MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear CALSA Familia,

"Sí Se Puede!"

Every time I look out my door, this phrase, in large black letters adorns the northeast wall of my office – this statement, both powerful and prophetic – is indeed a mantra for the mission of CALSA.

During my first 90 days as Executive Director, I have been witness to incredible acts of generosity, foresight, and genuine leadership. Leading from the heart and empowering others and expecting nothing in return except the gratification that you have touched the life of another, is the true meaning of unselfishness.

All of these leadership contributions, regardless of size or purpose, have one thing in common: they speak volumes about the life of a CALSA Leader. That voice continues to speak and is heard long after they no longer have a voice of their own. Each leadership contribution becomes a living thing growing and reaching far beyond anything the giver of knowledge could have ever imagined.

I could not be more proud to have this opportunity to serve as your Executive Director and to build on existing relationships and cultivate new ones. I truly believe everyone is born with a desire to help others and to make a difference in any way they can. It is CALSA’s mission to assist our diverse educational leaders in addressing the needs of students and increasing the number of highly effective Latinx administrators.

CALSA is committed to assisting you and advocating for you so that you may leave a legacy for future generations of Latinx leaders and students, so they, too, can embody the mantra of Sí Se Puede!

Please visit our website at www.calsa.org for up to date information, follow us on Twitter for current happenings eCALSAfamilia, and download the CALSA App powered by ParentSquare. Have a great rest of October!

Con Mucho Cariño y Respeto,

José L. González
CALSA Executive Director
MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT-ELECT, DR. DAISY MORALES

It is my honor to be the current President-Elect of CALSA. I wholeheartedly believe in the vision and mission of our organization. We continue to build the capacity of administrators at all levels to better represent the students that we serve. As active members, we need to continue to share the vision and mission of CALSA with those around us. We need to continue the movement.

Our Mentorship Program is going strong, and I continue to learn so much from the opportunity of investing and mentoring a new principal. Our Women’s Leadership Network (WLN) has begun to mobilize by establishing regional leaders across the state to more strategically organize the work. Exciting work to be done ahead!

For my “day job,” I am the proud Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services for the Salinas City ESD. I have joined a fantastic group of educators who are committed and invested in the education of our students. They have a heart for the work they do. I am truly honored to be partnering with them. This year, we have embraced the motto, “It takes a team to educate a child.”

As a team, we have created our Instructional Focus Framework (see picture) that clearly shows the focal point of our work: the instructional core. Everything we do is in support of the core, the classroom. This is where the magic happens. Teachers and students interact in “…positive, healthy, growth-producing relationships.” (Fisher, 2018). Teachers have clarity about the content that they need to teach, and students need to learn. Students are challenged with rigorous, complex learning experiences. The convergence of the three produces LEARNING. One of the ways we are working as a team to impact the core is by building the instructional leadership capacity of our school administrators.

As research has shown for decades, they are the second most impactful person in a schoolhouse. We are working on creating systems and providing professional learning that will empower principals and assistant principals with the skills and tools they need to guide and facilitate the learning with teachers around the three major components of the instructional core: relationships, teacher clarity, and student challenge.

Coaching administrators to become a strong instructional leader and collaborating with them as they partner with our teachers to build teacher efficacy is what we believe will produce high student outcomes and close the ever-growing achievement gap. The partnership between administrators and teachers is critical to the success of our students. Together, as a cohesive team and with a clear focus, we have the best chance of positively impacting our students.
MESSAGE FROM DR. RACHEL MONARREZ
CALSA WOMEN’S LEADERSHIP NETWORK (WLN)

"Journey into the Future: Core Values Alignment"

The goal of the CALSA Women’s Leadership Network (WLN) is to increase the number of women who are in Cabinet and Superintendent positions throughout California. The strategy for this goal is to offer opportunities for bonding and bridging. A framework for this approach is below.

We are excited to announce there are now CALSA WLN Regional Leaders supporting our WLN mission! The Regional Leads brainstormed opportunities for this year’s signature events. The events provide space and opportunity for participants to strengthen leadership skills and network with peers. These events are open to ALL men and women.

This year, we will explore three primary areas further:

1. View CALSA WLN as an extension of CALSA’s Mentor Signature Program and offer afternoon events preceding the Saturday Mentoring sessions.

2. Leverage our partnership with ACSA to coordinate and strengthen existing links to ACSA events and programs with an intentional focus on women of color needs and interests.

3. Begin virtual book studies throughout the state, creating a space for participants to deepen and expand leadership skills and conditions specific to women.

Although the team is in the preliminary stages of development, we are excited about the movement and look forward to offering experiences that will meet the needs of all CALSA familia.

Please check our webpage periodically for updates and watch for events advertised on Twitter and Instagram @CALSAFamilia.
WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP NETWORK

OUR MISSION:
INCREASE THE NUMBER OF WOMEN IN CABINET AND SUPERINTENDENT POSITION THROUGHOUT CALIFORNIA

WHAT IS IT?
INCLUSIVE OPPORTUNITY TO Recognize AND HONOR THE VALUE THAT WOMEN BRING TO LEADERSHIP INCLUDING COLLABORATION, SHARED LEADERSHIP, AND TEAM-BASED APPROACH TO LEADERSHIP

WHAT IT'S NOT:
EXCLUSIVELY FOR WOMEN | OPEN TO ALL.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
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ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT,
CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT SAN BERNARDINO CITY USD

@DRRMONARREZ

#CALSAFAMILIA
CALSA Signature Events Calendar

THANK YOU, NEARPOD AND TEACHING STRATEGIES!

On behalf of the CALSA Mentoring Program, we would like to thank Teaching Strategies, and Nearpod for the support they provided our CALSA Mentoring Program Workshop on September 28th!

CALSA is on a mission to address the needs of our students and improve educational outcomes. For over 20 years, our work includes developing and equipping leaders, advocating for our students, growing our organization, and building familia.

This event would not have been a success without the generous support Teaching Strategies and Nearpod have provided our district leaders. We sincerely appreciate the willingness with which you have and continue to strengthen our CALSA Signature events. Thank you for offering a platform for our district leaders to achieve their stated professional goals in education through passion, persistence, and integrity.

If you would like more information about Teaching Strategies or Nearpod, contact:

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Opinion | The Beauty of Being Bilingual

The bittersweet discovery that language, and the stories it carries, is not a straight path. By Ms. Sylvester is a Peruvian-American writer. My parents refused to let my sister and me forget how to speak Spanish by pretending they didn’t...

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Push to increase teachers of color in California classrooms

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