



Association of California School Administrators

Region 7 Spring Conference 2022

**Spring Conference
Newsletter
2022**

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Newsletter Editor
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net**

The 2022 Region 7 Spring Conference was a tremendous success. After a two-year hiatus due to COVID, members came together to celebrate ACSA's 50th birthday, our region award winners, to reconnect with old friends, make new friends, share ideas and best practices, network, and to take advantage of the professional development opportunities that our conference committee worked so hard to put together.

This year our conference attendance was the highest we have seen in a long time. A special thank you to Tami Garcia, VP Programs and Conference Chair, and her committee for their commitment and dedication to make this year's conference a memorable one. The Conference Committee included: Christine Facella, Toney Henry, Scott Nanik, Jeff Winfield, Ramona Soto-Barajas, Mary Ann Sanders, and Claudia Vicino.

The Awards Committee, led by Awards Chair Radhika Dinesh, did an exceptional job putting together the Friday Night Awards Dinner. The Awards Committee included: Veronica Miranda, Cindy Murray, Contessa Pelfry, Sean Snider, Mary Ann Sanders, and Claudia Vicino.

Technology plays such an important part in any conference. Region 7 thanks Edgar Mejia and Paulo Navarro, from Ceres Unified School District, who worked tirelessly all weekend long to make sure our technology ran smooth. From meeting the tech needs for all our presenters and keynote speakers and setting up the technology for the awards dinner and general sessions – they did it all and with a smile.

The region celebrated ACSA's 50th birthday at the Saturday Installation Luncheon. Guest speaker was ACSA State President Charlie Hoffman. Congratulations to our new region officers: Jose Aldaco, Region President; Deborah Rowe, President-Elect; Tami Garcia, Vice President; Kathy Griggs, VP Membership; Kelene Blevins, VP Programs; Jared Hungerford, VP Leg Action; Mark Campbell, Secretary; Araseli Zamora, Treasurer; Ramona Soto-Barajas, Past President; and Scott Nanik, State Board Member.

The region would also like to thank Alex Shoob from Shoob Photography for his contributions to the conference. Mr. Shoob publishes our conference program every year, takes pictures at the awards reception and is responsible for producing the posters for the conference.



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!

THANK YOU REGION 7 VENDORS/SPONSORS

Region 7 recognizes the following conference sponsors for their support of this year's event: Shoob Photography, Fisher Insurance Agencies, MOCSE Credit Union, and the University of Massachusetts. We thank you for being a special part of our conference.

Our exhibitors also played a significant role in the success of our conference: Franklin Covey; Tutor Me; CodeStack - SJCOE; Imagine Learning/Edgenuity; Renaissance; Lifetouch; Grand Canyon University; California Valued Trust; Delta Dental; State ACSA Membership; Horace Mann Insurance; MOCSE; UMass Global; California Casualty; Shoob Photography; Thrively; and Base Education. Thank you for supporting the conference and donating prizes for our raffles.



Region Scholarships

Congratulations to our region scholarship winners. Each year our Region awards three \$1,000 scholarships to assist children of ACSA members to pursue post high school educational endeavors.

Caroline Hana – James C. Enochs High School – daughter of Nora Hana
 Alexandro Murillo – Patterson High School – son of Teresa Murillo
 Natalie Pearlman – U.C. Davis School of Medicine – daughter of Rechelle Pearlman



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Retired or Retiring Soon?

Through the years ACSA has played a major role in your professional career, advocating for you, your staff and students. It has provided multiple opportunities for professional growth, collaboration, and social interaction. These opportunities can continue after retirement. The ACSA Region 7 Retired Charter (RAC) provides the opportunity to keep in touch with what is happening in education, while at the same time focusing on opportunities to continue socializing with former colleagues and learning about what is changing in retirement benefits, the best Medicare programs, travel opportunities, etc. RAC members enjoy luncheon meetings, wine tasting, take in a play, meet for dinner, or any other opportunity that provides retired members to get together socially. There are two types of retirement memberships- Full Regular Retired Membership and Emeritus Membership. Visit <https://www.acsa.org/join> for retired membership applications. Contact RAC President Barbara McCleskey at Barbara_McCleskey@comcast.net if you have any questions.



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Bob Price Distinguished Service Award

This year ACSA Region 7 was pleased to present the Bob Price Distinguished Service Award to Mark Campbell, Superintendent of Calaveras County Unified School District. Mark's humble leadership style paired with his forthright commitment to doing what is needed has made his service remarkable, both as the Superintendent of Calaveras Unified as well as a past president of ACSA Region 7.



