

# HISTORY OF THE CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION STEERING COMMITTEE

*... a committee of the California County Superintendents Educational Services Association*

This document provides a history of the Curriculum and Instruction Steering Committee from the 1950s through 2010. Annual reports are available for years after 2010.

## THE FIFTIES

**1957** ...The formation of the “Joint” State Steering Committee of the County Superintendents of Schools dates back to the Asilomar Conference of March 1956, when Dr. Russell Timpany, Santa Clara Superintendent of Schools, was instructed to call together a committee to set up a publication plan which would help eliminate duplication of publication efforts in the various offices. As a result of several meetings with Dr. Jay Connor, State Department of Education, recommendations for the formation and functions of a standing Publications Committee were made at the annual conference in Sacramento on December 3, 1957. The then California Association of County Superintendents of Schools approved the formation of the Committee as outlined in the recommendations.

**1958** ...The first joint project undertaken was the publication of the “Catalog of Scholarships and College Entrance Requirements” by Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties and distributed on a subscription basis in the fall of 1958.

**1959** ...It was recognized from the start that the success of the Committee would depend on “grass roots” participation in the various areas of the state. In southern California representative from the county offices in Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino and Los Angeles Counties were meeting frequently to coordinate their efforts. In the Bay Area, the county superintendents and their immediate assistants in business and instruction were holding regular monthly meetings. Realizing the need for involving the assistant superintendents in charge instruction in the county offices, the Publications Committee, with the approval of the Association of County Superintendents, arranged for a meeting in the spring of 1959 in Sacramento. Discussion led to the recommendation that a Steering Committee be made up of assistant superintendents in charge of curriculum to officially work with and be part of the Publications Committee of the California Association of County Superintendents of Schools. The steering committee, as selected, represented five geographical areas and consisted of Leonard Grinstaff, Elcy McGovern, Lloyd Garrison, Harry Wandling, and George Rusteika, who was selected as Chairperson. This committee evolved to include the five assistant superintendents, Dr. Jay Connor, and the Chairperson of the County Superintendents Publications Committee, Dr. Russell Timpany.

## THE SIXTIES

**1960** ...The annual Asilomar Conference, March 16-18, 1960, gave a great deal of emphasis to the instructional responsibilities of the county office and the activities of the Publications and Curriculum Committee in particular.

**1961** ...During 1961, the State Steering Committee held four meetings and made further strides in working out ways of coordinating information regarding forthcoming publications. Although the efforts of the Committee were directed toward cutting down the duplication effort in producing materials, progress was made in the cooperative development of publications among counties and districts.

About this time, a third function began to emerge from the Committee deliberations—that of helping to identify statewide or regional curriculum concerns and to lend any assistance possible. Three county superintendents were also added to the Committee. The Committee’s name was changed from the State Steering Committee on Publications” to the “State Steering Committee on Curriculum Development and Publications.”

**1962** ...Later, in 1962, county superintendent representation was increased to six, with a county superintendent representing each of the six geographical areas of the California Association of County Superintendents of Schools.

As new priorities developed and new statewide curriculum concerns were identified, the functioning of the Committee

changed. Very early in the development of the Committee's role, it was determined that a network of Curriculum Depositories needed to be provided to assure that curriculum-related publications would be available to individual teachers and school districts throughout the state. Until March 1974, twenty-one of these depositories were maintained in county offices or in college and university libraries. Dulcie Blum of Alameda County provided leadership in the organization of the Curriculum Depositories.

**1968** ...Another function that requires statewide coordination is the implementation of all newly adopted subject matter frameworks. A cooperative effort to accomplish this task was first developed between the State Department of Education and the State Steering Committee during the 1968-69 school year for the implementation of the English Teacher Specialist Program. Harley Hillsen of San Bernardino County and George Nemetz of the State Department of Education served as leaders in this project. Similar cooperative planning has been initiated for each framework that has been approved by the California State Board of Education since that date.

## **THE SEVENTIES**

**1974** ...At the March 7-8, 1974 meeting of the State Steering Committee, a decision was made that this need for Curriculum Depositories could be met in the future by maintaining one depository in cooperation with the San Mateo Educational Resources Center (SMERC). Two copies of all curriculum publications developed in the state were housed in that facility and were available to school district, county offices, and individual teachers on microfilm or in hard copy for a minimum fee. Frank Mattas of the San Mateo County Office of Education served as the organizer and leader of SMERC.

One of the most significant cooperative publication efforts of the Committee has been the development of the Basic Course of Study. For a number of years, various groups of counties had developed cooperative courses of study, and in 1974, the State Steering Committee determined that the needs of most counties could best be met, and a great deal of duplication could be avoided, if one basic document could be developed for statewide use. The Alameda County Superintendent of Schools Office coordinated the production of this publication. The content is prepared by subject matter committees and is based on the state framework for each subject area. The late Mary DuFort of the Alameda County Office provided the original leadership for this project. Subsequent leadership was provided by Belle Ruth Witkin, and upon her retirement, Nat Pearson, both from the Alameda County Office.

**1975**... During the 1975-76 school year, an ad hoc committee of the State Steering Committee worked with a comparable committee from the Curriculum Development and Supplemental Materials Commission to prepare a total plan for dealing with frameworks. The joint effort of these two committees resulted in the publication "California Curriculum Frameworks: A Handbook for Production, Implementation and Evaluation Activities." The California State Board of Education approved this publication on November 12, 1976. Grant Thayer of Los Angeles County provided leadership in this activity.

With the advent in 1975 of new legislation concerning the selection of instructional materials, the Committee assumed responsibility for another major curriculum function. County offices of education have always played a major role in the textbook selection process and in the providing of a new textbook display; but with the increased amount of materials for review would be easily accessible to all districts in the state. The State Steering Committee assumed a major role in the review of materials, the development of the buyers' guides, and the management of display centers. Bob Howe of the State Department of Education coordinated statewide efforts in these areas.

Another need that was identified in 1975 was that of providing statewide communication about exemplary curriculum programs and events. The State Steering Committee initiated a quarterly curriculum newsletter to meet this need.

**1976** ...The first edition of this newsletter, "California Curriculum Update," was published in January 1976. The first editor was Roger J. Schulte, Assistant Superintendent, Alameda County; and in the fall of 1976, Viola Owen, Assistant Superintendent, Santa Clara County, replaced him as editor. The name of this publication was changed to "California Curriculum News Report" in October 1976.

## THE EIGHTIES

**1981** ...Another instructional and curriculum need that was identified by the Committee was that of providing proper activities for implementing subject matter frameworks after their adoption by the State Board of Education. In the fall of 1981, three statewide conferences for implementing the new "History/Social Science Framework" were planned and held under the auspices of the Committee. These three conferences were held in Redding, California on October 7-8; Palm Springs, California on October 22-23; and in Santa Clara, California on October 29-30, 1981. Margaret Branson of Kern County and Bob Watanabe of Contra Costa County provided the major leadership for planning and holding these conferences. This series of conferences was enthusiastically received and points to the direction for probable involvement of the Committee in future years.

In May 1981, the State Steering Committee requested that the County Superintendents establish a separate fund earmarked to be used as seed money for conferences that related to the implementation of frameworks, the Course of Study, and related activities. At its October 6, 1981 meeting, the County Superintendents approved a \$5,000 revolving fund in Santa Barbara County for this purpose. Due to the increased number of State Steering Committee activities, a separate fund was established in 1982; the fund is called the State Steering Committee Fund Number 1.

**1982** ...To assist California educators to improve the quality of instruction, four series of subject matter conferences were held around the state during the school year 1982-83. These conferences were held in northern California, the Bay Area, central California, and southern California, and featured fine arts and math in October and November, science in February and March, and language arts in April.

**1983** ...A series emphasizing history was planned in the same areas of the state during October 1983. John Hunt of the San Diego County Office of Education served as the general overall coordinator of these series of conferences. Brought about by a series of strong leaders, 1983-84 seemed to be the year that the Joint State Steering Committee was broadly recognized as being a viable resource for strengthening the curriculum of public education throughout the state. Bill Fisher from Imperial County Office appointed key individuals from the Joint State Steering Committee to serve on a number of task forces initiated by the State Department of Education in areas of curriculum which helped eliminate some of the technical problems regarding implementation of state-directed program; having representation at the Education Roundtable and being able to provide input to discussions where representatives of private colleges, community colleges, State Department of Education were working toward improved relationships and increased understanding of the continuity of the educational systems in the State of California and through the appointment of a representative to serve on the Articulation Council, to articulate the flow of students from one educational level to another.

**1984** ...During 1984-85, the major activities of the Joint State Steering Committee addressed the need to clarify the functions as well as the structure of the Committee where necessary. Beginning in July 1984, Bob Watanabe of the Contra Costa County Office appointed a subcommittee to review the "Joint State Steering Committee Handbook" and identify areas requiring change. Through this process some of the major outcomes were:

- Clarification of the structure and responsibilities of the County Course of Study Editorial Board
- Clarification of the Joint State Steering Committee's relationship with the California Association of County Superintendents of Schools' Board of Directors
- Clarification of Joint State Steering Committee membership
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- Clarification and strengthening of working relationship with the State Department of Education
- Organization of Joint State Steering Committee subcommittees and assignment of responsibilities of individual members
- Initiation of study of other functions and organizational needs of the Joint State Steering Committee, which was completed in the 1985-86 school year.
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The Joint State Steering Committee worked with the State Department of Education and county offices of education to plan and implement various elements of SB 813. The chief activity among these SB 813 related topics was the co-sponsorship with the State Department of Education of Model Curriculum Standards Awareness workshops. Also, the mathematics and science framework regional conferences were planned and implemented through Joint State Steering Committee leadership. Other curriculum and staff development projects initiated in 1984-85 were projected for completion during the 1985-86 school year.

At its June 3-5, 1984 State Steering Committee meeting, it was recommended to increase the membership on the committee to provide for better continuity within the areas and because of the increased workload responsibilities. The recommendation was submitted to and approved by the County Superintendents to increase the membership in each of the six areas to fourteen area representatives plus the chairperson and vice-chairperson, two immediate past chairpersons, two State Department of Education representatives, and one county superintendent from each area, to become effective in the 1985-86 school year.

