



## dreamTeam Members and Symposium Attendees

### ***David Abel***

*Chairman & Managing Director, New Schools/Better Neighborhoods  
Abel & Associates*

Mr. Abel is Chairman and Managing Director of New Schools/ Better Neighborhoods (nsbn.org), which promotes the concept of, as has underwritten, collaboratively designed, joint-use community school facilities in Metropolitan Los Angeles. Mr. Abel is also Managing Director of the VerdeXchange Institute, an environmental think tank and publisher that informs and advises innovators wishing to employ and deploy green technology in the marketplace. Abel is also president and CEO of ABL Inc., a California-based public policy consulting firm engaged in foundation, civic and public affairs; the firm publishes *The Planning Report*, which focuses on land-use issues in Southern California, *verdeXchange news* and the *Metro Investment Report*, which covers infrastructure. Abel chairs and participates as a board member on a number of civic organizations, including: the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation, Big Picture Schools California, Community Conservancy International, Trust for Public Land California, University of Southern California's Masters in Public Policy Advisory Board, and USC's Bedrosian Center on Governance and the Public Enterprise. He is also a lecturer on regionalism at the University of California, San Diego.

### ***Paul Abramson***

*President, Stanton Leggett & Associates*

President of Stanton Leggett & Associates, Paul has been involved for more than 50 years in the study of school facilities, including building evaluation and capacity estimates, development of educational specifications and community involvement programs. Paul writes a monthly column, "A Final Thought", for *School Planning & Management magazine* and has prepared annual studies of school construction since 1974. In 2008, he was named Planner of the Year by the Council of Educational Facility Planners International (CEFPI), the association's highest individual honor.

### ***Jill Wien Badger***

*LTI Coordinator, San Diego Met High School*

San Diego Met High School Internship Coordinator Jill Wien Badger was asked to be on the school's opening team in 2004, coordinating the internship program on the Mesa College Campus for the San Diego Unified School District. She is responsible to train students for internship readiness, track their placement and market the program to the business community throughout San Diego County. Mrs. Badger has presented the curriculum she developed at *The Big Picture Conference on Personalization and Real World Learning* in 2006, the San Diego County Department of Education in 2007 and the Gateway to College Peer Learning Conference in 2008. She received the ROP Distinguished Teacher Award from the San Diego County and Imperial Valley Chapter of the California Association of Regional Occupational Centers and Programs for the San Diego Unified School District in 2007. A native of Los Angeles, Mrs. Badger holds a designated subject Teaching Credential in *Event and Conference Planning; Hotel and Lodging Occupations*



*and Business & Computer Applications* from the California Commission on Teaching Credentialing (CCTC). She has taught ROP business classes for the San Diego Unified School District since 2003. Mrs. Badger began her teaching career in 1997 instructing in the Meeting Planning Certificate Programs of several California College extended learning programs. She currently continues teaching at CSU San Marcos and San Francisco State, in addition to her responsibilities at the San Diego Met High School.

### ***Jeff Barrera***

#### *San Diego Met High School Student*

Jeff Barrera is a sophomore at the San Diego Met High School, on track to graduate in 2011. He is interested in multimedia and political activism. He is an intern at the Center on Policy (CPI) Initiatives, a nonprofit research and political advocacy organization which works to improve the lives of working people. At CPI, he edits videos, designs websites, and creates other multimedia projects. Jeff has interned at CPI for over 16 months. Jeff has completed his first college class, and will take a second course at Mesa College this summer. He plans to major in Communications, Multimedia, or Political Science. Jeff continues to investigate college options, but hopes to attend UC Davis, UC San Diego, or George Washington University.

### ***Kate Bean***

#### *Development Team Founder, Aveson Charter School*

Kate Bean, founder of the Aveson Charter School, holds a Master of Science in Educational Administration as well as a California Administrative Credential. In her current role as the Executive Director of Aveson Educational Cooperative, Kate leads a team of educational entrepreneurs. She has been a district administrator national consultant, specializing in coaching administrators in the areas of leadership, management, and school innovation. Kate has owned and operated Life in the Balance, a personal and business coaching enterprise. Additionally, she worked as a district manager for three years in the financial services industry. Combining her passions as an educator, entrepreneur and mother of two daughters, Kate has formulated the core idea of the Aveson model over the past six years. Her leadership role at the Aveson is to ensure the coherent vision, realization, quality, and expansion of the Aveson model.

### ***Dr. William L. Bearley***

#### *Professor, University of La Verne, College of Education & Organization*

Bill is the current Chair of the department of Organizational Leadership and Program Chair of the Doctoral Program in Organizational Leadership at the University of La Verne. He has 49 years of experience teaching at various levels including middle school, high school, community college, and university. Bill has over 40 years of consulting experience with a variety of organizations in the development of information systems, organization development, leadership, and change. He has worked with many educational institutions in planning, program development, and organizational change.



### ***Victoria Bergsagel***

#### *President, Architects of Achievement*

Victoria Bergsagel is passionate about designing schools where ALL students achieve. She founded and directs Architects of Achievement, a network that helps communities develop powerful environments for learning. She encourages groups to think beyond normal boundaries, leading to inspired solutions.

Harvard-educated, Victoria has been a high school teacher, counselor, principal and Director of Educational Design in a large public school district, leading the educational program planning for a number of award-winning schools. As the Director of Educational Partnerships at Talaris Brain Research Institute, she worked with an interdisciplinary team to conduct, integrate, and interpret some of the world's leading brain research. Providing high-level consulting expertise, Victoria currently serves as a design strategist, educator, and featured speaker for clients ranging from school districts to philanthropic organizations to education departments in the U.S. and abroad. She serves on the Board of Trustees for the Council of Educational Facilities Planners International Foundation & Charitable Trust (chairing their Research Committee), is a member of the American Institute of Architects Committee for Architecture in Education, and is a frequent speaker at national symposia and conferences related to innovations in school planning and design. Partnering with communities throughout the world committed to discovering and developing exciting places to learn, Victoria believes that ALL students can achieve if provided the opportunity, tools and support.

