



AAPF 18 EVENT PROGRAM

7TH ANNUAL
ALTERNATIVE
ACCOUNTABILITY
POLICY FORUM



FROM THE RAPSA BOARD PRESIDENT



Dear 2018 Alternative Accountability Policy Forum Attendees:

Welcome to the Seventh Annual Alternative Accountability Policy Forum. It is great to see so many friends returning who serve dropouts, opportunity youth and other high-risk students. Those students who RAPSAs calls “at-promise” of success. These are students no longer at risk of failure, but at-promise of success because of your courageous leadership! This year’s 23 concurrent sessions with 40 presenters provide practitioners, researchers, and others who understand that making a positive difference in the lives of at-promise students requires alternative strategies and metrics.

Our forum builds new friendships and strengthens long term alliances. The event begins with a compelling keynote address from Colorado State Senator Rhonda Fields. Senator Fields was our Vision Award winner last year and she has a captivating personal story that helps drive her passion for serving at promise youth. The forum concludes with a general session focused on what State Departments of Education are seeing as critical issues for alternative accountability in the coming months.

This work we do at the Policy Forum is vital to the development of alternative accountability policy. This year, California’s State Board of Education adopted a one-year graduation rate recognizing the important work that alternative schools do to reengage dropouts and other students not recognized by traditional graduation measures. RAPSAs presenters Jorge Ruiz de Velasco from Stanford University’s Gardner Center and Cindy Kazanis from the California Department of Education were instrumental in California’s adoption of this metric that has been front and center in AAPF discussions. California Assembly Member Reginald Jones-Sawyer’s ACR 197 recognized At-Promise Youth as a term to honor the strengths and gifts innate to youth instead of the “at risk” term which focuses on deficits. A copy of the Resolution is contained in this program. I wish you success in garnering such leadership for at-promise students in your state.

The successes that we share have brought RAPSAs to a new level. This year you are invited to join as a RAPSAs Member to increase our influence in the alternative accountability space. The RAPSAs Board of Directors has adopted a Business Plan to help expand our work across the country. The Board worked hard to ensure that specific benefits will accrue to those willing to provide ongoing financial support for our work. Member benefits include discounts on future conferences, an e-Journal to spread best practices and your successes, webinars and other trainings exclusive to members, and the implementation of a RAPSAs Research Council to encourage research institutions to focus on questions from the field regarding alternative education and meaningful accountability.

We are again awarding five RAPSAs Courage Awards with a scholarship for at-promise students who demonstrate courage in overcoming obstacles and pursuing academic excellence. Two RAPSAs Heart Awards are being issued to education leaders who demonstrate a heart for at-promise students: Mike Ilic is an Administrator with California’s Corona-Norco School District, and Priestley Parker is an alternative school counselor from Vantage Point High School, Northglenn, Colorado. The Vision Award goes to California Assembly Member Shirley Weber.

RAPSAs is most proud of bringing leaders together to learn from each other. Our work on challenges unique to the at-promise opportunity youth population is making a big difference for our students, their communities, and the Nation.

Thank you for all that you do to reengage at-promise youth.

Sincerely,

Linda Dawson, EdD
President, Reaching At-Promise Students Association
Superintendent/CEO, School for Integrated Academics and Technologies

AGENDA-AT-A-GLANCE

WED
NOV
14

- 3:00 - 4:30 PM** **PRE-CONFERENCE** TIDELANDS
DASS Data Collaboration: An Invitation
- 5:00 - 6:00 PM** **WELCOME RECEPTION** CORONADO BALLROOM FOYER

THU
NOV
15

- 7:00 - 8:00 AM** **REGISTRATION & BREAKFAST**
- 8:00 - 9:00 AM** **WELCOME & KEYNOTE:**
Colorado State Senator Rhonda Fields
- 9:15 - 10:15 AM** **BREAKOUT SESSIONS I**
- CORONADO A/B ● ESSA and Washington
 - CORONADO C ● Designing an Entire School by and for At-Promise Youth
 - CORONADO D ● Mass Customized Learning
 - TIDELANDS ● Accenture's Skills to Succeed Academy
- 10:45 - 11:45 AM** **BREAKOUT SESSIONS II**
- CORONADO A/B ● Scaling, Spreading, Evaluating Reengagement
 - CORONADO C ● The Art of Accountable Readiness
 - CORONADO D ● Meeting At-Promise Students Where They Are
 - TIDELANDS ● Culture: Creating Integrated Academics & Socio-Emotional Environments
- 12:00 - 1:30 PM** **RAPSA AWARDS LUNCHEON**
- 1:45 - 2:45 PM** **BREAKOUT SESSIONS III**
- CORONADO A/B ● Alternatives Across America
 - CORONADO C ● Upstream Collaborative
 - CORONADO D ● The Next Step: Bridging High School to College
 - TIDELANDS ● Equitable Access to Challenging Courses
- 3:00 - 4:00 PM** **BREAKOUT SESSIONS IV**
- CORONADO A/B ● Accountability Systems for Alternative High Schools
 - CORONADO C ● Trauma Informed Systems
 - CORONADO D ● Game Changing Results: Individualized Coaching
 - TIDELANDS ● Using Data to Assess and Teach Numeracy and Literacy
- 4:30 - 5:30 PM** **EVENING RECEPTION**
- 7:00 - 8:00 AM** **BREAKFAST**
- 8:30 - 9:30 AM** **BREAKOUT SESSIONS V**
- CORONADO A/B ● Cultivating Agency and Student Aspirations
 - CORONADO C ● California's DASS Program
 - CORONADO D ● Evaluation and Continuous Improvement in Alternative Education
 - TIDELANDS ● Developing Alternative Measures/ESSA
- 9:45-10:45 AM** **BREAKOUT SESSIONS VI**
- CORONADO C ● Educators as Advocates for At-Promise Students
 - CORONADO D ● The A-Game
 - TIDELANDS ● Keeping Standards High for At-Promise Students in DC
- 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM** **CLOSING GENERAL SESSION**

FRI
NOV
16

EVENT AGENDA

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 14

3:00 - 4:30 PM PRE-CONFERENCE

CORONADO A

DASS Data Collaboration: An Invitation

Presenters: Everardo Carbajal, Susanne Coie, John Fox, and Michael Wegner
OPEN TO ALL ATTENDEES

5:00 - 6:00 PM WELCOME RECEPTION

CORONADO BALLROOM FOYER

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 15

7:00 - 8:00 AM REGISTRATION & BREAKFAST

CORONADO BALLROOM

8:00 - 9:00 AM

CORONADO BALLROOM

WELCOME & KEYNOTE: Colorado State Senator Rhonda Fields

SPONSORED BY RENAISSANCE



Colorado State Senator Rhonda Fields received last year's Vision Award for her dedication to the challenges that at-promise youth encounter. She has been recognized for her advocacy on education and wrap-around service funding that assists students with health and financial hardships. As a State legislator, she has worked on improving public safety and criminal issues, as well as passing two bills, the Javad Marshall Fields & Vivian World Witness Protection Act. This courageous woman will kick off the policy forum by speaking about how she was able to rise above deeply dramatic obstacles to create the Fields Wolfe Memorial Scholarship Fund and her continuous efforts to support at-promise youth.