**1985** ...In 1985-86, the official name of the Committee was changed to "County/State Steering Committee." Also, during the 1985-86 school year, two subcommittees of the Joint State Steering Committee were instrumental in supporting the year's objective and the theme of "Partnership." Jon Scharer of San Bernardino County Schools assigned each State Steering Committee member to either a Staff Development or a Curriculum Development Task Force. These task forces, under the direction of their chairs, provided the necessary leadership to help with the development, implementation, and the evaluation of curriculum and staff development programs. Their activities focused on planning and collaboration between county offices of education and the State Department of Education. Partnership accomplishments included:

- California Curriculum News Report publication
- Area Planning document
- Handbook Bylaws revision
- Asilomar Conference — "Staff Development and Curriculum: A Partnership"
- Cooperative County course of Study Math and Science Advisories
- County/State Steering Committee brochure
- Mathematics Framework conferences
- National and State School Recognition programs
- Conference Planning Guide revision
- Model Curriculum Standards Implementation
- ASCD Conference Presentation
- TECC Handbook revision
- County/State Steering Logo revision and committee name change to County/State Steering Committee

**1986** ...In 1986-87 John Hendrickson of Stanislaus County brought the new dimension of Area Planning too the County/Sate Steering Committee. Working with the Far West Regional Laboratory, the Committee developed Area Planning Training for county office assistance teams. This training will provide the key linkage to district support and other agency collaboration so necessary at this time. The Staff Development and Curriculum Task Forces were continued with focus on major conferences and the addition of the English/Language Arts Advisory to the County Course of Study. The partnership between the State Department of Education and the county offices continued to grow stronger through the activities listed below:

- Language Arts Framework conference
- District Effectiveness/Effective Schools

- Area Planning Implementation
- School Recognition Program Implementation
- California Curriculum News Report publication
- Handbook/Bylaws revision
- Statewide Committee representation
- County Master Contact Support
- Curriculum Guide implementation
- Curriculum dissemination
- Other staff development conferences/workshops

**1987** ...During the 1987-88 school year, the County/State partnership effort was refined to a specific activity plan with budget, time, and staff allocations. As this plan unfolded, the committee developed many in-depth new products to support the English/Language Arts Framework. These products were distributed through individual county offices and varied in format from videotape training sessions to practical units to be used by classroom teachers. Total staff development effort has been linked to the new Seven-Year Adoption Cycle.

Under the leadership of Lyn Perino, Ventura County, additional partnership activities for 1987-88 occurred:

- Developed and implemented budget to support priority activities
- Area Planning Training implementation
- Updated Handbook and Bylaws
- Established communications with IHE's (California State University)
- Held three All County Assistant Superintendents meetings with State Department of Education
- Framework conferences-History/Social Science
- Process—continued to develop and implement a plan
- Handbook implementation and support of task force work
- Implemented Model Curriculum Guides K-8

**1988** ...For the 1988-90 school year, the planning processes initiated during the terms of John Hendrickson and Lyn Perino were continued. Some, but not all of the State Department/County Office partnership activities for the year ahead were as follows:

- Conduct framework conferences including History/Social Science, Visual and Performing Arts, and Foreign Language
- Conduct Curriculum Leadership Conferences focus on History/Social Science
- Support efforts to secure funded support for staff development and to develop regional plans
- Promote activities serving "at-risk" youth
- Review, streamline, and strengthen the California School Recognition Program
- Initiate activities relating to the Comprehensive Health Initiative, Middle Schools and satellite Communications Districts, and other appropriate agencies and activities
- Enhance functioning of area committees as necessary and appropriate

In addition, a number of activities were initiated during the year with the leadership of Marv Locke, Tehama County. These included:

- The organization and initial programming of the Educational Telecommunications Network (ETN)
- A primary substance abuse prevention program provided through county offices to target population of 406 grade students under the auspices of the Office of Criminal Justice Planning
- A program with Grand Lodge of Freemasons whereby monies were made available for special substance abuse prevention activities
- Intensive pre-planning for the implementation of the regional portion of SB 1882 legislation relating to staff development

**1989** ...Under the leadership of Jean Holbrook, San Mateo County, these are some of the major activities undertaken by County/State Steering Committee in 1989-1990:

- SB 1882 resulted in the funding of nine of the ten County Superintendent Regions as SB 1882 Professional Development Resources Consortia
- Comprehensive Health Initiative—CSSC worked with the Office of Criminal Justice Planning in planning and implementing CADPE (Comprehensive Alcohol and Drug Prevention Education)
- CSSC presented a proposal to the California Department of Education for County Superintendent Regions to become the Healthy Kids Regional Centers
- Assessment Conferences
- Science Framework Conferences—six regional conferences were conducted
- Staff Development and Curriculum Leadership Conferences implementing the Foreign Language and Visual and Performing Arts Frameworks
- Curriculum and Instruction Conference for County Office personnel
- Middle Grades Reform produced a Middle Grades Casebook
- School Accountability Report Cards (SARCs)
- County offices of education served as downlink sites and facilitators for several major CDE teleconferences

## **THE NINETIES**

**1990** ...In January 1990, the County Superintendents completed their service areas restructuring to ten regions. CSSC focused many of their efforts on establishing effective regional structures and implementing plans via the regions. Chairperson Charles Humbert, San Joaquin County guided this reorganization of CSSC.

**1991** ...CSSC activities in 1991-92 under the leadership of Sally Bakke, Tulare County:

Assisted with the selection of teachers and principals for the California Educator Awards

Conducted the Institute “Many Tongues, One Heart: Sheltering Instruction for Access to the Content Areas” Assisted with the SB 1274 restructuring school plans, supported the Healthy Kids Regional centers, and the regional SB 1882 Staff Development Centers

Spotlighted “It’s Elementary” the task force report on elementary schools, at region meetings Co-sponsored with CDE regional “kick-offs” for Second to None, the report of the High School Task Force

**1992** ...Through December 1993 was a year of change to a new calendar year for terms of office and a new name for CSSC. CSSC became the Curriculum and Instruction Steering Committee or CISC. This year and a half term was led by Carol Pugmire, San Diego County.

- Asilomar Conference supported the implementation of the Mathematics Framework
- Launched “It’s Elementary” and reported on follow-up activities
- Added Charter Schools to the work plan
- Collaborated with regions on support and resources for “Second to None”
- Added School Crisis Prevention to work plan as part of CISC’s safe schools
- Assisted in planning and scheduling of regional meetings to provide training in the Three R’s
- Worked with CDE to establish the new assessment system
- Assisted in developing process for selection of Instructional Materials Display Centers throughout California

**1994** ...Was an active and challenging year for CISC under the direction of Bob Douglas, Tehama County. In January 1994, members of the committee formulated an ambitious work plan for the year.

- A Comprehensive Health and Physical Education Framework Leadership Conference for 800 instructional leaders
- CDE and CISC entered into an agreement to jointly fund the development of the following publications:
  - Comprehensive Health and Physical Education Model Curriculum Guide
  - A Parent’s Guide to the new Comprehensive Health and Physical Education Frameworks

- A Brochure for Schools promoting Health and Physical Education as subjects for a PQR focus

☐ The plans for the 1995 English/Language Arts Framework Symposium

- SB 1274 School Restructuring
- It's Elementary Implementation
- Middle Grades Implementation
- SB 1822 Professional Development Consortia
- Second To None High School Collaborative
- Regional trainings in the Rights, Responsibilities, and Respect Curriculum
- Network were maintained between the ten regions and CDE in each of the follow key areas:
  - Middle Grades Implementation
  - SB 1822 Professional Development Consortia
  - Second To None High School Collaborative
- Del Alberti was hired as the State CLAS lead to communicate on state assessment issues
- Co-sponsorship with the California Subject Matter Projects, a Symposium on Student Assessment
- Organized sites where members of the public could review the 1994 CLAS items
- Five multi-region workshops disseminated information on the WASC/PQR process
- Published a training module on School Crisis Response Teams
- Supported the process for Goals 2000 funds

**1995** ...Delaine Eastin became Superintendent of Public Instruction and reorganized the Department of Education. As CISC Chair, John Brophy, Calaveras County, helped refine the CISC work plan and mission to ensure close communication with the Department. Some challenges and highlights from 1995 were:

- The English/Language Arts Symposium at Asilomar
- Producing a statewide teleconference via ETN regarding the Mathematics Framework
- Encouraging in-depth regional trainings in early literacy instruction
- Assisting county offices in upgrading and standardizing technology hardware and software by providing leadership thorough a technology planning committee
- Funding was provided each region for a California Technology Assistance Project
- Providing leadership in the School To Career and Goals 2000 initiatives
- Providing assistance for the Improving America's Schools Act by establishing regional directors to assist schools and districts
- Serving on the State Superintendent's Reading and Mathematics Task Forces
- Providing an in-depth training on the facilitative Leadership Model
- Provided 4-day regional trainings on the California 3Rs Project: Rights, Responsibilities and Respect

**1996** ...Under the leadership of Cheryl Hightower, Alameda County, some of the major activities undertaken by the Curriculum and Instruction Steering Committee were:

- January - became 11 regions
- February – Asilomar: Visual and Performing arts
- System of School-Wide Support
- Curriculum Audits
- Reading

**1997** ...Under the leadership of Cecilia Massetti, Madera County, some of the major activities were:

- To update and publish the CISC Handbook incorporating the recommendations of the CCSESA Frazier Commission
- To focus attention on six work areas: Reading/Literacy, Technology, Mathematics, Standards and assessment, Class

#### Size Reduction, and Curriculum Audits

- To support a statewide reading academy for county office staff through participation in “The Reading Academy”
- To complete the Reading Symposia bringing current thinkers and researchers to three areas of the state
- To facilitate the Goals 2000 professional development K-3 grants and re-service grants
- To work with Dr. Louisa Moats to develop a publication called “A Blue Print for Teachers of Early Reading Instruction”
- To focus on the “So What” of technology assisting with student performance. Presentations were made to CCSESA, the SCORE sites continued their development of instructional resources, and a fifth CCSESA steering committee was created for Technology: the Telecommunications/Technology Steering Committee (TSC)
- To convene a mathematics subcommittee to assess current resources and capacities within COE’s and prepare for upcoming emphasis in the area
- To offer a successful 1997 Asilomar Conference on History Social Sciences: Literacy, Democracy, Diversity, Issues in an Information Age
- To plan for the 1998 Asilomar Symposium with a focus on Standards and Assessment: Mathematics and Reading/Language Arts
- To facilitate the sharing of information resources and regional grants for class size reduction
- To serve on the Governance Council and partner with ACSA in the creation of the California Curriculum Audit. Trainings were provided and a joint audit was conducted with FCMAT

**1998** ...The year began under the leadership of Jane Smith, San Bernardino County, and concluded under the leadership of Carol Pugmire.