Mark's belief in working as a team and in maximizing every day as an opportunity to grow, improve, succeed and achieve shines through in each of his daily interactions. His diligence has paid off in both the expanding learning opportunities within his district as well as the growth in leadership he has inspired within ACSA.

Mark's character serves as clear evidence of his faith in effective communication and focused collaboration. For those that work with Mark, these characteristics set the tone of a strong team that is dedicated to continuous improvement. These values are reflected within his personal mission: Make Every Moment and Every Day Matter for Every Student!

The Bob Price Distinguished Service Award is presented to one administrator, classified manager, or confidential employee whose service to education exemplifies strong support for the management team, exceptional leadership in managing school programs, commitment to educational quality and student achievement, and creativity in dealing with issues and problems facing public education. This award was renamed in honor of Dr. Bob Price who passed away on January 7, 2019. Bob enjoyed a long and distinguished career in education and ACSA. In retirement, Bob dedicated himself to mentoring new administrators and leading the ACSA's Superintendents' Academy on weekends. Congratulations, Mark, on this well-deserved recognition!

Bill Ullom Award



Region 7 annually singles out one school leader who has exemplified the best in positive, effective, professional service to children and youth. The award is named in honor of Bill Ullom, a past region consultant, who passed away in 1982. He was a teacher, a principal, and a superintendent, who set the standard for administrators. His leadership was inspirational and enhanced those who worked with him. Region 7 was pleased to present this year's award to Dr. Phil Alfano, Superintendent of the Patterson Joint Unified School District.

Dr. Alfano retired at the end of June. His background included teaching at elementary, middle, high school, adult/continuation school, and university levels. He had been an Assistant Principal, Summer School Principal, junior high and high school principal, and until his retirement the Superintendent of Patterson Joint Unified School District for the past ten years.

Dr. Alfano was an active member of ACSA Region 7, serving as President of the Stanislaus Charter in 2010. He enjoyed representing our region on the HR Council; President of the Middle Grades Council from 2005-2008; Board Member of the California League of Middle Schools as well as the League of High Schools. Dr. Alfano has been recognized and honored as HR Administrator of the Year and Middle School Principal of the Year. Patterson has kept Dr. Alfano very busy and focused on promoting partnerships and vocational and career training with the huge corporations in Patterson like Amazon and Restoration Hardware.

While Dr. Alfano has not been in recent years as active himself in ACSA Region 7, he has certainly encouraged and supported his administrators to be very involved in leadership positions.

Dr. Alfano is an Emeritus Member of State ACSA. He is looking forward to retirement, enjoying his family and his two young Airedale puppies in Florida.

KENTUCKY DERBY SOIREE



Each year the conference celebrates in derby style with the Kentucky Derby Soiree. Attendees cheer on their favorite horse or jockey, participate in the hat contest or join in the derby pool. Proceeds from the derby pool go towards our student scholarships. This was our 8th year for the Soiree. A special thanks to **FISHER INSURANCE AGENCY**, The Horace Mann Companies, for sponsoring the event.







ACSA AWARD WINNERS 2022

ACSA • REGION 7
SUPERINTENDENT OF THE YEAR



Dr. Terry Chevalier-Metzger
Superintendent
Denair Unified School District

ACSA • REGION 7
SUPERINTENDENT/ PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR



Wynette Hilton
Superintendent/Principal, Tenaya Elementary
Big Oak Flat Groveland USD

ACSA • REGION 7
SECONDARY PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR



Michael Shroyer
Principal, Grace M. Davis High School
Modesto City Schools

ACSA • REGION 7
MIDDLE GRADES PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR



Heather Sharp
Principal, Questa Elementary School
Lammersville Unified School District

ACSA • REGION 7
ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR



Steve Merchant
Principal, Samuel Vaughn Elementary
Ceres Unified School District

ACSA • REGION 7
CENTRAL OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR COUNTY/DISTRICT



Dr. Heather Contreras
Assistant Superintendent
Modesto City Schools

ACSA • REGION 7
SECONDARY CO-ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR



Rogelio Adame
Associate Principal, Central Valley High School
Ceres Unified School District

ACSA • REGION 7
ELEMENTARY CO-ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR



Jason Strickland
Vice Principal, Questa Elementary
Lammersville Unified School District