THU
NOV
15

9:15 - 10:15 AM



BREAKOUT SESSIONS I

ESSA and Washington

CORONADO A/B

Presenters: Susan Canaga, Doug DeMint, Laurie Shannon, Lance Sisco

This session will discuss the data used to identify the schools in improvement under ESSA and the lessons learned from that process (nearly all of Washington's Comprehensive secondary schools and Comprehensive low graduation rate schools are an alternative/reengagement or institutional schools). The implications for this are immediate in building supports for these schools (the WSIF) and longer term for changes we need to make in our data collection and identification for the next cohort. We will share our current model of supporting the identified schools in a multi-tiered system with cross agency and collaborative partner supports.

Designing an Entire School by and for At-Promise Youth

CORONADO C

Presenters: Cesar Cruz, Youth Designers (Nathalie Carvajal, Ventura Flores, and Rubi Pelayo)

This engaging panel will speak about the process of creating a community-based school built on gang, youth, street, and indigenous assets called Homies Empowerment based out of Oakland, California. In this workshop, participants will hear about out-of-the-box strategies to engage at-promise youth in community and school settings to channel the warrior, healer, hustler, and scholar within.

Mass Customized Learning: The “How To” for Competency-Based Learning

CORONADO D

Presenter: Jan Bryan

Education has been described as “an industry existing in a world that requires a profession.” Mass customized learning (MCL) places profession and achievement above tradition, norms, convenience, and habit. Based on Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi’s Flow theory, MCL considers teachers and learners as equal partners; working together to find intense focus toward mastery rather than to stagnate in a state of apathy. Please bring your experiences and ideas to this session as we identify the characteristics and consequences of MCL, summarize the shared teacher/learner responsibilities required for competency-based learning for At-Promise Youth, and unify instruction, practice, and assessment to the point that they are finally seamless and indistinguishable.

Accenture’s Skills to Succeed Academy

TIDELANDS

Presenter: Esther Kim

The Accenture Skills to Succeed Academy is a free, online program that helps young people build their futures. Through a gamified, learn-by-doing approach, the Academy helps students gain the skills and confidence to make career decisions, find and get a job, and be successful in their jobs. At this presentation, you will learn why Accenture created the Skills to Succeed Academy, what makes the Academy different from other career readiness programs, how the Academy prepares students to make smart career decisions, and how teachers/advisors can use the Academy with students. Finally you’ll learn what your school/organization needs to do to gain access to our free Skills to Succeed Academy.



Scaling, Spreading, Evaluating Reengagement

CORONADO A/B

Presenter: Andy Moore

Continued growth within the Reengagement Network prompts questions about scaling strategies and the strength of the evidence base for the effectiveness of physical and virtual reengagement centers. Join this session to discuss and debate paths forward, and contribute to the exploration of third-party evaluation – all in the framework of environmental factors such as low unemployment and ESSA plans that don't take on alternative accountability directly. Together, let's tackle questions such as: What can we learn from recent efforts to create new state reengagement policy in Oregon and California, as well as from longer-standing policy in Washington and Colorado? What's our best route toward launching an evaluation of what works in reengagement, within particular cities and across the Network?

The Art of Accountable Readiness: College/Postsecondary Education & Career/Workforce for Opportunity Youth

CORONADO C

Presenter: Amy Schlessman

Arizona's Framework for Alternative High School Accountability puts strong emphasis (35%) on College and Career Readiness for alternative education students. This session reviews the Arizona Alternative High School framework and provides detail of how Arizona is customizing College and Career Readiness for opportunity youth. How do schools get their targeted student population "ready" when the school's primary responsibility is academic coursework? The Rose Operating System for Education has developed a fun and engaging, yet rigorous, program. The "Art of Learning", Shu-Ha-Ri, uses a game to motivate students to help them better articulate their hopes and dreams. Students develop advanced communication skills and self-accountability as future contributing citizens, even entrepreneurs, in our democracy.

STRANDS

- Implementing Effective Alternative Accountability Policies and Data
- Teaching and Learning Strategies for At-Promise Students
- Teaching Students: Serving the Whole Student
- Workforce Community and Post-Secondary Partnerships to Support Reengagement and Dropout Prevention

Meeting At-Promise Students Where They Are

CORONADO D

Presenter: Jon Zaff

Four years ago, Jonathan Zaff and his colleagues at the Center for Promise asked young people who had left high school without graduating: "Why did you drop out?" The young people's answers started with, "I didn't drop out." They perceived "dropout" as a sign of failure, which did not gel with how they saw themselves. They described their lives in ways that busted through the narrative that they were lazy, that they lacked "grit," or that they were destined for failure; instead, focusing on the adversities that they faced and the strengths they expressed to meet life's challenges. This presentation is a synthesis of the Center for Promise's work over the past four years delving into the lives of these young people. By combining systematic, social science methodologies, and analysis with the authentic voices of young people, Dr. Zaff will present what he believes is a more accurate depiction of who young people are, what they can achieve, what supports they need, and what the most promising strategies are for getting them these supports. Come join a discussion about what we, as a society, are doing to meet these young people where they are.



Culture: Creating Integrated Academics & Socio-Emotional Environments for At-Promise Education

TIDELANDS

Presenters: Laura Hernandez-Flores, Joelle Hood

Research clearly shows that social and emotional factors greatly affect our sense of belonging in a learning environment, our beliefs about our own capacity, our behaviors, and our performance. Explicitly addressing these crucial aspects of culture and learning can transform students' learning experiences and propel them towards academic achievement. In this session, participants will be introduced to NTC's Optimal Learning Environment framework as a lens in which to examine teachers' self-efficacy when working with at-promise youth. Within an optimal learning environment, the diverse needs of each learner are addressed with an ever present attention to equity, continuous academic, social, and emotional growth.



12:00 – 1:30 PM
**AWARDS AND
SCHOLARSHIP
LUNCHEON**

CORONADO BALLROOM
Award Winners Page 18

THU
NOV
15

1:45 – 2:45 PM



BREAKOUT SESSIONS III

Alternatives Across America

CORONADO A/B

Presenters: Jody Ernst, Jim Griffin

Momentum Strategy & Research has recently updated its Alternative School and Performance Database and will summarize the state of alternative schools and programs across the 50 states and DC. Attendees will leave with an understanding of how their states' policies can impact alternative school performance outcomes as well as the ability to set informed targets for alternative school accountability. In addition, Momentum will announce a new partnership with the National Charter Schools Institute, including a recently awarded federal dissemination grant, and discuss how this partnership will increasing opportunities for school and authorizer involvement in shaping alternative accountability research, policy, and practice.

Upstream Collaborative: Redesigning Alternative Education for Equity and Student Success

CORONADO C

Presenter: Javier Guzman

Engage in an interactive workshop that shares the work of the Upstream Collaborative (30 schools spread throughout California and Washington), which seeks to redesign alternative education in the country to maximize students' potential. We will learn about the work of redesign, the moves made by communities of practice and school leaders to unleash powerful learning experiences for students, who are regarded as individuals with passions and interests capable of high quality work.

The Next Step: Best Practices to Bridge At-Promise Students from High School to College

CORONADO D

Presenters: Curt Peterson, Molly Ward

At AAPF 2017, a unique partnership between Highline Public Schools and South Seattle College that brings re-engagement students to a college campus to earn a diploma was explained. In 2018, how those students take the next step and bridge into college will be presented. What has worked, what has failed, data on graduates, creative ways to address barriers and best practices for college success learned over two decades working with re-engagement students will be discussed.

Equitable Access to Challenging Courses

TIDELANDS

Presenters: Phil Morales, Nicole Pyle

Curriculum design and instruction delivery can create equitable access to challenging courses for diverse learners. Various instructional practices and examples will be shared during this session.