- Asilomar Symposium “Standards and Assessments: Mathematics and Reading/Language Arts”
- Statewide Reading Rollouts and staff development (AB 1086)
- Partnered with Standards Commission to conduct public hearings on history and science standards
- Organized the first joint Curriculum Audit and FCMAT Studies in Sausalito and Compton School Districts
- Actively involved in shaping accountability model
- Moved from primarily infrastructure issues regarding technology into more professional development and curriculum issues
- Began work on aligning a new Course of Study with standards
- Partnered with State Board of Education on Reading Workshops for Administrators and Board Members
- Worked directly with California Department of Education, school districts, and Harcourt Brace on assessment issues
- Produced a social promotion/retention resource packet
- Hosted assessment workshops

**1999** ...With his inauguration speech, newly elected Governor Davis declared himself the “Education Governor” and called a special legislative session to improve public education in California. The session concluded with four major reform laws being signed – AB 1X California Peer Assistance and Review Program, AB 2X Reading Instruction and Professional Development SB 1X Education Accountability, and SB 2X High School Exit Exam. Under the leadership of Gary F. Dei Rossi, San Joaquin County, these laws became the major focus driving CISC’s work for 1999. Some of the major accomplishments by the committee were:

- After School Programs regional technical assistance workshops
- The annual Asilomar Symposium “Systems for Student Success” was a success with over 800 educators attending
- Position Papers-Under the leadership of Cecilia Massetti (Madera), a Reading/English Language Arts Course of Study was developed and published
- The County Course of Study was entitled “A Guide for Implementing the English-Language Arts Content Standards for California Public Schools K-12”
- COE’s conduct the site visits for Distinguished Schools
- Two pamphlets on “Social Promotion and Retention” and The New Laws from the 1999 Special Legislative Session”
- Conducted 11 regional framework rollouts for the new math and reading/language arts frameworks with 1600



people in attendance

- Math (AB 1331) – Under the leadership of first, Jeannie Murphy (Los Angeles), and then, Don Russell (Kings), CISC developed mathematics content training modules for teachers. “The Winning Equation Program,” was approved by the State Board of Education
- The executive committee established ongoing meetings with the Governor’s staff regarding educational issues
- Academic liaisons for the purpose of convening various county office specialists to discuss and provide materials in the four academic core areas – reading/language arts, science, history, and math
- The committee continued to revise the curriculum and instruction sections of the Menu of Services
- A three-day institute “Supporting the Implementation of Standards-Based Practice Across the System,” under the leadership of Paul Cordeiro (Santa Barbara), was held in San Diego
- WestEd and the Southern California Comprehensive Assistance Center, built the capacity of professional development systems partners to support the implementation of standards-based practices
- Under the leadership of Rich Foley (San Mateo), the assessment leads provided input to many education institutions, local districts and counties to understand the complex state system of assessment and accountability
- CISC collaborated with ACSA, CTA, CFT, and the Governor’s Office in providing initial awareness workshops on Peer Assistance and Review

## **THE NEW CENTURY**

**2000** ...This year was characterized by an emphasis on implementing any of the governor’s initiatives related to standards, assessment and accountability. Under the leadership of Rich Foley, San Mateo County, major activities contributed to the statewide effort of improving student achievement. Some of the major accomplishments were:

- Asilomar Symposium-Under the leadership of Susan Magnone (Contra Costa) “Accountability – Holding Ourselves Responsible”
- University of California Office of the President developed an informational partnership between CCSESA and UCOP in support of the Professional Development Institutes
- Under the leadership of Cecilia Massetti (Madera) published and distributed “The Mathematics County Course of Study”
- Under the leadership of David Moorhouse (Los Angeles) expanded the number of certified trainers and training opportunities for teachers
- The executive committee met regularly with the Secretary for Education (Gary Hart, Sue Burr and John Mockler)
- Under the leadership of Gordon Stallings (Merced) coordinated AP expansion informational workshops
- Continued collaborative efforts with the CDE, with COE’s conducting site visits
- Menu of Services –Under the leadership of Gordon Stallings (Merced), developed descriptors for the Curriculum and Instruction section
- Coordinated and conducted regional rollouts of two new elementary documents
- Provided leadership and coordination for regional secondary reading grants
- The History/Social Science committee, under the leadership of Gary Dei Rossi (San Joaquin), initiated the development of literature lists correlated to the state standard
- Under the leadership of Susan Magnone (Contra Costa), each region provided input to the CDE and the Education Coalition, disseminated accurate and timely information on the development and implementation of the state assessment system
- Ensured inclusion of migrants funds in regional S4 program allocations
- Collaborated with partners (CDE, CSLA, ACSA, SCCAC, NCCAC, AVID, S4) on major events including: External Evaluator Forums, High School Exit Examination Workshops and a High Performance, High Poverty Schools Symposium
- CISC with CDE and SCCAC, published a document of recommendations for improving the external evaluation process
- Under the leadership of Nancy Giberson (San Diego) developed a brochure providing information on the county offices of education leadership and delivery system for high quality professional development
- Developed concept papers proposing a UCOP-CCSESA Partnership on secondary literacy, coaching to support the California Professional Development Institutes and mathematics

## 2001 ...

- Under the leadership of Nancy Giberson, (San Diego), provided Training for COE staff to utilize CISC-acquired Teaching Reading in Every Classroom, Grades 4-8
- Under the leadership of Nancy Giberson (San Diego) and Tim McClure (Butte), and in collaboration with the Telecommunications/Technology Steering committee, developed a joint proposal to provide online professional development and support to assist in implementing the Governor's Mathematics Professional Development Initiative
- Under the leadership of Pat Alexander (Kern), conducted the 2001 Asilomar Symposium
- Led by Nancy Kotowski (Monterey) and Tim McClure (Butte), and with the able assistance of COE staff from all eleven regions, planned the 2002 Asilomar Symposium titled "Implementing California's Standards: Using Classroom Assessment to Improve Instructional Practice"
- The leadership of Tim McClure (Butte), assisted in the implementation of the Digital California Project, by providing direction for instructional content
- Rich Foley (San Mateo), serving as the CISC facilitator, worked with CCSESA to develop and a formal partnership with the University of California Office of the President to provide support for the Governor's professional development institutes
- The leadership of Gary Dei Rossi, (San Joaquin), created, published and distributed a History/Social Science literature list, "Pages of the Past"
- Under the supervision of Cecilia Cassette (Madera), developed published and distributed a new History/Social Science Course of Study
- Led by David Moorhouse (Los Angeles), the CISC Mathematics Committee assisted the University of California in developing content modules for the Governor's Mathematics Professional Development Institutes
- The direction of Barbara Clarence (Riverside) created a Science Support Document, which will be distributed statewide.
- In collaboration with the CDE and other partners, developed a plan for the implementation of three new pieces of educational legislation: AB 75 (Principal's Training Act), AB 466 (Professional Development) and AB 961 (High Priority Schools Grant Program).
- The leadership of David Moorhouse (Los Angeles) and Joyce Wright (Sacramento), assisted in planning and conducting Secondary Reading Summits
- Identified County regional leads and formulating teams to be trained to provide regional "Taking Center Stage" trainings and support
- Identified leads to conduct regional "Aiming High" and "Taking Center Stage" rollout activities
- Under the leadership of John Brophy (Calaveras) and staff from Alameda and Kern, put the County Curriculum News Report (CCNR) online
- Identified County Office and district personnel to serve on the Code's Scholastic Audit Teams

**2002 ...**On behalf of CCSESA during the year 2002, CISC played a significant role in California's effort to build a coherent system for school reform based on professional development for teachers and administrators focused on adopted instructional programs and targeted assistance to low performing schools.

Each of the five CISC and two state Curriculum and Instruction meetings, the five publications, the statewide conference, the five issues of the newsletter, the five major professional development initiative, the 14 curricular facilitators committees, the ten organizational liaisons, the response to the new federal education act, the three major responses to new California law, and the collaboration with CCSESA and the other steering committees, all focus on CISC's goal for 2002: **Building county office capacity to improve academic achievement of all students.** Publications in 2002:

- At a Glance, describes AB 466, AB 75, and AB 961 (Stallings, Merced)
- Science: County Course of Study. Assists with content standard implementation (Massetti, Madera)
- Strategic Science Teaching K-12: A Sampler of Lessons Connecting Literature with California Standards helps incorporate literature in instruction. (Clarence, Riverside)
- California Curriculum News Report focuses on timely issues. (Foley, San Mateo/Stallings, Merced)
- Professional Development in 2002

- Curriculum and Instructional Leadership Program, Asilomar 2002, premiere statewide conference for curriculum (Kotowski, Monterey)
- Secondary Literacy Conference, collaborative effort with partners for 6-12 schools (Wright, Sacramento/Kings, Stanislaus)
- Reading in Secondary Education, promoting San Diego COE online product. (Giberson, San Diego)
- California High School Exit Examination Mathematics Project, mapping Algebra content standards aligned to textbooks with model lessons. Rollout in all 11 regions. (Moorhouse, Los Angeles)
- Improving Student Achievement: The County Office Role, resources and strategies for assisting low performing schools. (Kings, Stanislaus/Plummer, Santa Clara)
- Fast Forward with the Digital California Project, joint project with TTSC at the San Diego COE to promote use of high-bandwidth network to improve student achievement. (Giberson, San Diego)
- Special Projects in 2002
- No Child Left Behind, comprehensive analysis, section-by-section, of opportunities for county offices of education, featured in recent meetings. (Johansen, Santa Barbara)
- AB 75 Principal Training, 46 county offices formed partnerships with California Leadership Academy and California Technology Assistance Project to receive provider status for Modules 2 and 3; in collaboration with Santa Barbara and Stanislaus, with funding from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, county office are currently preparing to submit proposals for Module 1 provider status. (Dei Rossi, San Joaquin)
- AB 466 Professional Development in reading and Mathematics, in partnership with the University of California, Office of the President created seven Reading Implementation Centers to provide professional development based on adopted instructional programs in reading. Currently establishing the Leadership and Accountability Team in collaboration with the Reading Development Center to provide direction to existing RICs, expand to the total of 13 RICs, and to implement the federal Reading First program.
- Assistance to Low Performing Schools, established multi-county task force to create “Tool Kit” of resources, and to conduct a two-day conference to help county offices provide assistance to district with low performing schools. (Kings, Stanislaus/Plummer, Santa Clara)
- CCSESA Regional Support System, wrote concept paper to advocate for central role of county offices of education in administering regional programs, and to strengthen regional collaboration among county offices in the 11 CCSESA regions. (Alexander, Kern)

## 2003 ...

### **Regional Planning and Accountability**

The committee provided leadership in the development of regional plans for service and support to High Priority schools and districts in their efforts to improve student achievement. The planning process involved the Curriculum and Instruction leadership from county offices, regional service providers (CTAP, RSDSS, AVID, etc.) and other regional partners. The focus for these regional plans was to provide a comprehensive and coordinated system of accountability for the delivery of regional services and to ensure the equity and quality of service to county offices, districts and schools. To date, each of the eleven regions is engaged in an ongoing process of planning and accountability. CISC initiated and completed activities to support this effort:

- A portion of each regular meeting was set aside for discussion, sharing regional efforts, and developing accountability models.
- A full day was dedicated to “building and Implementing Regional Plans.” The 150 participants were CISC members, county office C& I leadership, regional service providers, CCSESA members and staff, and CDE leadership and staff. The topics covered were Criteria for Regional Plans, Building Regional Structures, Accountability Components for Regional Plans, and Building Capacity – County Offices, Districts, and Schools.
- This day was planned by the Low-Performing Schools Subcommittee and Co-chaired by Bonnie Plummer, Santa Clara COE and Chris King, Stanislaus COE
- The first Regional Accountability Report was delivered to the CCSESA General Membership in October 2003. This effort was led by the Chair of the Assessment Subcommittee, Susan Magnone, Contra Costa COE.