### ***Polly Bove***

#### *Superintendent, Fremont Union High School District*

Polly Bove is Superintendent of the Fremont Union High School District. In this role, she is responsible for administrative control of all instruction, personnel, procedures, properties and public relations of and for the school system and operation. She is the chief negotiator for all bargaining units and serves as the executive officer of the Board of Trustees. Polly was appointed Superintendent in August 2006. Superintendent Bove's career in the District includes Acting Superintendent, Deputy Superintendent, Executive Director of Educational Services, Coordinator of Student Services, Coordinator of Student, and Assistant Principal. She began her career in education as a mathematics teacher in Illinois, where she also served as the wrestling coach. Polly Bove holds masters' degrees in mathematics, psychology, and educational administration along with bachelors' degrees in mathematics and rhetoric.

### ***James F. Bush***

#### *President, School Site Solutions, Inc.*

James Bush is the President of School Site Solutions. Prior to establishing this consulting firm, Mr. Bush was the Assistant Director of the California Department of Education's School Facilities Planning Division, responsible for supervising the staff overseeing K-12 school site approval, and for all written policies related to those approvals. Mr. Bush's experience includes: service to the City of Roseville as an Assistant City planner; School Planner for the Elk Grove Unified School District, Roseville City and High School Districts, and eleven other entities; Director of School Planning for the Placer County Office of Education. His expertise encompasses facility master planning, site acquisition, developer negotiations involving school

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developer fees and school sites, Board and community presentations and State funding. Mr. Bush served as a Sierra Community College District Trustee for seventeen years (1983-2000), his background in school facility planning issues making him the Board's choice to represent them on all major facility projects, including educational and facility master planning, site identification and acquisition and property negotiation. Currently, Mr. Bush serves on the distinguished C.A.S.H. Board of Directors.

### ***Monica Castaneda***

#### *East Bay Arts School Student*

Monica is a senior at East Bay Arts High School in Hayward, California. Already, she has received early acceptance offers from Mills College and CSUEB, and is currently awaiting acceptance confirmations from several other universities before making her decision. A student who excels academically, Monica is also a talented visual artist. She has also been a cast member in several main-stage plays, acting in a variety of roles. A member of the Mock Trial team and a key vocalist in the Chamber Choir, Monica has been involved in student leadership since her freshman year. She has personally experienced the growth of East Bay Arts, from an enrollment of 50 students to more than 300, and has "lived through" the resultant, on-going construction. Monica knows the "growing pains" associated with a new school, doing everything for the first time as she and her school grew up together.

### ***Gaylaird Christopher***

#### *President/Principal Architect, Architecture for Education, Inc.*

Gaylaird is a recognized expert in the planning and design of educational facilities. His experience in more than thirty years of practice encompasses individual buildings and institutional master plans that outline strategies for change and growth. Gaylaird is dedicated to the design and construction of innovative educational environments that support and improve educational quality. His singular focus is to create architecture that enhances and inspires learning. Mr. Christopher lectures to numerous educational and architectural organizations, and has authored numerous papers addressing innovations in educational architecture and creative funding techniques. He has presented to a wide range of audiences including: the Coalition of Concerned School Districts; the Coalition for Adequate School Housing; the American Institute of Architects; the Council of Educational Facility Planners International; the California Association of School Business Officials; the American Association of School Business Officials; the American Association of School Administrators. As a member of the State Allocation Board of Legislative Implementation Committee, he played a major role in developing state regulations for school funding distribution. Each year, he teaches a class at the University of California, Riverside, entitled "Schools for the Future: Matching Design to Curriculum".



***Ariel Conkel***

*East Bay Arts School Student*

Ariel is a senior at East Bay Arts High School in Hayward, California. She is a member of the first graduating class of this small, thematic visual and performing arts high school and is honored as her class Salutatorian. Enrolled in concurrent college classes since her junior year, she is considering several options as she moves toward full-time university life. Ariel is a founding member of the Mock Trial team and has received individual recognition for her competition performance. Ariel has performed in several school main-stage plays, acting in both lead and character roles, and has directed several student productions at East Bay Arts. She has accomplished all of this while maintaining exceptional academic standards.

***Dr. George H. Copa***

*Educational Planner, New Designs for Learning*

George H. Copa is a professor at the School of Education at Oregon State University, also serving as director of the research and development project, New Designs for Learning. He has held university administrative positions as research center director, department chair, and vice-president and is published in over 150 journal articles, reports, papers, and books. Dr. Copa works with schools, colleges, and state education agencies across the United States and internationally, facilitating educational design efforts for schools and colleges seeking major renovation and revitalization. Applications of his design concepts have been made to K-12 schools and colleges in the United States and other countries. Articles recognizing the leading edge features of his school designs have recently appeared in the Wall Street Journal and the Harvard Education Newsletter. Dr. Copa served on a six-person jury for the American Institute of Architects' 1999 Design Awards and Exemplary Learning Environment Program, that included elementary schools, middle schools, high schools, community and technical colleges, and specialized schools and leaning centers. He is beginning a new project funded by the National Center for Research in Career and Technical Education entitled, "New Designs for Career and Technical Education at the Secondary and Post Secondary Levels."