3:00 - 4:00 PM



BREAKOUT SESSIONS IV

THU
NOV
15

Accountability Systems for Alternative High Schools

CORONADO A/B

Presenters: Laura Jimenez, Michael Rothman

Eskolta and the Center for American Progress produced a report reviewing the innovative efforts of New York City to reimagine accountability metrics for schools serving overage, under-credited youth. This was then supported through analysis of seven years of data on a single cohort of 70,000 New York City high school students. In this session, we will share our findings and recommendations, and facilitate questions around why graduation, testing, and climate measures need to be rethought and the implications for carrying out this work. Accountability is too often discussed only in relation to changing cut scores, but in fact this is about rethinking methods of calculation, attribution, comparison, and cohorting students.



Trauma Informed Systems: Strategies for Working with Trauma Exposed and “High-Risk” Students

CORONADO C

Presenter: Amy Lansing

This presentation builds on prior knowledge of how trauma and adversity exposure impact school readiness, academic engagement and academic performance. Considerations for implementing a trauma informed system and understanding implicit bias are touched upon, while the primary emphasis is on practical - and portable - tips for how to work with youth and adults from a trauma informed perspective. While most educators understand that their students experience significant challenges, translating that knowledge into effective practices are challenging. This presentation lays out an interpersonal framework for developing and maintaining healthy and positive relationships that promote the very trust that is essential for curiosity, learning and engagement.

Game Changing Results: The Impact of Individualized Coaching for Opportunity Youth Returning to School, and Tactical Lessons Learned

CORONADO D

Presenters: Joe Herrity, Courtney Portal

Over the past three years, Kids in Common led a collaborative pilot to bring Jobs for the Future’s Back on Track model to Santa Clara County. Kids in Common worked with reengagement schools and community based organizations to implement the Enriched Preparation phase of the model. In March, a quasi-experimental analysis was conducting found that students receiving our personalized support were three times as likely as a comparison group to stay in school and graduate. In this session, Kids in Common’s OYP team will share key learnings and successful practices.

Using Data to Assess and Teach Numeracy and Literacy

TIDELANDS

Presenters: Sally Brown, Phil Morales, Nicole Pyle, Danita Smith

Eskolta and the Center for American Progress produced a report reviewing the innovative efforts of New York City to reimagine accountability metrics for schools serving overage, under-credited youth. This was then supported through analysis of seven years of data on a single cohort of 70,000 New York City high school students. In this session, we will share our findings and recommendations, and facilitate questions around why graduation, testing, and climate measures need to be rethought and the implications for carrying out this work. Accountability is too often discussed only in relation to changing cut scores, but in fact this is about rethinking methods of calculation, attribution, comparison, and cohorting students.

THU NOV 15
4:30 PM – 5:30 PM
**EVENING
RECEPTION**
CORONADO BALLROOM FOYER

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 16

7:00 – 8:00 AM BREAKFAST

CORONADO BALLROOM

8:30 – 9:30 AM



BREAKOUT SESSIONS V

FRI
NOV
16

**Cultivating Agency and Student Aspirations:
Piloting Individualized Life Plans among Opportunity Youth**

CORONADO A/B

Presenter: Jonathan Mathis

Successful academic pursuits often includes students' sense of agency and achievement, as moderated both in and outside of the classroom. This session will showcase an iterative pilot initiative designed to articulate and expose opportunity youth to their aspirations. Participants will experience a typical on-boarding and coaching experience, discuss interventions, and analyze sustainability, through this case. Attendees will acquire a comprehensive approach to best support opportunity youth in actualizing aspirations.



California's DASS: A Deep Dive into Alternative Accountability Measures

CORONADO C

Presenters: Cindy Kazanis, Linda Leigh, Jorge Ruiz de Velasco

Last year, the California Alternative Schools Taskforce met at the Alternative Accountability Policy Forum to discuss proposals to develop a one-year graduation rate and other policies to support accountability among alternative schools. This year, California has adopted a one-year graduation rate and is working on further metrics to accurately assess the work that alternative schools do. Meet Cindy Kazanis, Director of the California Department of Education's Analysis, Measurement & Accountability Reporting Division, and Jorge Ruiz de Velasco from Stanford's Gardner Institute as they walk through how California adopted a one-year graduation rate and what schools need to do to be counted. This session will be moderated by Linda Leigh from SIATech, which was among the first dropout recovery schools to develop a reporting system consistent with this new metric. If you work in an alternative school setting in California, this is your session. Learn about what data is being collected, how it will be presented on the California Dashboard, and what you need to consider when assigning students to the graduate cohort.

Evaluation and Continuous Improvement in Alternative Education

CORONADO D

Presenters: Chris Mazzeo, Nicole Pyle

This workshop will focus on building the capacity alternative education providers to evaluate their programs, either internally or in partnership with external research. Areas of focus will include identifying measurable goals and outcomes, developing a theory of change, and generating implementation feedback for continuous improvement.

Developing Alternative Accountability Measures in Response to ESSA Legislation

TIDELANDS

Presenters: Sara Asmussen, Lisa DiGaudio, Ed Peterman

The implications for ESSA regulations are far-reaching, and without proper guidance from state and federal officials, alternative accountability measures may potentially hurt many schools that serve at-risk students across the country. The presenters of this session will discuss the work done at two New York City Transfer Charter Schools: John V. Lindsey Wildcat Charter School, and New Dawn Charter High School regarding alternative accountability measures, and the implications of the new ESSA regulations on New York City's at-risk students. Participants will have the opportunity share best practices around these issues. Session goals include (1) Ideas around developing accountability measures that make sense for schools; (2) Troubleshoot issues in accountability for at-risk students that are off-track; and (3) Identify weaknesses in the current ESSA plan that can be addressed with state education leaders.



Educators as Advocates for At-Promise Students

CORONADO C

Presenters: Elisha Smith Arrilliga, Pamela Gibbs, Ernie Silva

Join Dr. Elisha Smith Arrillaga, Pam Gibbs, and Ernie Silva in a compelling session exploring how to work with policymakers to develop state laws and policies that support your students and programs. Elisha Smith Arrillaga serves as Co-Executive Director of the Education Trust–West, a research and advocacy organization focused on educational justice and the high achievement for all students. Dr. Smith Arrillaga leads the organization’s work around racial justice and has extensive expertise in leading initiatives using multiple strategies for impacting state policy – leveraging research, media, direct action, and policymaker engagement. Pam Gibbs is the Legislative Director for the Los Angeles County Office of Education, California’s largest educational agency providing a vast range of alternative education services. She has worked for the Legislative Counsel and legislators and has an inside view of how legislation gets developed. RAPSA Executive Director, Ernie Silva, has been an education advocate for two decades and works with education and equity groups on legislation to support at promise youth. This session promises an inside look at how you can impact policy development for your schools and students.



JFF is a national nonprofit that drives transformation in the American workforce and education systems. For 35 years, JFF has led the way in designing innovative and scalable solutions that create access to economic advancement for all.

Join us as we build a future that works. www.jff.org

The A-Game

CORONADO D

Presenters: Jody Ernst, Jim Griffin

Momentum Strategy & Research and the National Charter School Institute (the A-TEAM) announce their newly awarded Federal CSP funded project, A-GAME (Advancing Great Authorizing and Modeling Excellence), which is focused on helping charter school authorizers implement evidence based methods of accountability for the alternative schools in their portfolio. Attendees will learn about the goals of the 3-year project and how schools (charter or non-charter alike), school districts, charter authorizers, and others can become involved and benefit from the project's work.