### **No Child Left Behind (NCLB)**

- The Committee appointed a liaison on this topic to keep the membership up to date on the development of the state plan for implementation. Carol Johansen, Santa Barbara COE, served as the liaison.
- NCLB is the focus for the five issues of the California Curriculum News Report beginning with the October 2003 issue. It will also be the focus for the Curriculum and Instruction Leadership Symposium in February 2004.
- Through a collaborative effort between CCSESA, CISC, and CDE, every region implemented an Adequate
- Yearly Progress (AYP) rollout in July/august to assist district with the first AYP Report required by NCLB.
- Through CISC, county offices received information and support on the development of the first LEA Plan effort required of every district and county office. All county offices and regions offered assistance to districts in the development of the plans.

### **High Priority Schools**

- CISC published five issues of the Curriculum and Instruction News Report. All issues highlighted the work of county offices and regions and their efforts to serve and support high priority schools and districts. Gordon Stallings, Merced COE is past chair and Tim McClure, Butte COE is the current of the editorial committee for this publication.
- CISC published "Tales of Time;" the grade 6-8 literature aligned to the history/social science content standards. This publication was developed by the History/Social Science Subcommittee, led by Chair, Gary Dei Rossi, and San Joaquin COE.
- The English Language Arts County Course of Study is in draft form and will be introduced at the Secondary Literacy Summit in March. This publication replaces the earlier edition and aligns the course of study with the ELA content standards, the ELA framework, AB 466, and the SBE approved instructional materials. Sue Stickel, CDE, is assisting CISC with a video to present this publication. This publication is a combined effort of The ELA Subcommittee led, by Joyce Wright Sacramento COE and the chair of the CISC Course of Study project, Larry Champion, Tehama COE.

### **Symposia/Conferences**

- The 2003 Curriculum and Instruction Leadership Symposium was held February 19-21. The theme was "Leadership for a Standards-based System." Despite the budget concerns regarding conferences and travel, the symposium was well attended and evaluated as highly effective by the participants. The chair of the planning committee was Chris King, Stanislaus COE.
- CISC has participated in the planning and implementation of the Secondary Literacy Summit for the past two years. For the 2004 summit, CISC was asked to take the leadership of the planning committee. The ELA Subcommittee under the leadership of Joyce Wright, Sacramento COE, has taken on this responsibility for CISC.

### **Mathematics**

- The CISC Math Subcommittee, in collaboration with University of California Office of the President, completed the development of "Mathematics Support Modules – Enhancing AB 466 Mathematics Professional Development." This document was printed by the San Diego COE and has been distributed to all county offices. This effort was led by the Math Subcommittee Chair, Nancy Giberson, San Diego COE, past chair David Moorhouse, LACOE, and facilitator Tony Spears, San Diego COE.

### **Technology**

- In an effort to build county office and district capacity in the effective use of technology and the DCP, CISC hosted three COE technology presentations at the March 2003 meeting:
  - A Model to Deliver Digital Content and Student Performance Data To California Schools: K-12 Educational Resources Portal – San Luis Obispo COE.
  - Santa Clara School Plan – Santa Clara COE
  - IP Videoconferencing: A cost-effective model – Imperial COENancy Giberson, San Diego COE, is the CISC Liaison for Technology and arranged these presentations.

## **AB 75 Principal Training**

- Through the CISC network of county offices, partnerships were formed to involve numerous county offices in delivering AB 75 Principal Training. With the Stanislaus COE, Santa Barbara COE, CAP, and ACSA working on the three modules, all regions have access to approved AB 75 providers and training.

## **Reading Technical Assistance Centers (R-TAC)**

- Through a cooperative effort with the California Technical Assistance Center (C-TAC), CCSESA and CISC, eight county offices, serving as Regional LEAs, currently support an R-TAC. These centers provide technical assistance and support to Reading First districts.

## **Reading in Secondary Education (RISE)**

- RISE is the online professional development series produced for secondary teachers by San Diego COE in collaboration with Orange COE and Imperial COE. CISC partnered with these county offices to provide all county offices with access to the two-day RISE trainings of trainers for COE instructional leaders who will be working with schools to achieve state and district reading goals.

## **California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE)**

- CISC, through the Mathematics and English Language Arts Subcommittees, has developed and distributed materials to assist teachers and students in passing the CAHSEE in the math content area and on the writing portion of the test.

## **Civic Education**

- Through the leadership of Gary Dei Rossi, San Joaquin COE, and the History/Social Science Subcommittee, CISC and CCSESA were acknowledged for their support and endorsement of the new document published by the Center for Civic Education – Education for Democracy: California Civic Education Scope and Sequence. This document was sent to every principal, district superintendent and county superintendent in the state. Each region is currently involved in the roll out of this document. Many of our county office instructional leaders helped write and direct this project.

**2004 ...**In 2004, county offices of education were asked to support many initiatives sponsored by department of education and the state board. We did have a bit of a scare when Governor Schwarzenegger's commission on governmental reform suggested that county offices should be eliminated – from the CISC perspective—Williams, SATI, NCLB Program Improvement Schools and AB 2066 Program Improvement Districts took care of that! (At least for this year.) Under the leadership of Chris King (Stanislaus County Office), CISC initiated and contributed to several major statewide efforts to provide support to administrators, teachers, schools and districts to find ways to improve student achievement. In fact because of the increasing requests for CISC involvement in statewide initiatives, the CISC Executive Committee felt it was important to have one county office represented on CISC. This year our bylaws were changed to allow each region to send 3 regional representatives to CISC. The following is a brief overview of CISC's work in 2004:

- Carol Johansen (Santa Barbara) led our Asilomar Symposium efforts. The theme was "Rising to the Challenge and Discovering the Opportunities of No Child Left Behind." Dr. Michael Fullan's keynote message was well aligned to the work of county office curriculum and instruction experts – leaders need to concentrate on student learning as the central focus of reform and strive to focus energy to and achieve a greater alignment within the system.
- Under the leadership of Linda Menvielle Imperial), the Mathematics Subcommittee brought together county office mathematics leaders to write the 466 modules for the many State Board approved K-8 instructional programs. This was a monumental effort that will support and be a springboard for ongoing quality mathematics professional development for the next several years.
- Joyce Wright (Sacramento), David Moorhouse (Los Angeles) and Gary Dei Rossi (San Joaquin) began a project with CDE to convene and impact the statewide infrastructure for School Readiness with a major goal of infusing a consistent academic skills experience for all prekindergarten children.
- Larry Champion (Tehama County) working with Joyce Wright, Language Arts subcommittee chair, developed the highly Language Arts Course of Study that is considered an augmentation to the Language Arts Framework. The

Language Arts Subcommittee, again with ACSA, WestEd and CAC partners, sponsored the very successful Secondary Literacy Summit.

- Building on the work of Past Chair Pat Alexander (Kern), Susan Magnone (Contra Costa) lead CISC members through the process to produce a regional accountability report. This report is a way for county offices to determine if they are supporting their most needy schools as well as providing data for counties to use in the political realm. Dr. Magnon also again chaired the Regional Assessment Leads that is one of our most active and long standing CISC subcommittees.
- Working with CDE, Chris King and Pat Alexander helped to support AB 2066 through the legislative process that included a \$10 million augmentation for regional RSDSS (S4) programs. CISC with CCSESA approval developed a RSDSS Augmentation protocol that will now allow those county offices that have high priority schools to access a portion of any augmentation to RSDSS funding. In this way, more and more county offices will have resources to work cooperatively with their RSDSS LEA to support their schools through the program improvement process (or better yet, to stay out of the PI process).

Through the facilitation of Glen Thomas (CCSESA Direct), CISC formed a partnership with the CSU Chancellor's Office to support the Early Assessment Project (EAP). CSU needed help in disseminating the message about EAP to high schools and came to CCSESA/CISC because of our capability to impact the entire state through our regional structure. This year the focus was implementing a standards-based English Language Arts 12<sup>th</sup> grade course. Next year they will focus on Mathematics.

Through the leadership of Linda MacDonell (Orange) and David Moorhouse (Los Angeles), the CISC High/Middle School Subcommittee supported Superintendent O'Connell's High School Summit. The Subcommittee is also facilitating regional high school learning communities, which will continue the high school reform agenda.

Through the leadership of first Barbara Clarence (Riverside) who retired this year now Diana Blackledge (Riverside), the CISC Science subcommittee has worked to inform the science instructional materials adoption process.

As the CISC year was coming to an end, the Williams Settlement appeared on the CISC agenda. CISC working with the other CCSESA Steering Committees is developing a consistent process for all county offices to utilize as they monitor their 2003 Decile 1-3 schools in the areas in instructional materials, facilities and teacher assignments.

During 2004, the following CISC members took on liaison roles ensuring that CISC was kept up-to-date in the following areas: Pat Alexander (Kern) Legislation; Ronda Adams (Yolo) Career Technical; Mike DeRoss (Siskiyou) Physical Education//Health; Gary Dei Rossi (San Joaquin) History/Social Sciences; Francisca Sanchez (San Bernardino) Language Policy Issues; Tim McClure (Butte) RIC/R-TAC; Basha Millhollen (Santa Barbara) Elementary Issues; Nancy Giberson (San Diego) Technology and Communications; Brenda Chapman (Tuolumne) Visual and Performing Arts; John Barnhart (San Luis Obispo) Student Services Liaison.

Throughout the year, CISC also gave input in the following processes: Distinguished Schools criteria and visitation schedules, CCR Revision, creation of the Program Improvement District Assistance Survey and the writing of the high school AB 75 Module I.

In all, 2004 was a very busy year for CISC and the Executive Committee thanks to all the CISC members for the many hours they have contributed to CISC projects! (Executive Committee: Pat Alexander, Tim McClure, Nancy Giberson, David Moorhouse, Barbara Clarence, John Barnhart, Bob Douglas and Wendy Harris (CDE) and Chris King)

## **2005 ...**

- **Accountability-** Lead by Chris King (Stanislaus), the newly formed subcommittee appointed a liaison member to each of the following CDE accountability efforts: IIUSP, SAIT, HP, PI Districts and Schools, 466 and AB 75/430 and DAIT. The CCSESA Survey was created and disseminated on-line to all 58 counties for compiling service capacity data. Analysis by CCSESA superintendent focus groups will be available for policy discussions, etc.