***Dr. Bill Day***

*Senior Analyst, KBD Planning Group, Inc.*

***Thomas G. Duffy, Ed.D.***

*Legislative Advocate, C.A.S.H.*

Dr. Duffy of Murdoch, Walrath & Holmes, has served in public education for over 40 years. He began as a teaching assistant in the Los Angeles Unified School District. He later served as a teacher, a Special Education Program administrator, and Business administrator for the Ventura County Superintendent of Schools. For three years, Tom served the Moorpark Unified School District as the Assistant Superintendent for Business Services, after which he became district's Superintendent for the following 12 years. During



his tenure at Moorpark Unified School District, Tom was actively involved in educational reform at the district level, and assisted in the creation and management of self-funded insurance programs including the creation of a new health benefits agency in Ventura County. Tom has a history of active involvement in school facility legislation and state bond campaigns. As past Chair of the Coalition for Adequate School Housing (C.A.S.H.), Tom represented C.A.S.H. members – including numerous California public schools – on the State Allocation Board's Implementation Committee. He is currently the Legislative Director for C.A.S.H. As a partner in the consulting firm, Murdoch, Walrath & Holmes, Tom consults with individual school districts on facilities legislation, regulation, and policy. He served as an expert witness on behalf of the State in the *Williams* lawsuit. In 2000, Tom was asked to Chair the Facilities Working Group on the State's K-14 Master Plan for Education. He is considered one of California's pre-eminent experts on school facilities. Tom and his wife Barbara are the proud parents of six sons – Tom, Tim, Dan, Matt, Andrew and Nick.

### ***Sherry Eagle, Ed.D***

*Executive Director, Institute for Collaboration, Aurora University & Former Superintendent of School District 129*

Sherry Eagle is a P-20 educator, currently focusing her expertise on the design of innovative learning experiences and environments for all students, while collaboratively implementing community participation. A passion for building partnerships between K-12 schools, universities, government agencies, businesses and non-profit organizations is foundational to Sherry's efforts; her work resulted in millions of dollars of infrastructure and program improvements to a high-need community, accomplished through a shared leadership process. Sherry serves as the Executive Director of the Institute for Collaboration at Aurora University, where she heads a committee comprised of 40 community institutions, including the City of Aurora. Sherry is dedicated to facilitating the development of collaborative initiatives that will serve the "greater good" of the community.

### ***Dr. Steve Farrar***

*Superintendent, Natomas Unified School District*

### ***Mary Filardo***

*Executive Director, 21<sup>st</sup> Century School Fund*

Executive Director of the 21st Century School Fund, Mary Filardo founded 21CSF in 1994 to provide the District of Columbia and other urban communities with leadership, innovative financing solutions, research, and public policy analysis of school facility issues. She is a leading national authority on school facility planning, management and financing, has written extensively on these public school facility issues, developing software to support long-range facilities master planning. She serves on the Advisory Boards of the National Clearinghouse for Educational Facilities, Save Our Schools New Orleans, and the Center for Cities & Schools at the University of California, Berkeley. She is also a member of the International Program Advisory Board of the Public Education Network and the national jury for the Richard Riley Award for Schools as Centers of Community. Publications she has authored on these issues include: *Growth and Disparity: A Decade of US Public School Construction* (2006); *Model Policies in Support of High*

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*Performance School Buildings for All Children (2006); The Effects of School Facility Quality on Teacher Retention in Urban School Districts (2004); Replace or Modernize: The Future of DC's Endangered Old and Historic Public Schools (2002); For Generations To Come: A Leadership Guide to Renewing Public School Buildings (2002).* Before establishing 21CSF, Mary worked for 25 years in the private sector in building and residential construction management and was an active public school parent during the nineteen years her children were enrolled in the DC public schools.

### ***Arnie Glassberg***

*Former Superintendent, San Lorenzo Unified School District*

Arnie began his career as a junior high school teacher. During his 37 years in education, he served as a counselor, principal, director of instruction, assistant superintendent of business services, completing the last five years of his career as superintendent of a K-Adult school district in the San Francisco East Bay area. He retired from education in 2007. As a superintendent, Arnie focused on systemic change in his district, including the restructuring of the high schools into small learning communities, the extension of the school day for all kindergartners, the restructuring of the school day for middle school students, and creating intensive intervention programs for students below grade level in English/Language Arts and Mathematics. Throughout his administrative career, Arnie worked with architects and design professionals, exploring the relationship between facilities and student learning.

### ***Bruce Hancock***

*Principal, Hancock, Gonos & Park*

Bruce Hancock has 18 years of direct management and policy development experience in California public school construction funding programs, including service as Manager of Program Services for the State Office of Public School Construction. In 1998, Mr. Hancock was appointed by the State Allocation Board to the position of Assistant Executive Officer. In this capacity, Mr. Hancock served as the direct liaison between the Board and the Office of Public School Construction while representing the Board in public forums across the state, including school district governing boards and constituent groups. As Assistant Executive Officer, he assumed the duties of the Chair of State Allocation Board Implementation Committee and was directly responsible for developing Board regulations and policies regarding virtually all facilities-related legislation. In particular, Mr. Hancock was instrumental in the development of State Allocation Board regulations for the current School Facilities Program (SFP) and the "Williams Settlement" legislation. He is an acknowledged expert on the state school facility funding programs. In addition to his extensive public policy-making experience, Mr. Hancock has spent more than 20 years in various positions in the design and construction industry. For five years, Mr. Hancock was employed with a large construction management firm heavily engaged in the school construction industry. Mr. Hancock co-founded Hancock & Gonos, now Hancock Gonos & Park, Inc., with Stephanie J. Gonos to begin an advisory firm that specializes in providing guidance and support to school districts and others entities involved in California public school facilities.