Keeping Standards High for At-Promise Students in DC: The Story of One Authorizer and Two Schools

TIDELANDS

Presenters: Naomi Rubin DeVeaux, Shannon Hodge, Colleen Paletta

All students can learn. Neither authorizers nor schools should lower standards for at-promise students. DC's authorizer understands the issues facing these youth and continues to raise the bar for academic performance through their Alternative Accountability Framework without squelching new ideas or leaders. Moreover, two schools who have different populations and approaches have seen impressive results with their students. Through an interactive discussion, learn how authorizers and schools can keep standards high even when approaches vary.



FRI NOV 16
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

CLOSING GENERAL SESSION

CORONADO BALLROOM FOYER

Closing General Session: The View from 3 State Departments of Education

Presenters: Cindy Kazanis, Erin Loften, Laurie Shannon, Jorge Ruiz de Velasco

Join leaders from the California, Colorado and Washington education agencies as they explain how their states are addressing alternative school needs and what challenges remain. Presenters will address recent ESSA approvals, alternative accountability initiatives, and what's on the horizon for alternative education. This promises to be an enlightening look at policy trends that will help guide school development and operations across the country. If you want to impact how your state implements alternative accountability policy, this is the session for you! They'll be discussing some of the hard issues from past AAPF sessions and will be seeking to include you in the conversation.



**Fill out the AAFP18
Evaluation Form at
[RAPSA.org/evals](https://rapsa.org/evals)**

REACHING AT-PROMISE STUDENT AWARDS

ADVISORY AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

The Advisory and Award Committee provided staff with guidance on topics, speakers, and structure of the event. The success of this event is due to their creativity and generosity.

Mary Burke, Chicago Public Schools
Rudy Cuevas, YouthBuild Charter Schools of California
Michelle Feist, fhi360, North Carolina
Judith Martinez, Colorado Department of Education
Nicole Pyle, Utah State University
Laurie Shannon, Washington State Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction
Roger Rice, Ventura County Office of Education
Leslie Talbot, Talbot Consulting, New York
Diana Walsh Reuss, Riverside County Office of Education

THE COURAGE AWARDS

These awards recognize at-promise students who demonstrate courage in overcoming obstacles and pursuing academic excellence. There were many nominations from students across the country that were considered for this award that includes a \$1,000 scholarship. After careful discussion, the Advisory and Awards Committee selected the following five Courage Awards recipients.



Destiny Talia Acosta
HOPE Online
Learning Academy
Pueblo, CO



Karla Ascecnio-Brizuela
Cardozo Education
Campus
Washington D.C.



Juan Bustos
John J. Cairns
High School
Lindsay, CA



Ricardo Crescencio
Cane Ridge
High School
Nashville, TN



Clark Foerstner
Englewood
High School
Englewood, CO

THE HEART AWARDS



Dr. Mike Ilic



Priestly Parker

This award recognizes education leaders who show a heart for supporting at-risk students in their academic endeavors and the capacity to see beyond the trauma faced by students. This year RAPSA is presenting two Heart Awards in recognition of the range of services that the Heart Award represents. Mike Ilic is Administrative Director of Student Services for the Corona-Norco USD. A former continuation school principal, past president of the California Continuation Education Association (CCEA), and current president of the ACSA Ed Options Council, he is a tireless defender of the at-risk population. Priestly Parker is a school counselor who teaches students to break down the walls that prevent students from being successful and models how to manage anger, resolve conflict, problem solve, and communicate effectively when the world around them seems in chaos. On behalf of the student, schools, and staff who believe that reengaging young people in education transforms them to being at risk of success rather than at risk of failure, we wish the Heart Award winners continued success in the work that they do.

THE VISION AWARD



Assembly Member Shirley Weber

The Vision Award is in recognition of policymakers who demonstrate exceptional vision for understanding the challenges faced by at-risk youth and the development of creative policies to attract and retain students who would otherwise be left out of traditional school programs. This year the Vision Award recipient is Assembly Member Shirley Weber, PhD, a California Legislator from San Diego County who serves on the Assembly's Education Committee and Budget Committee as well as the Select Committee on the Status of Boys and Men of Color and the Black Caucus. She is a tireless advocate for at-risk youth and has authored legislation supporting dropout recovery, expanding funds for the lowest performing student subgroups and closing the achievement gap.

AAPF PRESENTERS

PRESENTING ORGANIZATIONS

- Accenture
- Big Picture Learning
- California Department of Education
- California State Assembly
- Career Link - South Seattle College
- Center for American Progress
- Center for Promise, Boston University
- College of Idaho
- Colorado Department of Education
- DC Public Charter School Board
- EdTrust West
- Education Northwest
- Eskolta School Research and Design
- Goodwill Excel Center Public Charter School
- Joelle Hood, LLC
- John V. Lindsay Wildcat Academy Charter School
- Kids in Common
- Kingsman Academy Public Charter School
- Momentum Strategies & Research
- National League of Cities, Institute for Youth, Education, and Families
- New Dawn Charter High School
- New Teacher Center
- Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction WA State
- Opportunity Youth Partnership
- Renaissance
- Rose Operating System for Education
- Santa Clara County Office of Education / Opportunity Youth Academy
- SIATech Schools
- South Seattle College
- University of California, San Diego
- Utah State University
- Washington State Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction

AAPF PRESENTERS



**Educators As
Advocates for
At-Promise
Students**

Elisha Smith Arrillaga

Dr. Smith Arrillaga has more than 15 years of experience working with nonprofit and government organizations. Most recently, Elisha served as a Director at the Career Ladders Project. She worked with alternative high schools and colleges across the state and led initiatives to develop pathways to college and career for California students by aligning the work of school districts, employers, community colleges, and community-based organizations.



**Developing Alt
Measures/ESSA**

Sara Asmussen

Dr. Asmussen is the Founding Executive Director of New Dawn Charter High School and will assume that role for New Dawn Charter High School II, both transfer schools in NYC. She comes from the field of community mental health research with experience in managing large-scale research projects, budgets, and grant work. She began her work in education at the Beginning with Children Foundation as the Director of Research, moving on to John V. Lindsay Wildcat Academy Charter School as the Director of Compliance and Accountability.



**Using Data to
Assess and Teach
Numeracy and
Literacy**

Sally Brown

Dr. Sally Brown is an Assistant Professor in the School of Education at the College of Idaho. Sally has dedicated her career to incorporating effective instructional practices to meet the needs of diverse learners through her approximately eight years of experience as a classroom teacher working with students who exhibit various risk indicators and ten years of experience training pre-service teachers.



**Mass
Customized
Learning**

Jan Bryan

Dr. Bryan's educational tenure includes K – 8 music teacher, primary classroom teacher, and assistant professor at the undergraduate and graduate levels. Jan now serves as VP and National Education Officer for Renaissance where she researches and writes about how educational trends best serve teachers and learners.

The following presenter bios have been abbreviated for space. To view the full presenter profiles, visit www.alternativeaccountabilityforum.org/aapf18-presenters



AAPF PRESENTERS



ESSA and
Washington

Susan Canaga

Susan Canaga serves as the Director of Data for System and School Improvement with the Washington State Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI). Susan began her career in the IT industry, became a high school computer science teacher, and contributed as a district leader in roles that included the Director of Career and Technical Education and Counseling Services. Susan joined OSPI in 2012 and served in the roles of Alternative and Online Learning Support Manager and Data Governance Program Manager.



