

CASCWA 2022 Bay Section Service Award



Celeste Pracale

Every day I (Evelyn Ocasio) meet certain people that have a unique passion for what they do and a level of commitment that goes beyond words. Today I would like to share the story of one great Counselor, Celeste Pracale. She is not only a Counselor, but a great human being and an advocate to all students. Celeste is Bay Sections Vice President and Scholarship Chair.

Celeste is a 9th Grade Counselor at Mt. Eden High School in the Hayward Unified School District in Hayward CA. For the past 4 years she has welcomed 9th grade students into her office to discuss their academic development and expectations. She provides hope and fulfills dreams. Her bright light and inspiration motivates, encourages and challenges students to see the long term vision of a successful educational journey.

She is originally from the Santa Barbara & Ventura area. She attended school at Santa Barbara City College and UCSB. Prior to her work in the educational field, she was a social worker for 14 years. When she decided to transition into education. She never expected to feel so determined to continue her studies. She is currently a student at City College of San Francisco, where she is taking classes for personal and professional development. One of her goals is to achieve teaching credentials in History/Social Studies and Dance.

Celeste is a mother of 3 sons and 1 grand pup! This school year, she joined the PTA Board at her son's elementary school in San Francisco USD. She has enjoyed taking an active role in helping with fundraising for the school, among other important parent roles. She challenges herself physically and mentally with different forms of exercise; taking dance classes; playing music, and karaoke with her kids and family.

Celeste is an empowered woman! She is determined to continue educating herself to support her family and all the students that cross her path. Always with a bright smile and encouraging words, she has made a difference in many lives. The Bay Section Board looks forward to sitting down, and diving deep with her another year as we read the Bay Section Scholarship Applications that she has so empathetically compiled as she extends a warm appreciation for what she does.

As Bay Sections Vice President, we value the person she is, her role in CASCWA and her perseverance as a life-long-learner. Kudos to Celeste!