***Dr. Jay Hoffman***

*Superintendent, Nuvview Union School District*

Dr. Jay Hoffman is Superintendent of the Nuvview Union School District. He is also a First 5 Riverside Commissioner, an instructor at Chapman University and the University of La Verne, and a trustee for the Education Policy Institute of California (EPIC). Nuvview's entrepreneurial approach to community service has produced exceptional early childhood programs, a Bill Gates-funded Early College High School, and a soon-to-open pediatric dental clinic. In 2007, Dr. Hoffman received statewide recognition as the winner of the Association for California School Administrators' Marcus Foster Memorial Award for Educational Excellence.

***Andy Hsia-Coron***

*Teacher, Pajaro Valley High School*

Andy Hsia-Coron has some unusual perspectives on education. Originally intending to be a marine biologist, he instead spent most of his working life (about 20 years) in prison - as a teacher and ultimately as the chair of the state-wide bargaining unit that represents all institutional teachers (Prisons, Youth Authority, Mental Institutions, Developmental Centers, Schools for Deaf and Blind) in California. He helped develop and pilot a social cognitive based prison program, the unprecedented outcome of which was that none of the program participants returned to prison with new offenses. The program was never implemented, helping Andy to understand the old adage "Nothing fails like success". He served as the president of the school board in a small district and had the dizzying experience of shuttling back and forth between union contract negotiations for state teachers and contract negotiations for his district's superintendent. He currently teaches at Pajaro Valley High School in Watsonville, California where he was recently lassoed back into the world of bargaining; now serving on the Pajaro Valley Federation of Teachers bargaining team - an unfortunate example of recidivism!

***Kate Jamentz, Ed.D***

*Academic Deputy Superintendent, Fremont Union High School District*

Kate Jamentz, Ed. D., is Academic Deputy Superintendent of the Fremont Union High School District (FUHSD). In this role she oversees leadership and curriculum and professional development efforts of the District. Before coming to FUHSD five years ago, Kate was the Director for Programs in Professional and Organizational Learning at WestEd in San Francisco. While at WestEd she led research and professional development efforts focused on leadership, organizational improvement and uses of assessment in improving instruction. Findings from that work have been published in several books and articles including, *Isolation is the Enemy of Improvement; Standards: Community Constructions of the Meaning of Quality* and *Charting the Course Toward Instructionally Sound Assessment*. Kate has been a classroom teacher and principal in elementary and secondary schools. While completing her graduate work at the Harvard Graduate School of Education, she served on the staff of the Principals' Center and conducted research on the impact of merit pay in schools.





***Bruce Jilk, AIA***

*President/Architect, Atelier/Jilk*

Bruce A. Jilk is recognized for his expertise in process organization; this expertise has made him a leader in educational consulting, and Bruce combines quality client services with a unique format. He has collaborated with educational clients since the mid 1960's, focusing on projects that showcase innovative programs. Bruce's individual achievements as a planner and architect exemplify him as a model architect. In his focused pursuit of educational innovation, Bruce uniquely elevates the planning and design process, incorporating educational research, and bridging that research with the built form. His current work includes: development of Learning Communities and conventional educational services and enterprise, linking education with the working world; utilizing new information and communication technologies; the integration of services (health, education) through new technologies. Working to expand innovative learning possibilities for all students, Bruce's efforts are having a global impact. He has consulted on and designed learning environments in over half the states in the U.S., as well as in 36 foreign countries. A recent international project: the design for a model school for Iceland, winner of the AASA Shirley Cooper Award in 2007. Bruce A. Jilk is the 2005 recipient of the Council of Educational Facility Planners International Planner of the Year award, the highest honor conferred by the Council. He served as the 2002 chair of the AIA Committee on Architecture for Education and is the AIA delegate to the Union of International Architects' Program on Educational and Cultural Spaces. Mr. Jilk recently planned an international seminar on learning environments for the UIA, held in Toronto, in 2007.

***R. Thomas Jones, AIA***

*Dean of the College of Architecture & Environmental Design, California Polytechnic State University – San Luis Obispo*

R. Thomas Jones has been Dean of the College of Architecture and Environmental Design at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, since 2003. A graduate of Cornell University, his career includes 38 years of private, non-profit, and governmental practice in architecture, planning, and land use policy. He has designed or developed more than 800 units of affordable housing, and garnered numerous awards for his planning, architecture, and writing, including those from the AIA, APA, HUD, and National Endowment for the Arts. Named Architect of the Year by San Francisco Magazine in 1998, Jones co-authored the book "Good Neighbors: Affordable Family Housing." He served as Director of Special Projects in the San Francisco Mayor's Office of Housing for four years, served on the Mission Bay and the Transbay Terminal Citizen's Advisory Committees, has been a SPUR board member, and is currently on the board of the California Central Coast AIA, and the San Luis Obispo County Housing Trust Fund.



***Donn Keith***

*Principal, Royal Sunset Continuation High School*

Donn is the principal of the Royal Sunset Learning Community in Hayward, California. On a single site, he coordinates a visual and performing arts high school, a continuation high school, several pre-schools, and Home Schooling and Independent Study Programs. A former artistic director of a Hollywood theatre complex, Donn started teaching high school for LAUSD at Washington Prep. He then spent eight years in a rural setting and now lives in the San Francisco East Bay. He was presented the Distinguished Teacher Award by the Marshall McLuhan Center, and named Teacher of the Year for Kings County.

