USD

Monica Justice, Director/Student Engagement & Leadership, Lincoln USD

Sean Morrill, Division Director, San Joaquin COE

John Ramirez, Interim Superintendent, Stockton USD

Anne Shaw, Vice Principal, Manteca USD

Anna Tyson, Director II/Special Ed, San Joaquin COE

Tony Whitesel, Vice Principal, Manteca USD

Stanislaus Charter

Maria Letty Ayala, Program Specialist, Waterford USD

Cheryl Crawford, Administrative Assistant/Office Manager HR, Turlock USD

Michele Gutierrez, Sr. Dr., HR, Modesto City Schools

Angelica Mariscal, Assistant Principal, Ceres USD

Alicia Root, Program Specialist, Stanislaus COE

Marcelina Zamora, Dean of Students, Turlock USD

Tuolumne Charter

Kylee Luchetti, Director II, Tuolumne County Superintendent of Schools

Julie Yturiaga, Dir./Special Ed, Sonora Union HSD

Looking Ahead In Region 7

May

- 4 Tuolumne Charter Board Meeting 7 a.m.
- 4 Retired Administrators (RAC) Charter Meeting 11:30 a.m. Oakdale Country Club
- 7 Stanislaus Charter Cabinet Zoom Meeting 7 a.m.
- 12 Stanislaus Charter Breakfast Zoom Meeting 7 a.m.
- 13 State ACSA Leadership Assembly (Virtual)
- 13 Stanislaus Charter Retirement Dinner 4:30 p.m. Fruit Yard
- 14 State ACSA Board Meeting (Virtual)

June

- 1 Retired Administrators (RAC) Charter Meeting 11:30 a.m. TBD
- 2 State ACSA Leadership Training (Virtual)
- 4 Mother Lode End-of-Year Event 4:30 p.m. Renegade Winery
- 15 Tuolumne End-of-Year Event/Officer Installation 11:30 a.m. (TBD)

July

- 11 Leadership Training/Cabinet Meeting 12 p.m.
- 12 Leadership Training 8 a.m. Fruit Yard



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Region 7 Officers 2020-2021

PRESIDENT
Mark Campbell
PRESIDENT-ELECT
Ramona Soto-Barajas
VICE PRESIDENT
Jose Aldaco
TREASURER
Rogelio Adame

V.P., PROGRAMS
Tami Garcia
V.P., LEG. ACTION
Joe Aldridge
V.P., MEMBERSHIP
Kathy Griggs
SECRETARY
Barbara Magpusao

PAST PRESIDENT
Jennifer Backman
FACILITIES COORDINATOR
Claudia Vicino
REGION 7 CONSULTANT
Mary Ann Sanders

STATE BOARD MEMBER
Dave Garcia
REGION 7 COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST
Claudia Vicino

Charter Presidents 2020-2021

MOTHER LODGE
Andria Tiquet

SAN JOAQUIN
Heather Sherburn

STANISLAUS
Tracy Manzoni

TUOLUMNE
Diana Harford

RETIRED
Cindy Murray