Designing an
Entire School
By and For At-
Promise Youth

Cesar Cruz

Veteran educator Dr. César A. Cruz and 3 youth panelists will present “Designing an Entire School by and for At-Promise Youth”. This engaging panel will speak about the process of creating a grass-roots, community based school built on gang, youth, street and indigenous assets called Homies Empowerment based out of Oakland, California. In this workshop, participants will hear about out-of-the-box strategies to engage at-promise youth in community and school settings to channel the warrior, healer, hustler and scholar within.



ESSA and
Washington

Doug DeMint

Doug DeMint serves as the Program Supervisor for System and School Improvement. Doug served 23 years in the United States Army and holds a Bachelor’s degree in Business Management from Excelsior College. Doug is committed to providing quality technical assistance and customer service for schools and districts identified to receive support for school improvement in Washington State.



Developing Alt
Measures/ESSA

Lisa DiGaudio

Dr. DiGaudio is the Founding Principal at New Dawn Charter High School and will assume that role for New Dawn Charter High School II. Lisa has published a book with Teacher’s Discovery and has a second one due for release in the Fall/Winter of 2018. She was the Chief Blogger for the Network of Independent Charter Schools and served as an Educational Advisor for EASOL. For the last 7 years, Lisa has been a school leader and contributed to both New Dawn charter applications.

AAPF PRESENTERS



Alternatives
Across America
The A-Game

Jody Ernst

Dr. Ernst is the founding Vice President of Research and Policy Analytics for Momentum Strategy & Research (MSR), a non-profit dedicated to conducting collaborative research to serve charter schools across the country. Previously, Jody was the Senior Director of Research & Evaluation for the Colorado League of Charter Schools where she assisted the Colorado Department of Education to develop frameworks to hold alternative education campuses (AECs) accountable in a way that was both rigorous and relevant. Jody continues her research at MSR to inform schools, districts, state education agencies, and authorizers on appropriate benchmarks for schools serving high-risk populations.



Alternatives
Across America
The A-Game

Jim Griffin

Jim Griffin is a founder of Momentum Strategy & Research, a Colorado organization strengthening the nation's charter community through collaborative research. Mr. Griffin leads the strategy side of the organization leading policy and system development efforts in various areas. Prior to MSR, he was the founding leader of the Colorado League of Charter Schools. He spent nearly 19 years in that position shaping Colorado's charter and also played a key role in launching a host of groundbreaking efforts and organizations, both locally and nationally.



Upstream
Collaboration

Javier Guzman

Javier Guzman has served youth for the last 20 years in multiple capacities, from middle school teacher to Regional Director for Network Support and Innovation. Currently, he works with districts across the Southwest to help transform schools into places that value students' interests in meaningful ways. Javier has a specific interest in alternative education programs. He believes there is a unique and urgent need to innovate there and is focused on building a consortium of alternative education school leaders who have the courage and the vision to improve learning for marginalized students.



Creating Integrated
Academics &
Socio-Emotional
Environments

Laura Hernandez-Flores

Dr. Laura Hernandez-Flores is Senior Director of Partnerships at New Teacher Center, an organization dedicated to improving student learning. She serves as a strategic partner with others across the country to build mentoring and coaching systems for teachers. Laura has 20 years of experience working in various capacities in teaching, mentoring, and strategic planning. As a first-generation college graduate Latina, she is a passionate advocate for the vulnerable student population, ensuring that teachers are able to meet their social, emotional, and academic needs.

AAPF PRESENTERS



Game Changing Results

Joe Herrity

Joe serves as the lead “backbone” staff for the Opportunity Youth Partnership, a collective impact initiative that aims to improve the education and employment outcomes of Opportunity Youth. He oversees the implementation of Opportunity Works, a Social Innovation Fund project, which is working to enhance re-engagement education options in dropout recovery institutions. Joe began his career in the social sector with two terms of service in AmeriCorps, and spent 6 years working with high-risk youth prior to transitioning to his current role.



Keeping Standards High for At-Promise Students in DC

Shannon Hodge

Shannon Hodge is Co-Founder & Executive Director of Kingsman Academy Public Charter School, a nontraditional school serving District of Columbia students. A former high school counselor and guidance director, Ms. Hodge has worked around education at the local, state, and federal levels for much of the past 15 years. Before becoming a charter school leader, she was an attorney representing a variety of educational organizations, including school districts and universities. Ms. Hodge has served as a co-chair of the editorial boards of the Harvard Educational Review and the Stanford Journal of Civil Rights & Civil Liberties.



Creating Integrated Academics & Socio-Emotional Environments

Joelle Hood

Dr. Joelle Hood brings over 25 years of educational and leadership experience to her clients. Joelle brings passion, energy, and expertise to helping all humans thrive. In addition to her doctorate degree in Organizational Change and Leadership from USC, she has a BA in Psychology and an MA in Educational Leadership. She provides researched-based keynotes, coaching, and experiential learning workshops to individuals, groups, and organizations throughout the nation.



Accountability Systems

Laura Jimenez

A public education played a powerful role in Laura’s life. She naturally pursued a profession in education policy to provide the same opportunity to all of America’s schoolchildren. On this path, she has taught English as a Second Language as a Peace Corps volunteer, led large education programs and nonprofits, and, led federal education policy programs. Currently, she generates policy ideas on the topic of improving school performance and college and career readiness at the Center for American Progress.

AAPF PRESENTERS



California's
DASS Program

Cindy Kazanis

Cindy Kazanis serves as the Director of the Analysis, Measurement, and Accountability Reporting Division at the California Department of Education, overseeing the implementation of the California School Dashboard and DataQuest. During her 15 year tenure, Cindy has led the implementation of the student-level data system, transitioned the compliance monitoring process to a web based system, and ensured California's public schools had the necessary technology and bandwidth for computer-based testing.



Accenture's
Skills to Succeed
Academy

Esther Kim

Esther Kim supports Accenture's U.S. Corporate Citizenship program, the Skills to Succeed (S2S) Academy. She supports the development of new partnerships to expand the reach of the Academy to young people who want to take charge of their careers. She also makes continuous improvements to the Academy to ensure the material is up-to-date and responsive to feedback from students and instructors using it.



Trauma Informed
Systems

Amy Lansing

Dr. Amy Lansing is Director of the Cognitive and Neurobehavioral Studies in Aggression, Coping, Trauma, and Stress (CNS-Acts), in University of California, San Diego. Amy is dedicated to understanding the neurobehavioral underpinnings of high-risk behaviors in vulnerable populations, such as juvenile delinquents and maltreated youth. Amy is a licensed clinical psychologist who provides direct mental health and cognitive rehabilitation service to incarcerated youth in San Diego County. Her work includes a focus on academic issues, cognitive deficits, and unmet mental health needs of youth who are Wards of the Juvenile Court (Child Welfare and Delinquency).



California's
DASS Program

Linda Leigh

Linda Leigh serves as the Director of Public Information and Communications for SIATech schools. One of her roles is leading the student records team's efforts to meet state and attendance reporting requirements. During her 14 years at SIATech, Linda has identified and implemented several alternative accountability metrics to create helpful data sets to measure student engagement, retention, and completion. Linda also oversees the organization's marketing, student recruitment, and community outreach.

The following presenter bios have been abbreviated for space. To view the full presenter profiles, visit www.alternativeaccountabilityforum.org/aapf18-presenters



AAPF PRESENTERS



Erin Loften

Erin Loften is in the Improvement Planning Office at the Colorado Department of Education. She has a master's degree in research and evaluation methodology and has worked for CDE for over 10 years. She loves engaging with education leaders in improvement and making sense of policy, particularly where education, communities and organizations intersect.