***Joel Kirschenstein***

*President, Sage Institute, Inc.*

Dr. Kirschenstein is a principal and founder of Sage Institute Inc. and Sage Realty Group Inc., and is a former public school educator, administrator, and college instructor. He holds a Bachelor of Arts, a Masters Degree in Political Science, and a Doctorate. He has significant expertise in study preparation and implementation for school district reorganization, involving new unified school districts throughout California, and in maximizing state school construction bonds and other State and Federal funding programs. During the past 25 years, Dr. Kirschenstein and his firm have gained specific experience in consulting for and planning school facilities needs assessments, demographic projection and modeling, public finance, school district asset management and surplus property re use and public policy representation and negotiation services. Dr. Kirschenstein has collaborated on the development of numerous public/private joint ventures, and is responsible for the alternative use or disposition and development of more than \$400 million in public/private sector transactions. Dr. Kirschenstein has prepared special legislation and assisted in drafting OPSC and SAB rules and regulations.

***Dr. Michael Klonsky***

*Director, Small Schools Workshop*

Michael Klonsky, Ph.D. is a professor of education, currently serving as the national director of the Small Schools Workshop and the Center for Innovative Schools. Dr. Klonsky is a teacher educator who has spoken and written extensively on school reform issues, with a focus on urban school restructuring. His latest book (with Susan Klonsky), *Small Schools: Public School Reform Meets the Ownership Society* (Routledge), is a critique of top-down school reform and the push towards privatization of public schools. He is also the author of *Small Schools: The Numbers Tell a Story* (University of Illinois Small Schools Workshop) and co-author of *A Simple Justice: The Challenge for Teachers in Small Schools* (Teachers College Press). He has served as a member of the National Advisory Council on Youth Violence and is past president of the editorial board of *Catalyst*, Chicago's school-reform journal. He has also written extensively on the history and progress of Chicago's dynamic school de-centralization effort, has assisted teachers and community groups in starting dozens of new small and charter schools, and aided in the restructuring of many large, traditional high schools.



### ***JoAnn Koplin***

#### *Past Director of Facilities, California Charter Schools & Principal Partner in Koplin Design Partners*

JoAnn Koplin, is Principal of Koplin Design Partners, a consulting firm focusing on charter school technical assistance. With over 20 years of experience in the field of design and construction, Ms. Koplin specializes in school facility programming & planning, project management and assistance with state agency approvals for projects supported by California state bond funding. Previous work experience includes: Director of the Charter Schools Group, A Division of RMA Construction Services; Director of Facilities for the California Charter School Association (CCSA); Associate with Fields Devereaux Architects & Engineers and two terms as a member and president of the Beverly Hills Board of Education. She has served on numerous local and state boards and was appointed to Senator Roberti's Select Committee Task Force on Education in 1994, the Division of the State Architects Advisory Board in 2001 and CASH Grant Advocacy Task Force in 2003. Currently, she is project manager for a federal emergency preparedness grant assisting 25 schools with vulnerability assessments and development of their emergency plans. JoAnn received a BA in Cultural Anthropology with a minor in Fine Art from UC Berkeley and a Masters in Architecture from UCLA.

### ***Joe Koski***

#### *Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services, Nuviev Union School District*

Joe Koski has worked in the field of education for the last 20 years, and is currently serving as Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services for the Nuviev Union School District. Architecture is a personal passion, beginning with his introduction to Frank Lloyd Wright in a college Art History course. Mr. Koski is currently completing a doctoral study course, devoted to exploring how school facilities can support teaching and student learning. The Nuviev Union School District is expected to add approximately 15 new schools sites in the next decade, and participating in the A4E dreamTeam Symposium presents Joe an opportune, multi-level experience. He looks forward to listening closely to professionals in the field and incorporating valuable knowledge for future use.

### ***Jenner LaFave***

#### *San Diego Met High School Student*

Jenner LaFave is a junior at the San Diego MET High School on track to graduate in 2010. He started at the Met as a freshman in 2006 and has completed long term internships at Astart Synergistics and San Diego First Assembly. He currently interns at Meeting Services, Inc., a production company, where his focus is working with stage lighting, video, audio, and CAD, often going out to show sites to set up and operate equipment. Jenner started own technology business called Edge Technologies in 2006, which has generated enough revenue to finance his first car! Jenner has accumulated 6.5 college credits to date, and is taking two Mesa College classes for an additional 6 units this semester; Physical Science and Mythology. He has yet to determine a college major, but is interested in computer science, electrical engineering, or physics. Jenner's top college choices include Stanford University, UC Berkeley, Cal Tech and the US Air Force Academy.



***Dr. Keith Larick***

*Former Superintendent, Tracy Unified School District & Futurist*

Dr. Keith T. Larick retired in 2002, following 41 years of service to California education. Keith had served as a school administrator since 1965 and is a Charter Member of ACSA. He has more than 20 years experience as a superintendent, serving in the Placentia/Yorba Linda Unified School District, Sacramento City Unified School District, and Tracy Unified School District. While superintendent of Placentia/Yorba Linda he provided the vision and leadership necessary to open the first technology-oriented "classroom of the future" in the United States (1985). In 2001 under Keith's leadership, the Tracy Learning Center opened, offering pre-school through adult learning in a seamless, technology-based environment, without textbooks. Keith is known for his many innovations and is a national leader in the integration of technology into the educational environment. For the past 25 years, Keith has participated in forecasting and studying the future. As a futurist and change agent, he has served as a consultant and presenter to more than 300 businesses and educational organizations.