- **Assessment/Regional Assessment Network (RAN)**- Lead by Susan Magnone (Contra Costa) and Mike DeRoss (Siskiyou), RAN meetings with the Standards and Assessment Division of the CDE, provided updates and discussion on assessment and accountability issues and feedback from the field to the CDE. The RAN members communicated AYP accountability data in a regional report to superintendents and supported the California Assessment System by hosting 30 ETS STAR workshops for district assessment staff.
- **The California Curriculum News Report (CCNR)**- Lead by Tim McClure (Butte) and Francisca Sanchez (San Bernardino), CCSESA stopped funding the publication through dues contributions from each of the county offices of education. Four issues were produced, posted on the web, and CISC members were alerted to the posing with an email reminder. The focus for the CCNR will be consistent with the theme selected for the Leadership Symposium. Each issue cost \$4,000 and \$20 will be added to the Asilomar Leadership Symposium registration fee to cover the costs. A survey, and the number of hits to web site will be tallied to measure interest in continuing the publication.
- **California Preschool Instruction Network (CPIN)**- Joyce Wright (Sacramento) and Gary Dei Rossi (San Joaquin) lead the CPIN that was initiated by the CDE in collaboration with CCSESA, to establish and maintain regional networks of administrators and teachers of early education and school readiness; facilitate and coordinate professional development opportunities and support regional communication and collaboration. The initiative focused on the educational component of preparing children aged three to five years, including those with disabilities and those who are learning English, for success in elementary school and beyond.
- **Career Technical Education**- Liaison, Ronda Adams (Yolo), worked with the CCSESA task force to enhance focus on Career Technical Education. Larry Champion (Tehama), and Cathy Bean (El Dorado) will join the group.
- **Comprehensive Health and Physical Education**- Liaison, Mike Dross (Siskiyou) and Merry McCauley (Kern), worked with Diane Wilson-Graham from CDE to prepare reports to keep CISC informed regarding issues of importance and provided input to the CDE collaborative workgroup during their process of creating guidance for school districts and county offices of education for development of local wellness policies.
- **Curriculum and Instruction Leadership Symposium: Asilomar**- Lead by Francisca Sanchez (San Bernardino), the February 23-25 theme was "Success 50 Years Later – Students, Schools, and Communities Living the Legacy." The Symposium was organized in four strands: Race & Culture, Language, Special Needs, and Class & Poverty. Sessions addressed how best to close the access and achievement gaps that currently exist between groups of students and offered district-focused "promising paths" sessions regarding how the vision for student success and the legacy of Brown v. Board of Education are being operationalized in local contexts.
- **Distinguished Schools**- Liaison, Gary Dei Rossi (San Joaquin), facilitated the first CISC sponsored webcast training for the county coordinators of the California School Recognition Program. In addition, CISC worked with the CDE on recruiting and providing readers for the distinguished school application process; supported, provided personnel, and leadership on the numerous validation visits throughout the state.
- **Early Assessment Project (EAP)**-The Early Assessment Program identifies high school students who need additional support in their senior year to prepare for the CSU Placement Exams.
  - English Language Arts Liaison, Chris King (Stanislaus), facilitated the CSU Chancellor's Office partnership with CCSESA/CISC to implement a series that introduced senior teachers to a yearlong curriculum that focuses on teaching expository text and rhetorical analysis. The Language Arts Subcommittee Regional Leads coordinated 27 three-day workshops for 690 teachers across all 1 county superintendents' regions.
  - Mathematics Liaison, Tony Spears (San Diego), facilitated the Mathematics Subcommittee Regional Leads collaboration with CSU to develop, preview, pilot and rollout a two-day professional development series for 1200 Algebra II teachers statewide. The training teams consisted of teacher leaders, mathematics and

math education faculty and County Office of Education mathematics specialists. Over 1,100 teachers participated.

- **History-Social Science-** Lead by Gary Dei Rossi (San Joaquin) and Elizabeth Lem (Los Angeles), the subcommittee accomplished the following:
  - Worked with Campaign for the Civic Mission of Schools
  - Entered into an agreement with the State of California’s Center for Excellence for the Study of the Holocaust, Genocide, Human Rights and Tolerance (at Chico State)
  - Developed a brochure containing resources and lessons for Constitution Day
  - Organized and presented workshops on High School Instruction Materials
  - Published four California Three Rs (Rights, Responsibilities, and Respect) Bulletins covering: political expression at schools, the academic study of religion, and perils of role playing religious issues
  - Worked closely with many other statewide organizations (Constitutional Rights Foundation, The Center for Civic Education, the CDE, California Council for the Social Studies, the CA History-Social Science Subject Matter Project, and the California Council History Education).
- **Language Arts-**Lead by Raynette Sanchez (Los Angeles) and Joyce Wright (Sacramento), the subcommittee
  - Provided support for the Vocabulary Forum
  - Held regional activities and training on vocabulary in their regions
  - Participated in planning for the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Secondary Literacy Summit
  - Prepared a set of resource materials to guide and support effective implementation of secondary language arts programs, with particular focus on assessment and placement of students in intensive intervention/ELD intervention programs
  - Participated in planning and presenting the CDE sponsored training for SAIT language arts content leads
  - In conjunction with the CSU’s, regional representatives held Early Assessment Program (EAP) Language Arts workshops. (See also, EAP)
- **Leadership-** Liaison, Nancy Giberson (San Diego), met with ACSA and the CACC to begin conversations for integrating leadership support around the CDE’s core AB 430/75 administrative training. AB 430 has been extended to 2012.
- **Mathematics-** Lead by Linda Menvielle (Imperial and Francis Basich-Whitney (Santa Cruz), the work revolved around AB 466 submissions of training material for State Board of Education approval, the training of instructors, and conducting workshops throughout the state. This comprehensive initiative involved the creation of a statewide system so that every county office of education could provide the training within their county. Lead County Offices were designated for each of the SBE approved publishers, and an oversight committee established of the Lead County Office Assistant Superintendents. The requirements of the California Academic Program Survey pushed work forward to design AB 75 elementary mathematics training for administrators.
- **New Teacher Development-** Liaison, Merry McCalley (Kern), provided information concerning the need for high quality teachers in California; the needs, services and legislative issues of the Intern and BTSA Induction programs; and the Paraprofessional Teacher Training Program.
- **RIC/RTAC-** Liaison, Tim McClure (Butte), working with seven county offices of education in collaboration with the Reading Lions Center/Sacramento County Office of Education (SCOE), trained over 23,000 participants in AB 466/Reading First Coach Institutes and AB 75 Principal Training Program Sessions. The training focused on State Board of Education adopted instructional programs for reading and language arts, grades K-8. Nine county offices of education, along with the California Technical Assistance Center, Reading Lions Center/SCOE, provided technical assistance to schools participating in the Reading First program.



- **Science-** Lead by Rob Phillips (Solano) and Co-Leads, Mike Jones (Riverside), and Crickett Kidwell (Trinity), coordinated communications with the CDE and other organizations to support goals related to high school reform and have served as a resource for the revision of *Aiming High*. The subcommittee produced a Resource List of materials to be used in assisting high school seniors pass the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE) and planned the California High School Cyber Conference for developing on-site professional learning communities.
- **Technology: TTSC/HSN-** Liaisons, Nancy Giberson (San Diego) and Tim McClure (Butte), have represented CISC working with CCSESA's TTSC subcommittees and the High School Network (HSN) to build one of the most robust networks in the country. The California Superintendents Forum Series: Connecting to Make a Difference was co-sponsored by CCSESA and the Center for Digital Education. Francisca Sanchez (San Bernardino) facilitated an Organizational Management System review. CISC recommends consideration of this tool by TTSC/HSN as a data collection, analysis and reporting tool to facilitate completion of Regional Accountability Reports.
- **Visual and Performing Arts-** Liaison, Brenda Chapman, (Tuolumne) has provided consistent reports on the issues surrounding the Visual and Performing Arts. The Framework was rolled to County Arts Leads at their meeting in Sacramento and each Art Lead was given the responsibility of rolling out the framework to teachers in their respective counties. The Visual and Performing Arts Framework will be one of the foci for the Curriculum Leadership Symposium at Asilomar in 2006.
- **Williams Case Support-** Lead by Chris King, (Stanislaus), CISC members were prepared and participated in the spring pilot and fall implementation reviews of sufficient instructional materials, highly qualified teachers and safe facilities in the lowest performing schools throughout the state.

**2006 ...** The accomplishment of the Curriculum and Instruction Steering Committee can best be described by work of the committees and liaisons. Additional notable accomplishments include:

- CCSESA Intervention Analysis coordinated by Chris King (Stanislaus)
- The partnership and coordinated work with the California Comprehensive Center at WestEd
- The continual strengthening of the CISC Regional Network of leads, committee chairs, and liaisons
- Pioneering work on the use of technology to deliver conferences like the Middle and High School Cyber Conference led by Rob Phillips (Solano) and the Visual and Performing Arts Cyber Conference led by Francisca Sanchez (San Bernardino)
- The continued development of tools and materials like the History-Social Science Instructional Materials Adoption Toolkit led by Gary Dei Rossi (San Joaquin), the Science *Adoption Toolkit led by Sharon Twitty (Merced)*, and the *"Student Assessment and Placement in Reading/ Language Arts Programs for Grades 6- 12"* led by Raynette Sanchez (Los Angeles).
- In 2006, the Curriculum and Instruction Steering Committee recognized **Gary Dei Rossi** (San Joaquin) for the CCSESA STAR Recognition Award for his long-term contribution to CISC. **Chris King** received the CISC Leadership Award for outstanding service for 2006. The following is a breakdown of accomplishments by subcommittee and liaison.

## **CISC SUBCOMMITTEES**

- **Accountability-** The CISC Accountability Subcommittee's purpose is to facilitate timely CISC and CDE conversations on the various programs and services that support the SBE/CDE vision and requirements to support low-performing schools and districts. Led by **Chris King** (Stanislaus) and Co-Lead **Nancy Giberson** (San Diego), the committee worked with CDE and CCSESA to select the four pilot DAIT districts and have reviewed the district criteria for the Gates additional 11 pilot districts. They reviewed the San Diego COE Program Improvement Management System (PIMS) and supported their negotiations with WestEd for developing this system as a statewide information tool. The subcommittee also served as an advisory body to CDE as they developed timelines and procedures for the revisions of AB 75 and 466 (now AB 430 and SB 472).

