

## LEADERSHIP SPOTLIGHT:

### Mr. Paul Tichinin—Mendocino County Superintendent of Schools



**What led you to become County Superintendent?**

Twenty years ago the Mendocino County Office of Education was in crisis. I believed that by filling the role of County Superintendent of Schools I could make a difference in the educational and life opportunities for the children in Mendocino. As MCOE expanded educational opportunities to our diverse and isolated communities, both the students and their communities benefitted.

**What inspired you to enter the field of education?**

I am a 1<sup>st</sup> and a 4<sup>th</sup> generation Californian. My father was a Russian immigrant, who valued the great public education he received from San Francisco Poly Tech High School, UC Berkeley and UC Davis. My mother was a third-generation Tehama County resident who escaped the farm-life of Red Bluff by attending UC Berkeley at the age of 16. They instilled in all six of their children the value of education and inspired a passion for learning. My father served on the Santa Clara County Board of Education in the 1960's and my mother was a teacher for over 25 years. It must be in my DNA.

**Do you have a particular goal that drives you?**

The goal that drives me is the vision of *EDUCATIONAL SUCCESS FOR ALL STUDENTS* in Mendocino, our region and our great state. To that end, I have advocated for equity of access to technology,

instruction, facilities and diverse learning opportunities for all.

**What objectives do you hope to achieve?**

To leave a legacy of what is possible when we work together and share resources and ideas. There is nothing we cannot achieve as a state if we provide opportunities for learning and harness the energy of the students in California.

**What are your interests?**

My interest (besides filling out my abalone card) is what I discovered while studying in Europe on a United States Office of Education Fellowship - the purpose of education.

*"It seems to me that we should adapt our courses of study to the present state of our society and study those things which are of some use in this world; for we cannot change the needs of society to accommodate our courses of study."*

*-French Educator, Court of Louis XIV; 1686*

**Who are the special people in your life?**

The many colleagues and coworkers in public and private education who, over the last 45 years, have shared their ideas, hard work and passion for learning that have made my career a success. But, especially my wife and partner of 44 years, Judy; our two daughters, Lilli and Katrina and son-in-law, Richard, all of whom are involved in education, teaching and learning.

## STATEWIDE ARTS PROFESSIONAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITY

Mark your calendars for an exciting CISC Visual and Performing Arts professional learning opportunity on October 6 and 7 as part of the CCSESA Statewide Arts Initiative. Regional Arts Leads will be conducting a two-day training at the Sacramento County Office Leadership Institute which will include four seminars focused on powerful arts teaching and learning and the Common Core State Standards. The modules and speakers to be featured are as follows:

*Leadership in the Arts and Common Core State Standards* presented by Dr. Steven Winlock, Sacramento COE; Shannon Wilkins, Los Angeles COE; and Ray Cagan, Alameda COE.

*On Stage: English Language Learners Theatre Arts and Language Development* presented by Charice Guerra, Ventura COE and Hamish Tyler, Monterey COE

*Arts Integration as a Model of Rigorous Instruction: Connecting Arts Learning with the Common Core State Standards* presented by Robert Bullwinkel, Fresno COE; Jill Polhemus, Stanislaus COE; and Heidi Brahms, Shasta COE

*Building Artistic Literacy through Common Core State Standards* presented by Russell Sperling, San Diego COE.

More information will follow. For additional information, please contact Jessie Kroll-Yoas: [jyoas@ccsesa.org](mailto:jyoas@ccsesa.org).

## FROM THE DESK OF:

**Peter Birdsall**, CCSESA Executive Director

On September 4, Stan Mantoath, Gary Waddell and Terena Mares will make a presentation to the State Board of Education on our first-year experience with the LCAP review and approval process. This will be a high-profile event and we greatly appreciate the time that county office staff are devoting to providing the information needed for a meaningful presentation.

We are equally appreciative of the positive feedback we have heard from school district leadership about the support and technical assistance provided by county offices of education. I am confident state leaders feel their decision has been validated to rely on county offices to do this important work.

We recognize that LCAP review and approval has imposed a huge workload on county offices of education that did not exist and was not anticipated when the current county funding formula was developed. BASC has been asked to gather data and develop a proposal to address this critical problem. We are expecting to bring that proposal forward to the October Board and General Membership for review and approval, and will then work with the Governor's Office in hopes that funding to address this issue will be included in the Governor's January budget proposal.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**September Board of Directors Meeting:**

The next CCSESA Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for September 8 in Sacramento. Please contact JaConya Merchant in the CCSESA office if you would like additional information about the meeting:

[jmerchant@ccsesa.org](mailto:jmerchant@ccsesa.org).