***Patrick Leier***

*Former Superintendent, Pomona Unified School District & Founder of School Resource Development*

Patrick Leier served as Superintendent of Schools for the Pomona Unified School District for 12 years and Chief Business Official in Pomona for 5 years. He received degrees from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, and Fullerton. Mr. Leier led the PUSD in pioneering the Educational Village Construct; a nationally-recognized model focused on transforming a decaying shopping center into a state-of-the-art multi-use asset accommodating K-14 education and a retail facility. In addition to the Educational Village Constructs, Mr. Leier was directly involved in the creation of Diamond Ranch High School, nationally and internationally recognized for its unique design. Mr. Leier and the school district were honored by the National Association of School Boards with a Magna Award for innovation in 1998 and 2002. In February 2003, the American Association of School Administrators awarded Mr. Leier the 2003 President's Technology Award. Under his leadership, Pomona Unified received recognition as one of the nation's outstanding, innovative districts, and was featured on national television in 2004.

***Erin Lewellen***

*Vice-President, Revolution Foods*

Erin serves as Vice President of School Partnerships for *Revolution Foods*, a company focused on transforming school lunch by providing healthy, fresh, delicious meals and nutrition education to all students. Revolution Foods is improving the health of students who have limited access to healthy food choices; often, school breakfast, lunch and snack are the only reliable meals of the day. The communities served by Revolution Foods often exhibit the highest rates of obesity and related disease. Their school partners report increased attention levels in class, fewer disciplinary problems, and an increased interest in healthy food and weight control among their students. Revolution Foods has established key partnerships with healthy food suppliers including Whole Foods Market, Organic Valley, Niman Ranch, and various local farmers, thereby delivering on its promise of all natural, fresh meals for students. Revolution Foods has served over



2.5 million meals since inception and today works with over 100 education programs in the San Francisco Bay Area and Los Angeles serving close to 25,000 students. These programs include K-12 charter schools, school districts, preschool Head Start programs and after school programs. The company has raised more than \$11 million to improve student health and has plans to expand nationally.

### ***Lauren McCaffrey***

#### *Academy for Academic Excellence Student*

Lauren McCaffrey is a senior at the Academy for Academic Excellence. Excited to be a part of the Dream Team, she hopes to help out as much as possible, bringing a fresh perspective to our inaugural Symposium. Lauren was born in Orange County, growing up in the small town of Stanton; she moved away at the age of eleven. Now a seven-year resident of Apple Valley, she will graduate this year and is hoping to join a ministry group, NET (the National Evangelization Team), later pursuing a college career studying art or music. Lauren loves sports and this year played goalie and served as team captain for her Varsity Soccer team. A multi-sport athlete, Lauren was a setter for the Varsity Volleyball team, receiving the Most Valuable Player award in both soccer and volleyball. In her free time, she enjoys playing the guitar and singing; music is an important part of her family's life. Lauren also performs in her church choir. Always captivated by the art world, she remains awed at masterpieces in all art forms - whether in a painting, a song, or even a building - they all fascinate Lauren. She does not wish for material success in her future, but seeks a deeper meaning. Lauren believes, "With God I know that I will find my true calling in life. So far I haven't been aiming for success in this world, but I have been aiming for a success in another. And I am more than happy with my life; I am joyful."

### ***Guy Mehula***

#### *Chief Facilities Executive of New Construction, Los Angeles Unified School District*

As the Chief Facilities Executive for the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD), Mr. Mehula oversees facilities operations for more than 800 schools in the second largest school district in the country. He heads an aggressive \$20 billion school construction program that includes the construction of new schools, as well as the modernization of existing facilities. The goals of the construction program are to provide a neighborhood school seat for every student in LAUSD on a traditional two-semester school calendar and to afford an effective educational environment for the future development and training of LAUSD students. In managing LAUSD's New Construction and Modernization Program, Mr. Mehula is directing the largest school construction program in the nation's history. Mr. Mehula joined the District in August 2002 as the Deputy Chief Facilities Executive, New Construction, to manage the new school construction program. By 2012 the program will have completed more than 285 projects, including 132 new schools. Mr. Mehula has more than 25 years of experience in construction in the United States Navy. As a Captain in the Civil Engineer Corps, Mehula commanded the 30<sup>th</sup> Naval Construction Regiment responsible for the operation of naval construction units throughout the Pacific, known as the Seabees. Prior to joining the District, Mr. Mehula served as the Chief Operating Officer for a private firm giving him an invaluable insight to public



sector contracting from a private sector viewpoint. Mehula is a native of Waukegan, Ill. and holds a Bachelors degree in Systems Engineering from the United States Naval Academy and a Masters degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Florida. He is a registered Professional Engineer.

***Doreen Nelson, Hon. AIA***

*Professor, College of Education & Integrative Studies, California Polytechnic University – Pomona,*  
Doreen is a professor in the College of Education and Integrative Studies and an adjunct Professor in the College of Environmental Design at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, CA. A nationally recognized leader in the field of educational reform, in 1991 the New York Times named Nelson as one of the thirty most innovative educators in the United States, and in 1996 the American Institute of Architects awarded her a lifetime Honorary Membership. Nelson pioneered the field of Design-Based Learning (DBL) nearly 40 years ago, while teaching in elementary and secondary schools in Los Angeles. She researched and developed a methodology for teaching all types of learners to practice critical thinking skills, known then as City Building Education (CBE). In 1995 Nelson created the nation's first Master of Arts degree program in Education in *Design-Based Learning* at Cal Poly; it continues to graduate exemplary K-12 teachers. In 2000, she became a professor at Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, CA, where she trains faculty in teaching her methodology. She oversees the Design-Based Learning Laboratory, located at Art Center's South Campus. In 2006, Nelson received the prestigious California State University *Wang Award for Excellence* in education and her Design-Based Learning methodology won the California School Boards Association's *Golden Bell Award*. Nelson's methods are used by teachers worldwide, in numerous and diverse settings. Nelson is an innovative contributor to computer design firms; for 10+ years she was a consultant to Alan Kay at Apple Computer's Research Lab and now serves on his Advisory Board at Viewpoints Research. For MAXIS she contributed to the design of the award winning SimCity and wrote their curriculum guides for teachers.