ACSA • REGION 7
CLASSIFIED LEADER OF THE YEAR



Angela L. Zeoli
Director 1
Modesto City Schools

ACSA • REGION 7
CONFIDENTIAL EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR



Velma Silva
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent
Sylvan Union School District

ACSA • REGION 7
PERSONNEL/HUMAN RESOURCES ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR



Diolinda Peterson
Assistant Superintendent
Sylvan Union School District

ACSA • REGION 7
SPECIAL EDUCATION ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR



Dr. Christi Allan
Senior Director
Modesto City Schools

ACSA • REGION 7
STUDENT SERVICES ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR



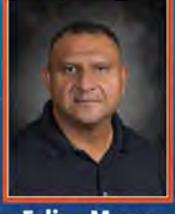
Tracy Manzoni
Executive Director of Student Services
Patterson Joint Unified School District

ACSA • REGION 7
CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR



Heather Sherburn
Assistant Superintendent
Lammersville Unified School District

ACSA • REGION 7
CONTINUATION/EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR



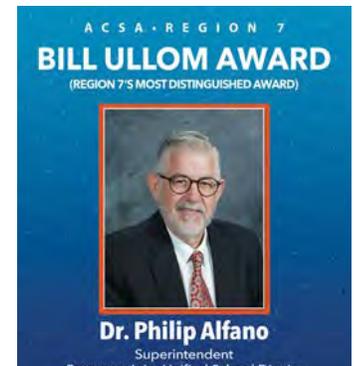
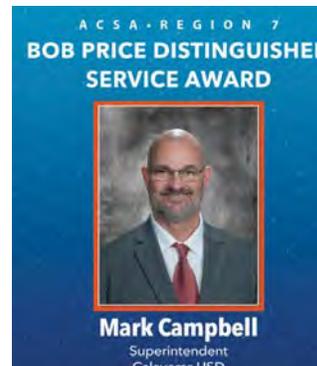
Felipe Meraz
Principal, Roselawn Continuation High School
Turlock Unified School District

ACSA • REGION 7
TECHNOLOGY ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR



Troy Ashton
Division Director II
Tuolumne County Superintendent of Schools

ACSA AWARD WINNERS 2022



Mark Your Calendars for These Two Important Dates!

Our next Region 7 Spring Conference is May 5-7, 2023, at the Lake Tahoe Resort in So. Lake Tahoe. Registration information will be available after the first of the year. We hope to see you in May to celebrate our profession and our Administrators of the Year.



The nomination window for ACSA's 2023 Awards Program is open! Don't leave it to the last minute – start your nomination today at: <https://regions.acsa.org/7/about/awards/>. Nominations are due January 19, 2023, at 11:59 p.m. The award winners will be honored on Friday evening, May 5th, at the Spring Conference.

Blake Schroeder Named Region 7 ESS Student

Congratulations to Blake Schroeder, Region 7's ESS student for 2022. Blake, a graduating senior at Village Oaks High School in the Lincoln Unified School District, was nominated by her principal, Jose Schallberger.



Blake began her educational journey with Lincoln Unified School District in middle school. She was recommended to attend the alternative program, Village Oaks High School, during her 8th grade year. At the time she was failing classes, missing assignments and at risk for not promoting. Blake admits she was nervous learning that she would attend an alternative program. She says the stereotype of an alternative site was intimidating and frightening to her. Blake is transgender and worried that she would be bullied at school for being different, this being her experience at previous schools. Village Oaks students and staff welcomed Blake with open arms. She immediately made a connection with her math teacher. Blake never felt confident in her math abilities, but Ms. Saelee taught her in a way she understood and helped build her confidence as a student.

Being transgender still was not easy, especially in a home that did not support her. She reported that her freshman year was the lowest point in her life. She tried to be successful but felt weighed down by school work. Blake decided she needed to get out of the house and, with the support of her counselor and therapist, she went to stay with a family member in Jackson. Eventually, Blake was asked to leave her family members' home and ended up couch surfing at various homes of other family members. She felt abandoned and unwanted. Blake never gave up hope on returning to Village Oaks for her senior year. She made her way back to Stockton with the help of her grandmother. The family of a fellow Village Oaks student heard her story and decided to take her in. A Village Oaks secretary, Mary Grupe, heard she was back in town and went above and beyond to make sure Blake had a smooth transition back to school as a homeless student.