- **Assessment/Regional Assessment Network (RAN)**- Under the leadership of **Susan Magnone** (Contra Costa) and **Mike DeRoss** (Siskiyou), Co-Lead, the Regional Assessment Network met five Times with the Standards and Assessment Division of the CDE in 2006. After each of the meetings, the regional representatives provided assessment updates to other counties and districts in their region. To provide assessment resources and facilitate communication across the state, several of the RAN members are developing training materials that can be used by every county. The materials will focus on the use of state assessment to improve curriculum and instruction. Work on developing the materials will continue into 2007 with a completion target date of spring 2007.
- **California Preschool Instructional Network (CPIN)**- **Joyce Wright** (Sacramento) **Gary Dei Rossi** (San Joaquin), and **Henry Mothner** (Los Angeles), led the CPIN that was initiated by the CDE in collaboration with CCSESA, to establish and maintain regional networks of administrators and teachers of early education and school readiness, facilitate and coordinate professional development opportunities and support regional communication and collaboration. The initiative focused on preparing children aged three to five, including those with disabilities and those who are learning English, for success in elementary school and beyond.
- **Course of Study**-Under the leadership of **Larry Champion** (Tehama) and Co-Lead **Kathleen Hansen** (Sutter), final revision of the *Language Arts Course of Study: Creating a System-wide Literacy plan for Student Success* is now in progress. This publication will serve as a companion document to the new California Reading/Language Arts Framework. In addition, the CISC Language Arts Committee is in the final review stages of a document entitled: *Assessment and Placement in Reading/Language Arts Classes* that will become an integral part of the Course of Study. The Course of Study will be showcased at the Curriculum and Instruction Leadership Symposium at Asilomar in February 2007 as well as the Secondary Literacy Summit in March 2007.
- **Curriculum and Instruction Leadership Symposium 2006**- 739 curriculum leaders from all the CCSESA Regions registered for the Conference entitled: *Visionary Leadership for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Closing the Achievement Gaps that Matter Using the Mathematics and Visual and Performing Arts Framework*. Chaired by **Linda MacDonell** (Orange), the conference consisted of three strands including Mathematics, Visual and Performing Arts, and Leadership. The Mathematics and Visual and Performing Arts Frameworks were showcased, as well as effective practices centered on closing achievement gap using the Mathematics and Visual and Performing Arts Frameworks. Evaluations for the conference have been excellent. The conference led the way for the Visual and Performing subcommittee, chaired by **Francisca Sanchez**, to conduct the VAPA Cyber Conference, which continued to showcase the arts.
- **History/Social Science**- Under the leadership of **Gary Dei Rossi** (San Joaquin) and Co-Lead **Cricket Kidwell** (Trinity), the CISC History-Social Science Subcommittee developed the *School District History-Social Science K-12 Instructional Materials Adoption Toolkit*. This helped districts with their selection process of the newly state-adopted history-social science texts. In addition, the committee worked closely with the California Campaign for the Civic Mission of Schools, Constitution Day, The California 3Rs Project, and the Secretary of State's Office on the Student Voting Project.
- **Language Arts**- Led by **Raynette Sanchez** (Los Angeles) and Co-Lead Naomi Williams (Alameda), the Language Arts Subcommittee has worked together to plan and coordinate regional activities that support statewide literacy initiatives, such as the Early Assessment Program (EAP) and AB 466 professional development. The Subcommittee has developed the document, *Assessment and Placement in Reading/Language Arts Classes* that will rollout at the Asilomar Conference and the Secondary Literacy Summit, and will be included in the revised County Course of Study. Special Education issues have been a priority focus for this year and a publication addressing special needs students and reading/language arts is in development.
- **Mathematics**- Under the leadership of **Linda Menvielle** (Imperial), and **Linda Childress** (Riverside) Co-Lead, the Mathematics Subcommittee worked vigorously to train teachers, develop training materials, and partner with other organizations to enhance the quality of instruction and thus student achievement in the area of mathematics. The mathematics Subcommittee and the California Department of Education orchestrated the

rollout of the Revised Mathematics Framework. This included producing a CD with Power Points suitable for training administrators, teachers, and community members. Each county office of education was provided with a CD as well as information on how to use it with the various audiences. Also, they continued training teachers throughout the state on the effective use of their instructional materials (AB 466). As the year ends, they will focus on the rewriting of AB 466 training materials to meet the criteria of AB 472. In conjunction with the California State University system, they trained teachers on Algebra II and above to understand and implement rigorous courses. They revised Numeracy materials and trained teachers to implement the Numeracy Program in their classrooms through a Partnership with the CDE, the California Comprehensive Assistance Center, and CISC. They began plans for an Algebra Forum to be held in May 2007, which will focus on the research behind the recommendations of the National Mathematics Panel. This powerful subcommittee continues to seek new opportunities to further instruction in mathematics in the State of California. Changes in the way we teach mathematics is being guided by the revised Mathematics Framework. Next year, they will, among other initiatives, build upon the work of the Science-History/Social Studies Committees to develop a process for textbook selection. New mathematics instructional materials will be available in 2008.

- **Science-** Under the leadership of **Sharon Twitty** (Merced) and **Ronda Adams** (Yolo) Co-lead, the Science Subcommittee developed and published the *Science Adoption Toolkit: A Data-Driven Review of Instructional Materials*. The toolkit established a data-driven process for the review of instructional materials. The Toolkit uses a data profile to develop a “lens” that assists in the selection of the most appropriate instructional materials for the needs of students and teachers for each district. The toolkit offers a clear process that helps districts focus on critical questions. The toolkit includes an electronic reporting feature that automatically compiles the data according to district priorities. The subcommittee also conducted a statewide rollout and training for the toolkit and worked with CCSESA to submit a successful proposal to Genentech for the development of a statewide science training for teacher leaders.
- **Secondary (High/Middle) Schools-** Led by **Rob Phillips** (Solano) and Co-lead **Cricket Kidwell** (Trinity), the CISC Secondary Subcommittee has been involved with two very important projects in 2006. On March 1, 2006, the first ever Middle and High School Cyber Summit was broadcast to 34 locations around the state and 1414 individuals participated in this event statewide. As part of the High Performing High Schools Initiative, the CDE and the CISC Secondary Subcommittee are supporting 11 promising high schools to participate in the *California Successful Practices Network*. This network will be guided by the work of Dr. Willard Daggett’s national *Successful Practices Network*. The schools, one from each County Superintendents’ region, must work in partnership with their high school network regional lead and be committed to making strides toward providing a more rigorous and relevant curriculum for all students. *Successful Practices Network* schools are promising models for success, fully engaged in all statewide and Constitution Day, the California 3Rs Project, and the Secretary of State’s Office on the Student Voting Project.
- **Visual & Performing Arts-** Under the Leadership of **Francisca Sanchez** (San Bernardino), Lead and Co-lead **Brenda Chapman** (Tuolumne), the VAPA Subcommittee was fully engaged in planning the first ever *Learning in the Arts Cyber Conference*, which was held on October 18, 2006, and broadcast live from San Bernardino to 28 sites statewide. Over 500 administrators, arts specialists, lead teachers, and others focused on: 1) the function, purpose, and use of the Visual and Performing Arts Framework; 2) arts education as an integral part of core curriculum for all student in California; 3) diverse models of rigorous, sequential, and comprehensive arts education for K-12; 4) information and updates about new state resources and funding for arts instruction; and 5) the arts as a research-based in low-performing (SAIT/PI) schools and districts.

The morning session featured an introduction to the foundational principles of powerful arts instruction, examples of model programs, and inspiring student learning across the arts; motivating speakers, a leadership panel, and opportunities to respond and reflect, while the afternoon presentations were locally organized sessions that focused on identifying the implications arising from the morning session and on framing a local response in terms of next steps.

## CISC LIAISONS

- **Career Technical- Ronda Adams** (Yolo) Liaison, reports that the California County Superintendents Education Service Association/Association of California School Administrators (ACSA/CCSESA) Career Technical Education Council focused on the following areas in 2006: 1) Support the implementation and marketing of Career Technical Education. 2) Serve as an advisory for the School-to-Career Interagency Partners (Employment Development Department, CDE, the Community Colleges Chancellor's Office, and the Secretary of Education's Office) and others on CTE issues. 3) Create the CTE Council Pre-conference Session at ACSA Conference for November 2006. The pre-conference session, November 1, focused on challenging programs of academic and CTE courses that provide students with preparation for both college and career. 4) Serve as a resource for educators who are implementing CTE programs—discuss challenges, brainstorm solutions and share successes. 5) Created the CTE Matrix on High School Reform.
- **Charter Schools-** Liaison **Cathy Bean** (El Dorado) shared electronic information related to current Issues as described by CDE partner Marta Reyes. Such issues were 1) Statewide Benefit Charters – what are they and how do they get approved; 2) a checklist to help COE's evaluate charter applications that come to them either as county-wide charters or on appeal; and 3) a document that Marta Reyes has put together that describes the roles and responsibilities of county offices of education in their oversight capacity.
- **Comprehensive Health/Physical Education-**Under the leader of Liaison, Mike Dei Rossi (Siskiyou) information and resources were shared regarding the completion by districts of a Local School Wellness Policy, and progress on the newly published Physical Education Model Content Standards.
- **Distinguished Schools/Blue Ribbon Schools-** Working with CDE Partner Carol Kennedy, Liaison **Pansy Ceballos** (Tulare), kept CISC up-to-date with the progress of the distinguished school and blue ribbon programs. A record 377 California public elementary schools were selected as 2006 California Distinguished Schools and 31 public schools and four private schools in California were identified by the U.S. Department of Education as 2006 NCLB-Blue Ribbon Schools. The Distinguished Schools Ceremony was held May 26, 2006, at the Disneyland Hotel and Convention Center. Technical Assistance workshops have been scheduled for schools eligible for the 2007 award.
- **Early Assessment Project-Tony Spears,** (San Diego) Liaison, coordinated regional rollout of the new EAP mathematics two-day professional development series. All 11 regions participated and over 800 high school mathematics teachers and 42 University faculty attended the trainings. Twenty county offices of education and 18 university campuses hosted and assisted with these successful professional development trainings. A small cadre of county office staff, EAP coordinators, teacher leaders (grade 9-12), and university faculty helped develop and deliver the trainings. The professional development sessions were focused on: 1) EAP mathematics assessment resources; 2) aligning student work; 3) developing good mathematics tasks/problems; 4) the senior year experience; 5) strategies for improving students' understanding; and 6) new collaborative opportunities and resources. CISC will continue its support for EAP mathematics and language arts during 2006-07 school year. We would like to especially thank the CISC Math Subcommittee and EAP leads for all their hard work and support for our mathematics teachers statewide.
- **Language Policy Issues- Pansy Ceballos** (Tulare) Liaison, reports that the SBE adopted ELA/ELD Framework and textbook criteria. Option two included an additional hour of instruction and will be aligned to both ELA and ELD Standards. Performance levels and cut scores were established for CELDT. **Leadership Liaison Nancy Giberson** (San Diego) and **Carol Johansen** (Santa Barbara) Co-Liaison, piggybacked on CISC meeting times to facilitate the Integrated Leadership Development Initiative (ILDI). Participants included CISC, CDE, ACSA, and West Ed. ILDI seeks to coordinate statewide principal development efforts in support of AB 430 administrative training and refine the network of leadership support to meet the evolving needs of site and district leaders.
- **New Teacher Development-** Liaison **Merry McCalley** (Kern), reports that the work of the new teacher development subcommittee focused on issues that cross our state and impact student learning. The committee

monitored legislation, ongoing state and federal requirements for low-performing schools, and the escalation of teacher shortages. The major piece of legislation, the new teacher programs, followed intently was SB 1209, as it will bring about changes to both the intern and induction programs.