■ The A-Game



Jonathan D. Mathis

The work of Dr. Jonathan Mathis spans both secondary and postsecondary educational institutions. He currently serves as the Executive Director of The Next Step Public Charter School, providing leadership for a learning community with a focus on college and career readiness. Prior to this, he served as the inaugural director of the National Honor Societies at the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP). Dr. Mathis was also the director of education and training at the National Association for College Admission Counseling.

■ Cultivating Aspirations



Procopio, Cory, Hargeaves & Savitch LLP is one of the largest business law firms in California. With more than 140 attorneys in San Diego and Silicon Valley, Procopio is a regional law firm with a global network that gives it the ability to serve clients' interest throughout the world. Procopio is dedicated to understanding the businesses and industries of clients and collaborating with them to develop tailored strategies. Since 1946, our success has been derived from our commitment to clients and our ability to maximize the value we provide to them. Our goal is to continue building long-term relationships with clients through a steady, team-oriented approach.

For more information, please visit www.procopio.com

AAPF PRESENTERS



Evaluation and
Continuous
Improvement in
Alt Education

Christopher Mazzeo

Christopher Mazzeo's work focuses on the diverse pathways to postsecondary success. He is currently the Director for Evidence Use at Education Northwest and also serves as the Director of REL Northwest. Prior to this, Mazzeo spent 3 years with the University of Chicago Consortium on Chicago School Research (CCSR), where he managed nationally focused policy and capacity-building initiatives and consulted on developing indicators for high school graduation and postsecondary readiness, enrollment, and success.



Scaling,
Spreading,
Evaluating
Reengagement

Andrew Moore

Andrew O. Moore serves as Director, Youth and Young Adult Connections at the National League of Cities' Institute for Youth, Education and Families, where he has worked since 2004. Earlier, at the organization now known as The Corps Network, Moore spent 15 years building the nationwide network of service and conservation corps.



Equitable Access
to Challenging
Courses

Phil Morales

Phil has 17 years of progressive experience in the educational field. His professional history includes positions such as teacher, academic counselor, dean of students, and currently the Principal of Opportunity Youth Academy of Santa Clara County Office of Education. Phil has a deep passion for educating disengaged youth and young adults.



Keeping
Standards High
for At-Promise
Students in DC

Colleen Paletta

Colleen Paletta serves as Goodwill of Greater Washington's Chief Mission Officer. She is responsible for leading the planning, management, and evaluation of all job training and employment programs. Colleen also served as the Community Collaboration Coordinator of Goodwill's affiliate WORC (Workforce Organizations for Regional Collaboration). Prior to that, she held a fellowship at Anacostia High School's Law and Public Service Academy in Washington D.C. and was a high school teacher and Director of Community Services at St. Ignatius College Prep in Chicago, Illinois.

AAPF PRESENTERS



Developing Alt
Accountability
Measure/ESSA

Ed Peterman

Ed Peterman is the current Assistant Principal at JVL Wildcat Academy Charter School. For over 20 years, Ed has dedicated his practice to improving learning opportunities for at-risk youth. As a data coordinator for the PICCS project for Wildcat, he has contributed to the alternative accountability models used for several New York City transfer schools. Ed contributed to the charter application for New Dawn Charter High School and has also advised on accountability practices for charter renewals.



The Next Step

Curt Peterson

Curt Peterson has been working with alternative and re-engagement students in Seattle for over two decades. As a teacher and administrator he's had the opportunity to create and shape multiple programs designed specifically to serve this population. For the last 15 years he's been with Career Link High School at South Seattle College, which is focused entirely on the re-engagement population.



Game Changing
Results

Courtney Portal

Courtney has dedicated her career to working towards equity for Opportunity Youth. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Sociology with a concentration in Community Change from San Jose State University. She currently leads education systems change initiatives in Santa Clara County. She is a new mother to 10 month old baby Luna.



Equitable Access
to Challenging
Courses

Nicole Pyle

Nicole Pyle, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor of Adolescent Literacy and Secondary Education in the School of Teacher Education and Leadership at Utah State University. She serves as an Institute Fellow in The Dropout Prevention Institute at The Meadows Center for Preventing Educational Risk. Nicole has more than 8 years of experience as a middle school and high school special education teacher.

AAPF PRESENTERS



Accountability
Systems

Michael Rothman

Michael began his education career two decades ago in community-service learning before working in charter school oversight for the Massachusetts Department of Education. He founded and ran the Project for School Innovation, a nonprofit that shared charter and district practices. In New York, Michael worked for the City Department of Education and New Visions for Public Schools as a leadership coach and transfer school specialist. In 2010, he founded Eskolta, a nonprofit that has worked to re-engage overage, under credited students by deeply transforming their experiences in schools.



Keeping
Standards high
for At-Promise
Students in DC

Naomi Rubin DeVeaux

Naomi Rubin DeVeaux is the Deputy Director of the Public Charter School Board. Since her start as an English teacher more than 20 years ago, Ms. DeVeaux has developed new tools and measurements, curricula, and policy initiatives that have shaped public education across the country. She has presented and written extensively on the role of charter schools in providing quality educational choices to K-12 students and their families. At DCPCSB, Ms. DeVeaux manages the team responsible for charter authorizing.



California's
DASS Program

Jorge Ruiz de Velasco

Dr. Jorge Ruiz comes to Stanford from Berkeley Law, where he was Director of the Warren Institute's Program on Education Law and Policy. The focus of his work is on the study and promotion of change in public schools, the implications of education reform for disadvantaged students, education law and policy, and the effect of immigration on schools and communities.

The following presenter bios have been abbreviated for space. To view the full presenter profiles, visit www.alternativeaccountabilityforum.org/aapf18-presenters



AAPF PRESENTERS



The Art of
Accountable
Readiness

Amy Schlessman

Amy Schlessman, PhD, has dedicated her professional and personal life to education and human services. Dr. Schlessman's research and professional interests include alternative school accountability and the development of creative and innovative intelligence in learners of all ages from diverse cultural backgrounds and socio-economic levels. Fortune 500 companies, as well as non-profit organizations have benefited from her contributions to their programs. Her publications and presentations illustrate a range of contributions from theory to practice.



ESSA and
Washington

Laurie Shannon

Laurie Shannon is the current Program Supervisor for Reengagement, Graduation, and Truancy for the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction and serves on the Adult Education Advisory Committee for the state of Washington. She holds a Career and Technical Education Directors certification from Central Washington University. Laurie has worked as a teacher, counselor, dean of students and adjunct faculty in a variety of educational settings. She has a passion for helping underserved students through meaningful reform and supports.



Educators as
Advocates for
At-Promise
Students

Ernie Silva

Ernie has worked as an education advocate for 21 years and has led successful legislation supporting alternative accountability, dropout recovery and opportunity youth as well as on countless bills addressing education funding, Career Technical Education, and charter school issues. He has worked for nonprofit associations ranging from RAPSAs to the Sierra Club. He continues to actively lobby for SIATech and to develop partnerships with education and equity organizations throughout the country.



ESSA and
Washington

Lance Sisco

Lance Sisco is the Director of Achievement Data with the Washington State Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction. Lance manages the creation and calculation of the federal and state accountability models, including all public and private reporting of those data.