***Dr. Stephanie Pace Marshall***

*President Emeritus, Illinois Mathematics Science Academy*  
Stephanie Pace-Marshall brings nearly 40 years of education expertise to our conference, her career encompassing a variety and depth of experience nearly unmatched in this field. A visionary leader, she seeks to evoke the creativity that lies within us all. Her powerful voice for educational transformation makes her a true advocate for the design of learning environments that inspire and encourage the great potential inherent in all students. Stephanie is recognized as a pioneer in educational transformation, in the United States and abroad, and is the Founding President and President Emerita of the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy®, the founding president of the National Consortium for Specialized Secondary Schools of Math, Science and Technology, and past president of the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development. She has worked in all levels of education: elementary, middle, high school, and university. Her most recent book, *The Power to Transform*, will serve as the foundation of her dreamTeam message, as she invites us ". . . to step forward and to begin a new conversation. It is this conversation and this new story that will bring learning and schooling to life."



***Dr. Arthur Peterson***

*President, Wathen Academy at Flabob Airport*

A lifelong learner, innovator, and aviator, Arthur Peterson currently serves as president of the Thomas W. Wathen Air Academy at historic Flabob Airport in Riverside, California. This inspiring octogenarian brings a lifetime of educational accomplishment to our conference, offering unique, wide ranging perspectives on education and its integral role in society, from the ancient Greeks to the 21st century. In his senior class book at Yale Art Peterson said he would devote half of his career to education and half to politics and indeed that is precisely what he has done in a career that has spanned more than sixty years. His twenty years as a college professor of political science were followed by twenty five years as a college dean and president. Intertwined among these assignments have been service as a state legislator in Wisconsin and Montana, appointment to 33 government boards and commissions by mayors, governors and U.S presidents Dr. Peterson also served as chairman of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, and is a past president of Thunderbird Graduate School for International Management. Today, his educational focus centers on the Wathen Academy where "education through aviation" is a motto daily put into action: "The Foundation uses aviation as a tool to educate and inspire young people, especially disadvantaged and at-risk young people, for careers and avocations in aviation and in life." Still flying in his ninth decade, Dr. Peterson shares a wealth of experience and a fresh perspective, inspiring to all who hear him speak.

***Mildred Phillips***

*Principal, San Diego Met High School*

Mildred Phillips, a veteran administrator, was selected by former, Superintendent Alan Bersin to cultivate a partnership between San Diego City Schools, Big Picture Company and Mesa College. San Diego Met High School opened its doors in September of 2004, with 70 incoming ninth graders. Currently, there are 50 ninth graders and 55 tenth graders, 50 eleventh graders and 40 twelfth graders. As the only Big Picture School currently located on a college campus (Mesa College), San Diego Met is alive with a uniquely collegiate atmosphere. San Diego Met brings together the San Diego Unified School District, Mesa College and the community in a partnership to educate and prepare students for a more complex future. This innovative partnership gives Met students an edge in both college and the world of work. Mildred holds a BA in English with a minor in French and a Masters Degree in History from Clemson University. Additionally she holds a Masters Degree in Administration from San Diego State University. She started her career with San Diego Unified in 1980. She has held the following positions: High School Teacher, Resource Teacher Gifted Education Department, Resource Teacher Title 1, Vice-Principal Farb Middle School, Vice Principal Morse High School, Principal Farb Middle School, and Principal of Y.O.U./City As School Alternative High Schools. Mildred is very involved with the San Diego community. She works to support the San Diego Urban League and Center for Parent Involvement.

***Dr. Benita B. Roberts***

*Former Superintendent, Jurupa Unified School District*

Benita B. Roberts retired as superintendent of the 20,000-student Jurupa Unified School District in 2001. She served in this position for eight of her thirty-four years in public education. During her tenure as



superintendent, she worked with her administrative team and the district's architects to develop a comprehensive plan for facility modernization, as well as future building plans to adequately support learning for a diverse and growing student population.. Her career in education began in the classroom at both the elementary and middle school levels. Prior to her selection as superintendent, she held several administrative positions. Since retirement, Benita has served in interim administrative assignments, teaching classes in the administrative services credential program at California State University, San Bernardino, and working with several superintendents to coauthor three books on the superintendency, *Eight at the Top: A View Inside Public Education*, *Effective Superintendent-School Board Practices*, and *The Superintendent's Planner: A Monthly Guide and Reflective Journal*. As superintendent for JUSD, an especially memorable occasion was her appearance in Washington D.C. on a televised town hall meeting with United States Secretary of Education, Richard Riley, on the subject of early college preparation programs. She serves as vice president of her family's business, Roberts and Associates, a firm providing service to elderly and convalescing adults. Benita is a member of board of The Community Foundation of Riverside and San Bernardino Counties, Vice President of the Riverside Gateway to College Charter School Board, and Secretary of the Riverside Community College Foundation Board. In 2003, she was one of five alumni honored by the University of California, Riverside with the Alumni of Distinction award for her community service. Other community honors include Jurupa Citizen of the Year and recognition as a Woman of Achievement by the Riverside YWCA.

