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June 2024

CCAP Newsletter

CCAP Conference this Month!

Over 130 people are registered so far for the [2024 California Charter School Authorizers Conference](#). Program highlights include:

- **Financial focus**, for beginners through to CBOs, including an opening plenary panel of fraud prevention
- **Policy focus**, including a plenary panel on the California Charter Policy Outlook
- **Governance focus**, for and about authorizing and charter school boards
- **Renewals focus**, as renewals recommence
- **Academic measurement and data literacy focus**, including the Dashboard and verified data
- **Improving practice focus**, including effective and balanced oversight
- **Equity focus**, including admissions and enrollment and special education
- **Continuous improvement focus**, including differentiated assistance and authorizer support
- **"Big Picture" focus** on Authorizing Realities, Research, and Rethinking, with provocative and inspiring sessions culminating in a closing plenary by **Macke Raymond** of the Center for Research on Education Outcomes (CREDO) at Stanford, on *"More Than You Imagine: Authorizing in the Tsunami Era."*

- **Role-alike discussions** for large/urban districts, small/rural districts, county authorizers, and non-authorizer partners, as well as for financial staff; educational program staff, senior leadership and board members, and authorizer attorneys.
- **Receptions**, Meet-and-Greets, and social and networking time.

There's plenty for beginners and veterans; for authorizers and non-authorizers including charter school leaders; for staff members, superintendents, and board members; and for large and small organizations. See you there!

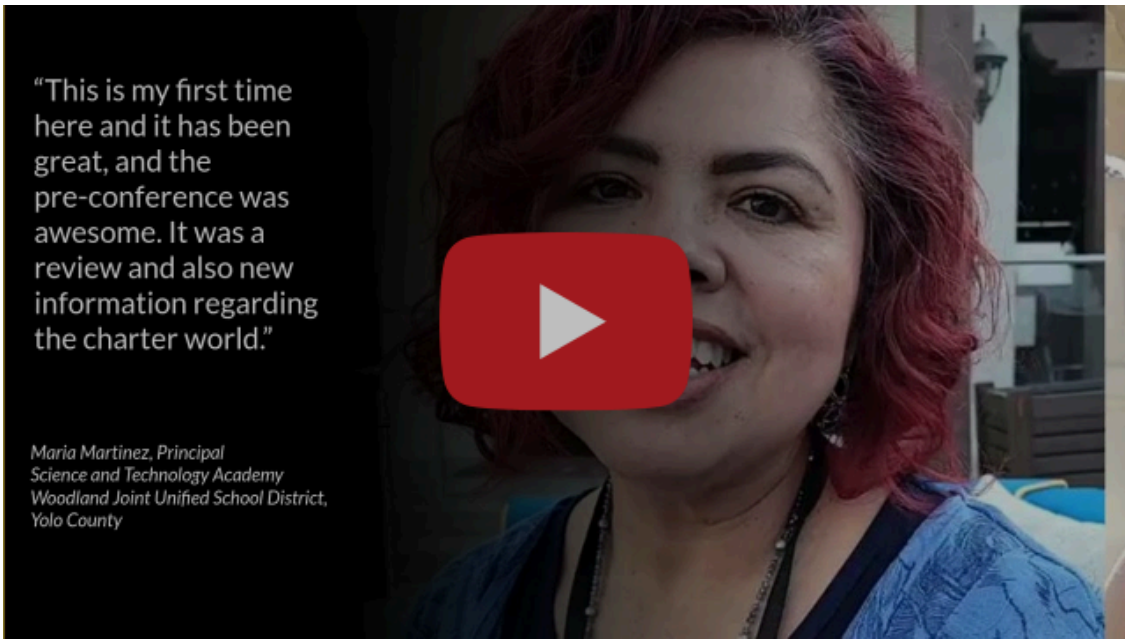


California Charter School Authorizers Conference
June 18-21, 2024

Register for the conference [here!](#)

And consider our stand-alone Preconference:
Charter Authorizing & Oversight 101

The optional \$50 Preconference is presented by the state Charter Authorizer Support Initiative (**CASI**), which is jointly implemented by the California Department of Education, the Santa Clara County Office of Education, and CCAP. It will be held on the afternoon of Tuesday, June 18, and the morning of Wednesday, June 19. Attendees may choose only the Preconference, only the main conference, or both. Preconference attendees from small authorizers can be reimbursed for Tuesday night lodging at Irvine Marriott.



Check out feedback from past attendees!

Thanks to our Conference Sponsors!





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Submit Your Nominee for a CCAP Authorizer Award at the Conference!