**New Superintendents Orientation:**

This year, CCSESA will welcome 16 new county superintendents. The 2015 New Superintendents Orientation will take place on September 8 and 9 in Sacramento. Please contact Christina Marcellus or Sandra Morales if you have any questions about the event: [cmarcellus@ccsesa.org](mailto:cmarcellus@ccsesa.org) or [smorales@ccsesa.org](mailto:smorales@ccsesa.org).

**October Quarterly Meeting:**

The next CCSESA quarterly meeting will take place at Furnace Creek in Inyo County from October 12-14. Registration is now live; please contact JaConya Merchant in the CCSESA office if you would like additional information about the meeting:

[jmerchant@ccsesa.org](mailto:jmerchant@ccsesa.org).

**CCSESA STAFF**

[Peter Birdsall](#)

Executive Director

[Sandra Morales](#)

Assistant Executive Director

[Sarah Anderberg](#)

Arts Initiative Director

[Efrain Mercado](#)

Policy Director

[Amanda Dickey](#)

Project Coordinator

[Christina Marcellus](#)

Project Coordinator

[Cindy Ridley](#)

Business Services Coordinator

[Jessie Kroll-Yoas](#)

Executive Assistant

[JaConya Merchant](#)

Executive Assistant

**CCSESA LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

August 15 was the last day for the Senate and Assembly Appropriations Committees to pass bills out of committee. The measures that passed have cleared the last major hurdle in the committee process and are headed to the Senate and Assembly floors, while the bills held in committee are now effectively dead. The Legislature has until August 31 to send bills to the Governor for his signature, and the Governor has until September 30 to act on bills.

For CCSESA, having AB 2216 (Muratsuchi) held in committee was an important victory. The bill would have extended the ROCP maintenance of effort requirement on county offices of education through 2016-17 (2 additional years). Several county superintendents and CCSESA staff did a great job informing members of the committee about the huge problems an MOE extension would have created for many county offices of education.

Unfortunately, legislation that would have placed a school facilities bond on the November ballot (AB 2235) has died. According to a message earli-

er this week from the bill's author, Assembly Member Joan Buchanan, the Governor has indicated that he does not want a school bond on the same ballot as the water bond and legislative leadership will not move her bill further through the process.

The bill that would have required counties to establish a county School Attendance Review Board (SARB) was amended last week to remove the mandate requirement. The current version of AB 1643 (Buchanan) now authorizes, but does not require, a county SARB. The bill also authorizes county SARBS to accept referrals or requests for hearing services from one or more school districts within its jurisdiction, and authorizes a county SARB to be operated through a consortium or partnership of a county with one or more school districts between two or more counties.

Finally, a bill has been amended in the past few days to repeal the language adopted in the budget package that restricts local education agency reserves. Although AB 146 has broad support among education management groups, including CCSESA, it appears likely that discussions about changes to the reserve language will be delayed until next year.

**CCSESA PARTNERS WITH CALIFORNIA ENDOWMENT**



CCSESA has recently joined with the California Endowment and the California State Outdoor Advertising Association to engage in a statewide billboard campaign to promote investments in public education. Over the next 18 months, the above image, currently on display in the State Capitol, will run in both English and Spanish on

150 billboards throughout California. The artwork is based on a Sacramento News and Review story on truancy prevention efforts in Kings and Tulare Counties. CCSESA was first contacted about this potential cooperative effort by Tim Bowers, Kings County Superintendent. The CCSESA logo will appear on all billboards at the bottom right hand corner.

The Endowment hopes this campaign will raise awareness on the importance of investing in our education system. CCSESA is proud to partner with the Endowment on this important effort, and we encourage you to look out for the billboard in your county.

**CDE FOUNDATION TO HOST COMMON CORE WEBINARS**

CCSESA, ACSA and CSBA will be taking part in a Common Core communications webinar that is being sponsored by the Californians Dedicated to Education Foundation (CDEF). The webinar will introduce the newly released Common Core Communications Toolkit, produced by the FrameWorks Institute, which features framing guides, sample letters, editorials and social media posts. The toolkit is available for review [here](#).

We encourage all county staff to participate in the webinar, which is taking place on Wednesday, August 27 from 11—11:45 a.m. The webinar will provide helpful input on how to strategically communicate about the Common Core to a wide variety of stakeholder groups, including parents, teachers and the community. To register for the event, click [here](#).

**MYVOTE MOCK ELECTION DEADLINE APPROACHING**

In our April newsletter, we announced the upcoming MyVote Student Mock Election, sponsored by Secretary of State Debra Bowen and Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson. The deadline is quickly approaching for schools to register for the election and to receive free materials, such as lesson plans and activities, ballots, posters and an Official Voter Information Guide from the Secretary of State.

Schools must register by September 19 to receive the free election materials in preparation for the October 28 Mock Election. You may find other helpful information on the MyVote program [here](#), and click [here](#) if you would like to register your school to participate.

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