AAPF PRESENTERS



Danita Smith

Danita began her teaching career in Citrus County as an English teacher in 1998. She became a school administrator in 2005 in Citrus County, serving in a school leader capacity for the past 12 years. She joined the SIATech family in 2015 as Citrus MYcroSchool Principal. Danita is an accomplished Professional Development trainer having completed the Preparing New Principals Program (PNPP), FPMS Evaluator training, and the Moving Schools Forward: Lessons from Exemplary Leaders program. She has served as a trainer in many other areas specific to ELA learning strategies and data driven instruction.

Using Data to Assess and Teach Numeracy and Literacy



Molly Ward

Molly Ward is the Director of High School Completion at South Seattle College. Her role in this position is helping to oversee Career Link High School's enrollment coordination, course offerings and development, diploma processing, and student transition to college. Molly also works closely with the High School 21+ program on campus and teaches classes for Career Link. With 20 years experience in alternative education, Molly has helped students graduate and transition to post-secondary education or training.

The Next Step



Jon Zaff

Dr. Jonathan F. Zaff is executive director of the Center for Promise, the research center of America's Promise Alliance. He is also a research associate professor in the department of child development and a senior fellow at the Jonathan M. Tisch College of Citizenship and Public Service at Tufts University. His research focuses primarily on understanding how to create the conditions within which all children and youth thrive academically, socially, vocationally, and civically. The results of his work have appeared in numerous peer-reviewed journals and books and presented at local, national, and international conferences.

Meeting At-Promise Students Where They Are

The following presenter bios have been abbreviated for space. To view the full presenter profiles, visit www.alternativeaccountabilityforum.org/aapf18-presenters



AAPF SPONSORS

WALTON FAMILY FOUNDATION

The philanthropic vision of Sam and Helen Walton has driven the work of the Walton Family Foundation for the past thirty years. Their legacy is more important than ever as we accelerate our efforts to improve K-12 education for all students in America, to protect our rivers and oceans and the communities they support, and to give back to the region that first gave Sam and Helen Walton opportunity. For more information, please visit us at www.waltonfamilyfoundation.org



SIATech's public charter high schools are the foundation of its educational ecosystem. Its schools re-enroll students highly at-risk of dropping out and those who have already given up, and guide them to graduation. Locally and nationally accredited, SIATech's innovative schools provide students a renewed opportunity to earn a diploma and realize their full potential. Schools are designed small for individualization, in relevance to the needs of today's workforce. Together, competency-based education, a "high relationship" focus, individualized learning, and state-of-the-art technology, all build the cornerstones of SIATech programs nationwide. SIATech was recently recognized by the California Department of Education as a "Distinguished School". For more information, visit www.siatech.org

RENAISSANCE[®]

Renaissance[®] is the leader in K-12 learning analytics—enabling teachers, curriculum creators, and educators to drive phenomenal student growth. Renaissance's solutions help educators analyze, customize, and plan personalized learning paths for students, allowing time for what matters—creating energizing learning experiences in the classroom. For more information, please visit us at www.renaissance.com



The Stuart Foundation is dedicated to improving life outcomes for young people through education. We work to ensure that effective education systems in California and Washington provide opportunities for all students to learn, achieve, and thrive. Primarily working through education systems, we promote strategies that nurture students to be self-reliant, succeed in education and careers, and engage meaningfully in their communities. Our guiding principle, or North Star, is an education system that values the Whole Child by strengthening the relationships between students, educators, families, and communities. For more information, please visit www.stuartfoundation.org



Learn4Life is a constantly growing network of non-profits that includes accredited high school diploma programs, job training and wraparound services, and exclusive Workforce Investment Act partnerships. Learn4Life partners have resource centers throughout California, and each student receives an individualized education. No two students are alike, and we don't believe they should be educated that way either. With dozens of centers throughout California, the opportunity for independent learning is available to hundreds of thousands of students. For more information, visit www.learn4life.org



Marsh & McLennan Agency (MMA) is one of the nation's leading insurance brokerages, providing comprehensive risk management and employee benefit solutions to organizations of all sizes. Designed to meet the unique needs of growing companies, MMA epitomizes the high-touch service model typical of a local consultant while providing access to the global resources of the world's leading insurance broker, Marsh. Our clients truly benefit from the best of both worlds. MMA has over 100 locations across the US, including six locations in the West region: San Diego, Orange County, San Francisco, Walnut Creek, Los Angeles and Anchorage. We work together to bring clients the latest innovations in the insurance industry. www.mma-west.com



For company profile, see page 24



For company profile, see back page



For company profile, see page 13

AAPF SPONSORS



California
Charter Schools
Association

The California Charter Schools Association advances the charter school movement through state and local advocacy, leadership on accountability, and resources for member schools. CCSA is a trusted source of data and information on California's charter schools for parents, authorizers, legislators, the press and other interested groups. For more information, please visit

www.ccsa.org



YouthBuild Charter School of California (YCSC) holds a unique place in the landscape of California's public charter schools. As a competency-based dropout recovery school, it seeks to provide a high school education that leads to a diploma for a distinct group of students. YCSC students, who are all between the ages of 16 to 24 years old, come from low-income families and underserved communities, and have previously left or been pushed out of the traditional school system without a diploma. They enroll at YouthBuild programs over-aged, under-credited, or both, in order to receive vocational training, counseling, leadership development and an education. For more information, please visit www.youthbuildcharter.org

www.youthbuildcharter.org



Charter School Capital is proud to deliver access to growth capital and facilities financing to charter schools nationwide. In the past 10 years, Charter School Capital has invested more than \$1.6 billion to 600+ charter schools, helping them provide a high-quality education to more than 800,000 students across the country. Our team works with charter schools to budget and plan for current needs and future growth - whether your school requires operational capital, growth funding, or facilities expansion. We partner with our clients so they can focus on what's most important - educating students www.charterschoolcapital.org

www.charterschoolcapital.org



In 2007, the Reaching At-Promise Students Association (RAPSA) was created to establish a professional network devoted to reaching the over-age and under-credit student population, with the desire to transform them from "at-risk" to "at-promise". Today, RAPSA is a leading professional development and networking organization in this area. Since its inception, RAPSA has sponsored a variety of conferences and workshops, including the AAPF, webinars, as well as an online resource library. By 2013, membership in RAPSA had grown to 6,000 national and international partners including teachers, principals, district leaders, advocacy and accountability groups, revered speakers, workforce organizations, and community business leaders. For more information, visit www.rapsa.org

www.rapsa.org



**CORONADO
ISLAND**
RESORT & SPA
MARRIOTT

Refresh and rejuvenate your spirit with a getaway to the Coronado Island Marriott Resort & Spa. Away from the crowds, on the quiet side of Southern California's famed Coronado Island, our secluded hotel possesses a certain life-altering energy, capturing the true essence of the area. Settle in to your luxuriously designed room or suite, indulge in a treatment at our on-site spa, and admire the awe-inspiring views. We invite you to experience the Coronado Island Marriott Resort & Spa, and to celebrate the special connection we have with the tranquility, comfort and relaxation of the sea.

For more information, visit www.marriott.com/sanci

EVENT VOLUNTEERS



Debra Anderson
Special Projects Manager



Denise Castro
Administrative Assistant



Crystal Chavez
Graphic Design
Specialist



Henry Davis
Pathway Curriculum Specialist



Debra DiBiase
Dir. Opportunity Youth
Program



Charneece Fraticelli
RAPSA Youth Opportunity
Coordinator



Jake Gordon
Principal



Mary Ellen Isaac
Attendance Technician



Patrick Irving
Human Resources
Specialist II

THANK YOU TO ALL THE SIATECH VOLUNTEERS WHO HAVE HELPED MAKE THIS YEAR'S POLICY FORUM A SUCCESS.