### ***Bill Savidge***

*District Engineering Officer, West Contra Costa Unified School District & Chairman of C.A.S.H.*

Bill Savidge is the Engineering Officer for the West Contra Costa Unified School District. He is responsible for all aspects of the District's \$1 billion renovation and reconstruction program at 52 sites throughout West County. Bill is a licensed California Architect, and a former Construction Manager. He has managed school district facilities programs for over a decade. During that time, he has helped guide many school boards, oversight groups, and communities through the complexities of the school design and construction process in California. Prior to coming to West Contra Costa, Bill directed the renovation of the five high schools at the Fremont Union High School District in Sunnyvale and Cupertino. Bill is very involved in statewide issues related to educational facilities and school construction. He is an active member of the Coalition for Adequate School Housing (CASH) and is currently serving as the organization's Chair. Bill is dedicated to increasing statewide funding for school modernization and construction programs, by boosting legislative support of those programs. He is a strong supporter at the state level for funding and recognition of energy-efficiency programs and high performance schools. Bill is also dedicated to developing the next generation of school district leaders, serving as core faculty member for the CASH School Facilities Leadership Academy.

### ***Gordon Sohlt***

*Chief Academic Officer, Lewis Center for Educational Research*

Gordon Sohlt is a native of the San Francisco Bay Area. He attended college at San Diego State University, receiving his Bachelor of Science degree in Liberal Studies, II and continued post-graduate studies at SDSU, where he earned his teaching credential. After completing his studies, Gordon was





employed by Apple Valley Unified School District as an elementary school teacher. He taught elementary school for fifteen years with AVUSD. In addition to teaching, Mr. Sohlt worked for the Bureau of Educational Research presenting educational seminars across the United States and Canada, for teachers and administrators. In 2001, Gordon was hired as the 7-12 principal at the Academy for Academic Excellence, a public charter school under the auspices of the Lewis Center for Educational Research in Apple Valley, California. Three years later, his role expanded to K-12 principal. During this time, the AAE was awarded a 6-year WASC term of accreditation, was named a California Distinguished School, and became a Certificated Charter School. Most recently, the LCER opened a second school in San Bernardino and Mr. Sohlt was promoted to Chief Academic Officer, overseeing both the Academy for Academic Excellence and the Norton Space and Aeronautics Academy, as well as a variety of other Lewis Center programs.

### ***Melanie Sowa***

#### *Former Principal, Coyote Canyon Elementary School*

Melanie Sowa enjoyed a wonderful 37-year career as an elementary school teacher, staff developer, and school administrator. She retired from Central School District's Coyote Canyon Elementary School in Rancho Cucamonga, CA - an award-winning school both academically and architecturally - after serving as principal there for fourteen years. In retirement, she works as an Educational Consultant for Springboard Schools, as a Principal Coach and a Math Staff Developer. Her experience as a Principal includes: developing a school mission with student achievement at its heart; leading instructional staff through that mission's development; supporting staff in reaching long- and short-term instructional goals; analyzing assessment data; team collaboration to meet students needs and standards mastery; steadily increasing test scores; staff recruitment, development and evaluation; fiscal management; student discipline; program initiatives; team building and shared decision making; identifying and promoting positive school values and culture; PTO; School Site Council and Business Partners in Education coordination; creation of a safe, respectful, and fair environment; overseeing construction and maintenance of the school facility.

### ***Tyler Stewart***

#### *Academy for Academic Excellence Student*

Tyler Stewart is a junior in high school, at the Academy for Academic Excellence. He currently maintains a GPA of 3.75, while enrolled in two Advanced Placement Classes. Tyler's two years of ASB service include past Freshman Representative and his current position as the Co-Chairman for Fundraising and Activities. He is the Public Relations officer in AAE's Interact Club, a community service organization, and holds the same position in the Agape Christian Club. As a sophomore, Tyler participated in Academic Decathlon and served as the Vice President. Tyler attended an architecture meeting with Gaylaird Christopher last month and states "I am interested in becoming an Architect or a Veterinarian as my future career. This Dream Team Symposium will help me decide my career path and will definitely give me great insight into the field of architecture and design."



***Dr. Anne Taylor***

*Founding Member of Anne Taylor Associates & Professor at University of New Mexico School of Architecture*

Anne Taylor is a regent's professor at the School of Architecture and Planning, University of New Mexico. She is also an ACSA distinguished professor. She has spent more than 40 years researching the effects of the physical environment on learning and student behavior, P/K-12 and beyond. She has developed a children's design education program, where university-level architecture students bring design-based lessons into schools. She is the author of numerous articles and books, among them: *LINKING ARCHITECTURE AND EDUCATION: SUSTAINABLE DESIGN OF LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS*, to be released April 2009.

***Dr. David Thornburg***

*Futurist*

***Elliot Washor, Ed.D.***

*Co-director, The Big Picture Company*

Elliot Washor's education career crosses three decades and includes experience as a teacher, principal, administrator, author, and video producer. Long an advocate for educational reform, he is the co-founder and co-director of Big Picture Learning, and co-founder of The Met Center. His work focuses on how schools can connect with communities, to better understand tacit and disciplinary learning, both in and out of school. He considers Big Picture Learning a "do-think-do" organization, and pushes the boundaries of its design, continually innovating new practices and exerting influence in the field of education. At Thayer High School in Winchester, N.H., Elliot's professional development programs won an "Innovations in State and Local Government Award" from the Ford Foundation and the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. He has been selected as an educator to watch in Rhode Island and was recently named one of the Dirty Dozen – the Twelve Most Daring Educators in the World, by the George Lucas Educational Foundation. His dissertation on Innovative Pedagogy and New Facilities won the merit award from DesignShare, the international forum for innovative schools.