For the first time in a long time, Blake has a stable home environment. She did well academically and is planning on pursuing a fashion designer career and continuing advocating for LGBTQ rights. She truly epitomizes the true spirit of *Every Student Succeeding*.

Region 7 Welcomes New Members

Mother Lode Charter

Chris Mothorn, Principal, Amador County USD
Rebecca White, Vice Principal, Amador County USD

San Joaquin Charter

Kathryn Armstrong, Vice Principal, Jefferson SD
Chaire Beasley, HR Admin. Asst., San Joaquin COE
Heidi Beck, Vice Principal, Lammersville USD
Kimberly Clegg, Vice Principal, Lammersville USD
Gary Grace, Principal, Linden USD
Nou Hendricks, Director II, San Joaquin COE
Jovan Jacobs, Executive Director, SELPA/Special Ed
Logan Loya, Vice Principal, Lammersville USD
Charleswana Spikes, Vice Principal, Jefferson SD

Stanislaus Charter

Agustin Arreola, Assistant Principal, Turlock USD
Angelica Cazares, Director of Child Nutrition,
Ceres USD
Ashley Grim, Coordinator/Ed Services, Ceres USD
Brittany Koppinger, Vice Principal, Oakdale JUSD
Juan Mendoza, Assistant Director,
Child Nutrition, Ceres SD
Terrie Purto, Business Manager, Hickman
Community Charter
Attif Raza, School Psychologist, Ceres USD

Tuolumne Charter

Ashlee Frades, Principal, Big Oak Flat-
Groveland USD
Heather Shepherd, Assistant Principal,
Summerville SD

A special thank you to our August recruiters:

Wynette Hilton
Joseph Horacek
Emily Stroup
Dr. Denise Wickham

Looking Ahead In Region 7

28 Region 7 General Membership Assembly - 4:30 p.m.
The Golf Club at Cooper Valley - Cooperopolis

October

5 Retired Administrators Charter (RAC) Luncheon -
11:30 a.m. - Burly's California Bistro - Modesto
6 Region 7 Mini Conference - 4:30 p.m. - James Enochs
High School - Modesto
12 Stanislaus Charter Morning Professional Learning -
7:00 a.m. - Zoom Meeting
San Joaquin Charter Board Meeting - 8:30 a.m. - Zoom
Meeting
13 State ACSA Leadership Assembly - Burbank, CA.
Tuolumne Charter's Administrative Assistants' Dinner -
4:30 p.m. - Opera House
State ACSA Board Meeting - Burbank, CA.
19 Mother Lode Fall PDP - 7:30 a.m. - Google Meet
Region 7 CEL Dinner - 5:00 p.m. - DoubleTree -
Modesto

November

1 Retired Administrators Charter (RAC) Luncheon -
11:30 a.m. - Oakdale Golf & Country Club - Oakdale
3-5 State ACSA Leadership Summit
9 Stanislaus Charter Morning Professional Learning -
7:00 a.m. - Zoom Meeting
10 Mother Lode Cabinet Meeting - 7:30 a.m. - Google Meet
29 Region 7 Conference Planning Committee Meeting -
4:30 p.m. - Zoom Meeting

December

6 Retired Administrators Charter (RAC) Luncheon -
11:30 a.m. - TBD
9 Mother Lode Charter Winter Social - 4:30 p.m. - TBD
12 Stanislaus Charter Cabinet Meeting/Holiday Dinner -
4:30 p.m. - TBD

January

10 Tuolumne Charter Board Meeting - 7:00 a.m. - TBD

Region 7 Officers 2022-2023

PRESIDENT Jose Aldaco	V.P., PROGRAMS Kelene Blevins	PAST PRESIDENT Ramona Soto-Barajas	REGION 7 COMMUNICATIONS
PRESIDENT-ELECT Deborah Rowe	V.P., LEG. ACTION Jared Hungerford	STATE BOARD Scott Nanik	SPECIALIST & FACILITIES
VICE PRESIDENT Tami Garcia	V.P., MEMBERSHIP Kathy Griggs	REGION 7 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/ CONSULTANT	DIRECTOR Claudia Vicino
TREASURER Araceli Zamora	SECRETARY Mark Campbell		

Charter Presidents 2022-2023

<u>MOTHER LODGE</u> Karen Vail	<u>SAN JOAQUIN</u> Heather Sharp	<u>STANISLAUS</u> Dr. Isaias Rumayor, Jr.	<u>TUOLUMNE</u> Michael Merrill	<u>RETIRED</u> Barbara McCleskey
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