- **Technology: TTSC/HSN-** **Nancy Giberson** (San Diego) Liaison and **Tim McClure** (Butte) Co-Liaison, report that information from the Technology Subcommittee (TTSC) and the High Speed Network (HSN) was shared with CISC as well as several demonstrations were presented highlighting available resources. The Program Improvement Management System (PIMS) was reviewed and supported for evaluation.

### 2007 ... Major Focus Areas

The activities of the Curriculum and Instruction Steering Committee focused on three important areas, which were addressed in our May and November meetings and throughout our subcommittee work.

- **Coordination of Existing and New Initiatives:** CISC members worked to coordinate delivery of the array of statewide initiatives that are implemented through county offices of education, which focus on providing professional development for new and veteran teachers and administrators (BTSA, SB 472, AB 430), supporting lower performing districts and schools (RSDSS, DAIT, SAIT, QEIA, Regional Capacity Building for COEs), and providing additional support systems (AVID, CTAP, PMAT, RASTAS, CPIN).
- **Coherence of Services Provided to Districts/Schools:** CISC members worked to assist districts and schools to approach the various programs, initiatives, and requirements in an integrated manner that is organized around the nine essential components.
- **Consistency of Messages and Implementation:** Also, it became apparent that it is important to provide consistent statements, guidelines, and suggestions that do not conflict with one another and support the nine essential components.

### Recognition

- In 2007, the Curriculum and Instruction Steering Committee recognized **Pat Alexander** (Kern County) for the CCSESA STAR Recognition Award for her long-term contributions to CISC.

### CISC SUBCOMMITTEES

The following is a breakdown of accomplishments by subcommittee and liaison. CISC members spend numerous hours in providing statewide leadership in many areas and positively impacts districts and schools throughout California.

- **Accountability**

The CISC Accountability Subcommittee's purpose is to facilitate timely CISC and CDE conversations on the various programs and services that support the SBE/CDE vision and requirements to support low-performing schools and districts. Until July, the committee was led by **Chris King** (Stanislaus) and Co-Lead **Nancy Giberson** (San Diego). Upon the retirement of Chris King, **Sue Stickel** (Sacramento) assumed the role of Co-Lead. The committee worked with CDE and CCSESA on various initiatives, including the DAIT pilots, the Regional Capacity Building Project, QUEIA, RSDSS, and Title III. The subcommittee also served as an advisory body to CDE as they developed timelines and procedures for AB430 and SB472.

- **Assessment/Regional Assessment Network (RAN)**

Under the leadership of Susan Magnone, (Contra Costa) the Regional Assessment Network met five times with the Standards and Assessment Division of the CDE in 2007. After each of the meetings, regional representatives provided assessment updates to other counties and districts in their region. To provide assessment resources and facilitate communication across the state, several of the RAN members developed training materials that can be used by every county, *"Understanding and Using Assessment and Accountability Data to Support Student Achievement"*. The materials focused on the use of state assessment to improve curriculum and instruction.

Workshops were conducted during summer and fall 2007 in each of the 11 CCSESA regions.

- **California Preschool Instructional Network (CPIN)**

**Joyce Wright**, (Sacramento), **Gary Dei Rossi**, (San Joaquin), and **Henry Mothner**, (Los Angeles), led the CPIN that was initiated by the CDE in collaboration with CCSESA, to establish and maintain regional networks of administrators and teachers of early education and school readiness, facilitate and coordinate professional development opportunities, and support regional communication and collaboration. The initiative focused on preparing children aged three to five, including those with disabilities and those who are learning English, for success in elementary school and beyond. Almost 15,000 preschool administrators and teachers participated in CPIN professional development institutes and workshops, with over 90% of participants expressing high satisfaction with the quality and relevance of the sessions.

- **Career Technical Education Larry Champion** (Tehama) co-chaired the new subcommittee with Sandy Schnack from the Student Program and Services Steering Committee. Members generated a mission for their work, developed a framework and action steps that were approved by CCSESA. Next steps will focus on implementation of the approved action steps.
- **Course of Study-** Under the leadership of **Larry Champion**, (Tehama) final revision of the *Language Arts Course of Study: Creating a System Wide Literacy Plan for Student Success* is now in progress. This publication will serve as a companion document to the new California Reading/Language Arts Framework. In addition, the CISC Language Arts Committee produced a document, *Assessment and Placement in Reading/Language Arts Classes* that become an integral part of the Course of Study. The Course Study was showcased at the Curriculum and Instruction Leadership Symposium at Asilomar in February 2007 as well as the Secondary Literacy Summit in March 2007. Also, the subcommittee produced a draft of a new course of study on Career Technical Education, that was approved by CCSESA and is scheduled for dissemination at the February 2008 Asilomar Conference.
- **Curriculum and Instruction Leadership Symposium: Asilomar 2007**  
Under the leadership of Symposium Chair, **Henry Mothner** (Los Angeles)  
The Curriculum and Instruction Leadership Symposium 2007's theme was *Leading the Way: Ensuring Literacy Success for Pre-K – Grade 12 Students*. Using the Reading/Language Arts Framework as a catalyst, the Symposium showcased Pre-K, K-3, 4-8 and 9-12 programs making great strides in literacy instruction and outcomes to a full capacity audience. Representing both rural and urban perspectives, scholars, researchers, schools, and districts highlighted ways to provide comprehensive, coherent structures for language arts teaching and learning. These exemplary programs addressed grade spans Pre-K, K-3, 4-8, and 9-12. There was a particular emphasis on meeting the needs of English Language Learners and students with special needs in several sessions. Plans for the 2008 conference featuring science and history/social science were led by Chair, **Sharon Twitty** (Merced).
- **History/Social Science-** Under the leadership of **Gary Dei Rossi** (San Joaquin) and Co-Lead **Cricket Kidwell** (Trinity), the CISC History-Social Science Subcommittee developed the School District History-Social Science K-12 Instructional Materials Adoption Toolkit. This helped districts with their selection process of the newly state-adopted history-social science texts. In addition, the committee worked closely with the California Campaign for the Civic Mission of Schools, Constitution Day, The California 3Rs Project, and the Secretary of State's Office on the Student Voting Project.
- **Language Arts-** Led by **Raynette Sanchez** (Los Angeles) and Co-Lead **Naomi Williams** (Alameda), the Language Arts Subcommittee has worked together to plan and coordinate regional activities that support statewide literacy initiatives, such as the Early Assessment Program (EAP) and SB 430 professional development. The Subcommittee has developed the document, *Assessment and Placement in Reading/Language Arts Classes* that was disseminated at the Asilomar Conference and the Secondary Literacy Summit, and will be included in the revised County Course of Study. Special education issues have been a priority focus for this year and a publication addressing special needs students and reading/language arts in is in development.

- **Mathematics-** Under the leadership of **Linda Menvielle** (Imperial), and **Pat Duckhorn** (Sacramento) Co-Lead, the Mathematics Subcommittee worked vigorously to train teachers, develop training materials, and partner with other organizations to enhance the quality of instruction, and thus student achievement, in the area of mathematics. Also, they continued training teachers throughout the state on the effective use of their instructional materials (SB 472). In preparation for the development of new SB 472 institutes based upon the new instructional materials adopted by the SBE in November, 18 COEs decided to develop materials to submit to CDE for approval. The 18 COEs participated in a videoconference to select their respective publishers and agreed to use a common development template. Furthermore, a SB 472 Leadership Team was formed with two representatives from each of the 11 regions to oversee the development and implementation processes. Linda Menvielle and Joyce Wright will co-chair the Leadership Team.

In conjunction with the California State University system, COE trained teachers on Algebra II and above to understand and implement rigorous courses. They revised Numeracy materials and trained teachers to implement the Numeracy Program in their classrooms through a partnership with the CDE, the California Comprehensive Assistance Center, and CISC. They began plans for a second Algebra Forum to be held in fall 2008, which will focus on the research behind the recommendations of the National Mathematics Panel.

Additionally, the subcommittee built upon the work of the Science-History/Social Studies Committees and developed a process for textbook selection for the new mathematics instructional materials will be available in 2008.

- **Science-** Under the leadership of Sharon Twitty (Merced) and Don Russell (Sonoma) Co-lead the Science Subcommittee developed and published the *Science Adoption Toolkit: A Data-Driven Review of Instructional Materials*. The toolkit established a data-driven process for the review of instructional materials. The Toolkit uses a data profile to develop a “lens” that assists in the selection of the most appropriate instructional material for the needs of students and teachers for each district. The toolkit offers a clear process that helps districts focus on critical questions. The toolkit includes an electronic reporting feature that automatically compiles the data according to district priorities. Subcommittee members developed a statewide science training for teacher leaders supported by a grant from Genentech.
- **Secondary (High/Middle) Schools** led by **Rob Phillips** (Solano) and Co-Lead **Cricket Kidwell** (Trinity), the subcommittee continued to support 11 promising high schools as they participated in the *California Successful Practices Network*, guided by the work of Dr. Willard Daggett’s national *Successful Practices Network*. The schools, one from each County Superintendents’ regions, worked in partnership with their high school network regional lead and committed to making strides toward providing a more rigorous and relevant curriculum for all students. The subcommittees also assumed a leadership role in collaborating with CDE on the rollout for the new *Taking Center Stage II*, scheduled for April 2008. The materials and resources for this initiative will be accessed through an online portal. Additionally, the subcommittee members developed and disseminated resources and materials on Professional Learning Communities (PLC) in partnership with CDE and based on the work of Dr. Richard Du Four.
- **Visual and Performing Arts-** Under the leadership of **Francisca Sanchez** (San Bernardino until 11/07 and then San Francisco), Lead and Co-Lead **Brenda Chapman** (Tuolumne), the VAPA Subcommittee continued advocacy efforts for a comprehensive core curriculum that includes the arts. Each regional arts lead is planning a forum that involves county office and district administrators, curriculum directors, teacher leaders, and parents to discuss ways to strengthen arts education in their schools. These forums will serve as a follow-up to last year’s *Learning in the Arts Cyber Conference*. Additionally, the subcommittee worked with CDE to promote continued coordination for all arts initiatives, including the new state funds that are focused on supporting arts education leadership and implementation of existing and new initiatives.