Mark Kiker
Chief Technology
Officer



Juan Larios
Web Developer & Content
Specialist



Linda Leigh
Dir of Public Information &
Communications



Pearl Mathieu
Data Accountability
Coordinator



Jackie Moore
Volunteer



Joanne Motz
Consultant



Pricilla Perez
Administrative Services
Specialist



Ernie Silva
AAPF Director



Lucy Velazquez
Human Resources
Specialist II



**Fill out the AAPF18
Evaluation Form at
RAPSA.org/evals**

#AAPF18

JOIN RAPSA

A LEARNING COMMUNITY FOR AT-PROMISE LEADERS

In your work you see the challenges facing young people whose lives are immersed in poverty and trauma. Young people who face tragedy and failure. RAPSA provides professional development for education and workforce leaders advocating for the success of opportunity youth across the country. People like you who transform lives from “at risk” to “at promise”. The RAPSA Board of Directors has adopted a plan for growing our influence. The new RAPSA Business Plan includes an exclusive online magazine, a Research Council and a Policy Advocacy Network. We want you to become a RAPSA member and make these endeavors succeed.

Just like public radio, you get a lot from RAPSA even if you haven’t joined. But your membership will strengthen this network of courageous leaders interested in advocating for alternative metrics for their schools and students and sharing professional development about their successes in the field.

JOIN US AND SUPPORT EFFORTS TO:

- Expand professional development efforts in webinars and publications;
- Earn registration discounts for the Alternative Accountability Policy Forum;
- Expand the impact of RAPSA’s Courage, Heart and Vision Awards;
- Learn to effectively advocate for your students before state and local policy makers;
- Replicate accountability successes from other states and districts;
- Receive relevant research about alternative schools, competency-based instruction, personalized learning, career pathways and more;
- Maintain a learning community that supports each other, shares experience, and builds meaningful networks based on trust and shared commitment.

RAPSA is a non-profit organization providing professional development services and opportunities for education service providers and others who serve opportunity youth. The support that you provide will expand the network of professionals improving the lives of at-promise youth and increasing the number of young people who graduate high school.



LEVELS OF MEMBERSHIP

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS
\$75 Annual Membership

INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL MEMBERSHIP
\$300 Annually (Single Site)

SCHOOL NETWORKS AND DISTRICTS
\$1,500 Annually (Multiple Sites)

RESEARCH AND POLICY ORGANIZATIONS
\$1,000 Annually

AT-PROMISE SERVICE PROVIDER
\$5,000 Provides Year-Round Exposure



<https://rapsa.org/rapsa-membership/>

Please contact Ernie Silva, RAPSA Executive Director, for more information on how At Promise Service Providers connects vendors and professional service providers with RAPSA members and participants in future RAPSA events.
(916) 712-9087

RAPSA BOARD



Linda C. Dawson Ed.D.
RAPSA Board President
SIATech, Inc.
California



Julie Evans
Project Tomorrow
California



Brenda Hall
Southern California
Professional Development
Federation
California



Matthew D. LaPlante
Utah State University
Utah

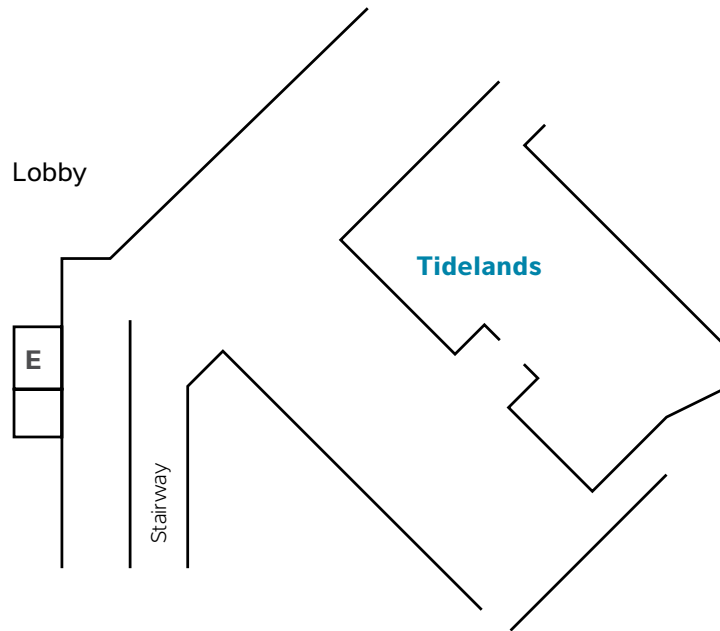


Tony Simmons
Studio 4 Enterprises and the High
School for Recording Arts
Minnesota

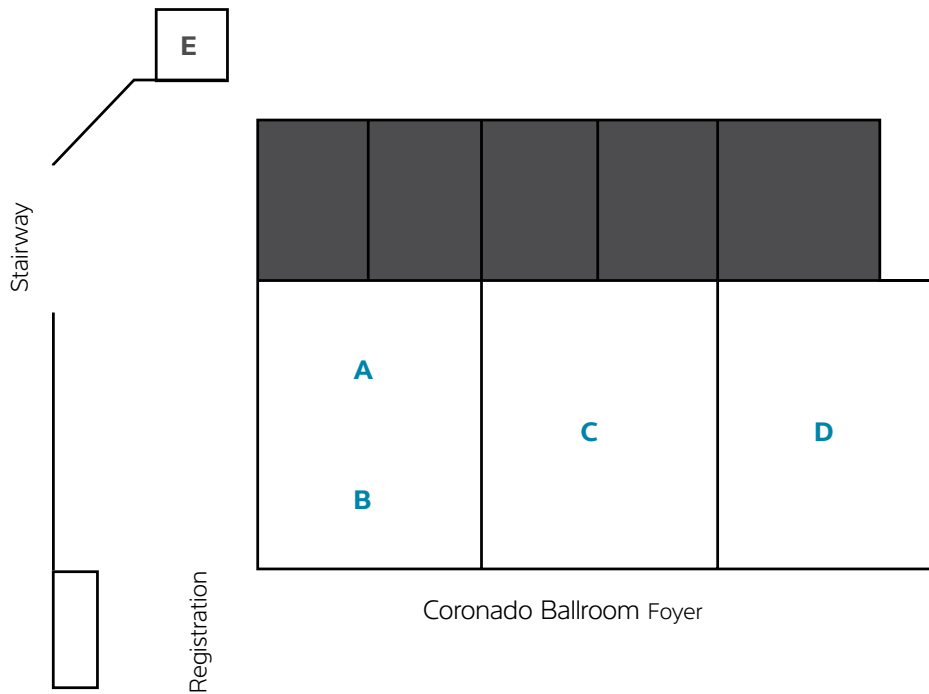


Elisha Smith Arrillaga
Education Trust West
California

1ST FLOOR



2ND FLOOR





School Services of California INC. TM

School Services of California, Inc., (SSC) was founded in 1975 by Ken Hall, former Deputy Director of the Department of Finance during the Reagan administration. It has since evolved into the premier business, financial, management, and advocacy resource for educational agencies in California. Since 1999, our company has been led by its current CEO, Ron Bennett. More than three decades of leadership by only two long-serving CEOs has given the company and its employees the continuity necessary to provide a finely focused array of services to public education in California.

For more information, please visit www.sscal.com

AAPF 18

#AAPF18

ALTERNATIVEACCOUNTABILITYFORUM.ORG