CCAP is pleased to inaugurate two awards to celebrate notable contributions to the profession of charter school authorizing in California! Submit your nomination(s) for:

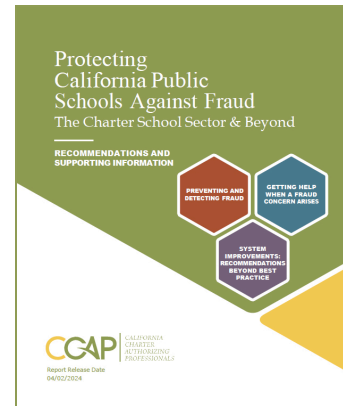
1. **The Authorizing Exemplar Award:** For an individual authorizer who has helped develop and implement one or more particularly promising and/or excellent authorizing practices.
2. **The Authorizing Community Contributor Award:** For an individual who has made significant contributions to the California authorizing field and/or who has gone above and beyond to help other California authorizers improve their work and thrive as professionals.

The nomination form is short: no more than 300 words! Nominations are due by **Friday, June 7, 2024**. The award process is not open to self-nomination. Award recipients need not be present at the Conference -- but of course it's highly encouraged!

Nomination Form

Anti-Fraud Efforts Moving From Recommendation to Implementation

The April 2024 report of the broad-based Anti-Fraud Task Force convened by CCAP, **Protecting California Public Schools Against Fraud the Charter School Sector & Beyond**, contains 20 recommendations designed to strengthen the capacity of California's public school sector to detect potential fraud, provide clear processes on what to do if theft is suspected and support prosecution of those who commit public school fraud.



The implementation work on the recommendations will commence at CCAP's California Charter Authorizers Conference, June 18-21, in Irvine, which kicks off with a plenary panel on the report that will include the San Diego Deputy District Attorneys who prosecuted the A3 fraud cases. Most of the recommendations are best practices that do not require state action -- but that will require models, resources, and support, especially for smaller charter schools and smaller authorizers. To develop these supports, implementation working groups will be recruited. This work overlaps and complements a **February 2024 report** by the California Legislative Analyst's Office and the Fiscal Crisis & Management Assistance Team, on the funding process for non-classroom-based charter schools, and a report on the auditing process expected this month from a **task force** convened by the San Diego County District Attorney and California Controller's offices.

[LEARN MORE HERE](#)

AUTHORIZERS

In Action

Nesha Pattison, Acton-Agua Dulce USD

Nesha Pattison is an anomaly in an atypical California school district. Since 2018, Nesha (pronounced neh-SHAY) Pattison has served as director of charter services in Acton-Agua Dulce Unified School District, a small district on the outskirts of Los Angeles County about 50 miles north of downtown LA.



The district has 14 public schools; 11 of them are charters serving more than 11,850 students, or about 92 percent of district enrollment, and 10 of the charters are online or hybrids, meaning they have some online and some classroom-based learning.

[READ MORE HERE](#)



Meet CCAP's Newest Board Member

Tiffany DeGraffenreid

Tiffany DeGraffenreid, Manager of the Charter School Office of San Diego Unified School District, joined the CCAP Board of Directors in February, of 2024, bringing with her two decades of charter school experience, including first-hand knowledge of the discrete needs and operations of independent study and nonclassroom-based charter schools that can make them a challenge for authorizer oversight. As a CCAP board member, DeGraffenreid wants to expand efforts already underway to support small authorizers with “a hands-on push to reach out to them, sit with them, and help them set up a program” to strengthen

oversight. "I believe it would provide reassurance to both the authorizers and charter schools about their actions."

READ MORE HERE

Keeping up with CASI

The Charter Authorizer Support Initiative (**CASI**), a collaborative effort of California Department of Education (CDE), CCAP, and the Santa Clara County Office of Education's Charter Schools Department is in the home stretch of the three-year federal Charter Schools Program grant that funds its program of training and networking. CASI has been very successful in engaging the authorizing community and its larger charter school sector. Recordings of past monthly Charter Chats and quarterly trainings, as well as accompanying compilations of resources, are available [on the CASI website](#).

The next CASI quarterly virtual training will be on **Tuesday, July 9**, from **1:00-3:00 p.m.**, and will be on Dashboard Alternative School Status (DASS) schools.

CASI also has been able to take the training show on the road, recently holding customized "Charters 101" onsite workshops for authorizers in Tulare, Kings, and Fresno Counties. As of this writing CDE is in the process of preparing its application for a new CSP State Entities grant, which among other things would provide continued funding for authorizer supports. If you think authorizers in your county or community might be interested in a local onsite opportunity for training and networking, please [reach out to CASI](#), and let's brainstorm some options.



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