## CISC LIAISONS

- **Charter Schools-** Liaison **Cathy Bean** (El Dorado) shared electronic information related to current issues as described by CDE partner **Marta Reyes**. Such issues were 1) Statewide Benefit Charters-what are they and how do they get approved; 2) a checklist to help COE's evaluate charter applications that come to them either as county-wide charters or on appeal; and 3) a document that Marta Reyes has put together that describes the roles and responsibilities of county office of education in their oversight capacity.
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- **Distinguished Schools/Blue Ribbon Schools-** Working with CDE partner Carol Kennedy, Liaison Naomi Williams (Alameda), kept CISC up-to-date with the progress of the distinguished school and blue ribbon programs. A record number of California public elementary schools were selected as 2007 California Distinguished Schools and many public schools in California were identified by the U.S. Department of Education as 2007 NCLB-Blue Ribbon Schools. The Distinguished Schools Ceremony was held in May at the Disneyland Hotel and Convention Center. Technical assistance workshops were provided for schools eligible for the 2008 award.
- **Early Assessment Project- Tony Spears** (San Diego) served as the initial Liaison and supported **Marsha King** (Sacramento) to serve as the next Liaison for Mathematics. **Chris King** (Stanislaus) served as the Liaison for English/Language Arts, and **Frank Smith** (Stanislaus) will continue this work. They coordinated regional rollouts for the new EAP mathematics two-day professional development series. All 11 regions participated and over 800 high school mathematics teachers and 42 University faculty attended the trainings. Twenty county offices of education and 18 university campuses hosted and assisted with these successful professional development trainings. A small cadre of county office staff, EAP coordinators, teacher leaders (grades 9-12), and university faculty helped to develop and deliver the trainings. The professional development sessions were focused on: 1) EAP mathematics assessment resources; 2) aligning student work; 3) developing good mathematics tasks/problems; 4) the senior year experience; 5) strategies for improving students' understanding; and 6) new collaborative opportunities and resources. CISC will continue its support for EAP mathematics and language arts during the 2007/08 school year. The English/Language Arts program will continue in the same format, while the mathematics program is in a period of transition to an online model of professional development.
- **Language Policy Issues Liaison Pansey Ceballos** (Tulare) provided current information that was relevant to meeting the needs of all students who are learning English.
- Liaison **Nancy Giberson** (San Diego) and **Sue Stickel** (Sacramento) Co- Liaison facilitated the Integrated Leadership Development Initiative (ILDI). Participants included CISC, CDE, ACSA, and WestEd, ILDI seeks to coordinate statewide principal development efforts in support of AB 430 administrative training and refine the network of leadership support to meet the evolving needs to site and district leaders.
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**2008** ...was an extraordinarily productive year for CISC and its subcommittees. The major accomplishments for 2008 include, but are not limited to:

- **CISC** – interactive “hot topic” sessions designed to “mine the talent” of the members; Completion of the RFP process for the 2010 Asilomar Coordinator (Tehama) & the ELA Web-Based Toolkit Development (San Diego); represented CCSESA at various state-level commissions and stakeholders meetings.
- **Accountability** – Interfaced with CDE leadership regarding major statewide initiatives.
- **Assessment/RAN** – Conducted five meetings to facilitate communication about the California Assessment and Accountability systems between the CDE, county offices of education, and districts. Two biggest issues were the implementation of the California Modified Assessment and the SBE decision to make Algebra I the 8<sup>th</sup> grade math assessment.
- **History/Social Science** – MY VOTE program; 2008 History-Social Science Asilomar Symposium; History-Social Science Framework Revision; Civic Mission of Schools Campaign.
- **Language Arts** – Development of the ELA Adoption Toolkit; statewide training on the use of the ELA Adoption Toolkit; began work on the ELA Adoption Web-Based Toolkit; developed a process for equitable access to the 2008 ELA Adoption 472 Materials Development Materials Development.
- **Leadership Symposium: Asilomar 2008** – A joint activity of the CISC Science and the CISC History-Social Science Subcommittees that feature both content areas as the focus of the symposium.
- **Leadership Symposium: Asilomar 2009** – The focus for the 2009 Symposium will be Leadership. It is designed to address the needs for DAIT and other systemic reform work at the district level.
- **Mathematics** – 29 K-12 and one 9-12 SB 472 training programs were developed, submitted, and SBE approved; provided SB 472 Mathematics training to over 7,000 teachers during the summer of 2008; co- planned and presented the Algebra Forum; initiated the Mathematics Course of Study.
- **School Readiness** – Facilitated the California Preschool Learning Foundations Roll-Out; CPIN provided training to over 13,000 preschool educators statewide.
- **Science** – A CCSESA grant from Genentech supported *It’s All About The Electron*, a physical science content training for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers; co-planned the 2008 Asilomar Symposium.
- **Secondary** – Provide Taking Center Stage II Roll-Out & Facilitation to Middle Schools, Districts, and Educators, the Successful Practices Network for Secondary Schools, and Career-Tech Education Framework Roll Out.
- **Visual & Performing Arts** – CCSESA Arts Initiative developed a portfolio of classroom-based tools show-cased at the November CISC Meeting.

**2009...** CISC and its subcommittees found 2009 to be a busy and productive year. The major accomplishments include, but are not limited to:

#### **CISC- GENERAL**

We continued the interactive ‘hot topics’ sessions designed to support colleagues’ knowledge and expertise. Topics focused on the revised accountability tools, Response to Instruction and Intervention, leadership practices during financial crisis, equity and access.

- Going Green: CISC Handbook, agendas, and meeting minutes are now posted on the CCSESA website. Distribution of paper is very limited
- Expanded use of technology included ‘Skype’ link for attendees and use of technology tools to enhance presentations and prepare for digital textbooks release.
- Major time and effort was contributed to the transition of fiduciary responsibilities to Marin COE

- Revised bylaws and expanded CISC membership to include representation from all 58 county offices
- Established two new subcommittees: Leadership and Career Technical Education

## **SUBCOMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS**

### **Accountability-Valerie Chrisman, Sue Stickel**

- Provided feedback and training for the DAIT provider toolkit and needs assessment tools
- Supported communication and collaboration between CDE and Regional System of District and School Support (RSDSS)
- Collaborated with CDE to develop a guide for RtI2 resources

### **Career Technical Education-Ronda Adams, Jon Sapper**

- Revised and prepared an online/digital Course of Study; rollout Asilomar 2010

### **History/Social Science-Gary Dei Rossi, Cricket Kidwell**

- Revised History Social Science Framework
- Reviewing digital textbooks for CLRN website

### **Leadership Symposium: Asilomar – Don Holder**

- 2009 ‘Visionary Leadership in Challenging Times’-SOLD OUT, 675+ attendees

### **Mathematics- Linda Menvielle, Jeanne Herrick**

- Developed ‘modular’ options to provide districts with Instructional Materials Professional Development
- Prepared a Course of Study document; roll out at Asilomar 2010
- Continued support for Algebra Forum Initiative, hosting statewide and regional events
- Designed and rolled out: Numeracy Project professional development

### **Reading Language Arts- Raynette Sanchez**

- Prepared and delivered the Reading Language Arts Adoption Toolkit
- Posted Reading Language Arts adoption toolkit online resources
- Developed ‘modular’ options to provide districts with Instructional Materials Professional Development
- Merged the Reading Implementation Center and Reading Technical Assistance Center and ELA subcommittee meetings
- Co-sponsored a successful Literacy Summit

### **School Readiness- Joyce Wright, Gary Dei Rossi, Henry Mothner**

- Ready for K with ESEA: The ABC’s of How to Use Title I ESEA Funds for Preschool in California. A resource for administrators of public school districts and county offices of education that receive Title I funds. The document was produced by the Sacramento COE for CCSESA with financial support provided by the David and Lucille Packard Foundation.
- Provided Early Learning Foundations Training

### **Science-Brad Shultz, Don Russell**

- Submitted a proposal to Genentech Foundation for additional funding for Grade 4/5 science training
- Supported Education and the Environment Initiative (EEI) Units; developed a professional development

### **Secondary- Cricket Kidwell, Rob Phillips**

- Developed a Secondary High School Crosswalk Tool that highlights elements of various reform and best practices models

- Provided additional support for the rollout of Taking Center Stage II

#### **Visual and Performing Arts- Francisca Sanchez**

- Hosted Arts Symposium
- Secured additional funding to support Packard Arts Grant Initiatives-Tool Kit/Resources

#### **Secondary- Cricket Kidwell, Rob Phillips**

- Developed a Secondary High School Crosswalk Tool that highlights elements of various 'reform' and best practices models
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#### **Other Collaborations**

- Developed an RFA and awarded CDE funds to support 'Leadership for Student Success through After School Programs'
- Supported Digital Textbook Initiative
- Provided extensive support in the development and delivery of professional development in the use of the state district and schools needs assessment tools

**2010...**Under the leadership of Sharon Twitty, Merced County, CISC initiated multiple operational changes related to leadership, budget, planning, and collaboration, and CISC subcommittees produced an outstanding portfolio of products, services, and plans. Major accomplishments for the year are as follows:

#### **CISC Operational Changes**

- Revised CISC goals, aligned 2011 work and work processes around goals; restructured CISC Executive Committee terms, composition, and assignments; utilized processes to enhance leadership recruitment; developed multi-year budgets; and revised bylaws to enhance transparency.
- Changes are designed to more purposefully align work to CCSESA/CISC priorities, and to enhance CISC leadership and responsiveness to a changing educational environment and context.

#### **Accountability - Sue Stickel, Valerie Chrisman**

- Provided feedback and support for professional development modules being written by county offices of education, CDE, and the California Comprehensive Assistance Center. The complete modules will be for use by county offices to train district and county DAIT Leads and/or teams. Modules will be available early in 2011.
- Supported communication and collaboration between CDE and the Regional System of District and School Support.

#### **Career Technical Education - Ronda Adams, Jon Sapper**

- Completed and distributed *Online/digital Course of Study* at Asilomar 2010 Symposium and Education for Careers State Conference. Several regional and district rollouts were conducted.
- Partnered with CDE to develop a CTE Leadership Development Institute with Butte COE serving as lead in this effort.
- Collaborated with WASC to revise the WASC rubric to include CTE standards and programs of study integrated into the self-evaluation tool.

**Reading Language Arts - Naomi Eason, Carolyn Olsen**

- Developed the publication: *Student Assessment and Placement in Reading Language Arts Programs for Grades 6-12 and 4-8 Intensive Intervention*.
- Coordinated the Common Core standards crosswalks with countywide professional development needs.

**Leadership Symposium, Asilomar – Theresa Rouse**

- The upcoming 2011 'Leadership Through Change' is SOLD OUT with 682 participants, including fourteen county superintendents.

**Leadership - Sue Stickel, Henry Mothner**

- Compiled and posted a leadership repository on the CCSESA web site.
- Provided support and coordination on the Integrated Leadership Development Initiative.

**Mathematics - Sue Stickel, Jeanne Herrick**

- Organized SB472 binders into shorter modules for county office use in supporting school districts' professional development needs.
- Facilitated the development of AB430 binders for both elementary and secondary levels.
- Provided support for Algebra Forum Initiative, hosting statewide and regional events.
- Designed and rolled out Numeracy Project professional development.