



California Association of Supervisors of Child Welfare & Attendance



SOUTHERN SECTION 2022 FALL WORKSHOP

HITTING THE RESET BUTTON PUTTING THINGS BACK IN ORDER!

October 14, 2022
8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Knott's Berry Farm Hotel

We want to thank everyone who attended CASCWA's Southern Section's Fall Workshop! The presenters were excellent! We have put together a "Workshop Follow-up" to post on our website. It contains material from the program, pictures and a few comments. Southern Section is already putting together their next workshop to be held on February 3rd 2023 in Los Angeles. We hope to see you there.

The Workshop



CASCWA's Southern Section President, Vicente Bravo, opened the workshop by welcoming the guests and the presenters. Vicente and the entire workshop committee are to be commended for bringing forth excellent presenters with timely, important topics. It was a job well done!

Our annual workshop was held at the Knott's Berry Farm Hotel. We want to thank the staff at the hotel for all the accommodations that included an incredible Mrs. Knott's Chicken Lunch and the delicious Barbeque Ribs!

PRESENTATION 1: Los Angeles County Department of Education Student Support Services: Fundamentals of Effective Attendance Programs, Including Independent Study

For decades, the Los Angeles County Office of Education has been a true leader in the topic of "School Attendance." Dr. Smith and Marian Chiara focused on the specifics regarding independent study requirements. This included a Q and A with our attendees that brought even greater clarification. Sonya and Marian later shared their power point presentation and provided an incredible link to a large number of links to material and events available to all at the LACOE website listed below:



Dr. Sonya Smith: Sonya is the Director of Student Services of Los Angeles County Office of Education. She is a true leader of leaders. Sonya oversees a phenomenal student services team who interact and provide services to all school districts throughout Los Angeles County. Each of her coordinators are recognized as leaders in their fields. CASCWA is proud of our relationship with LACOE. Joining Sonya is the presentation will be Marian Chiara.

Marian Chiara: Marian Chiara is LACOE's Coordinator for the Child Welfare and Attendance Student Support Division. Marian is recognized as an expert in "School Attendance Improvement Practices." She is an excellent presenter. A few of her recent presentations include workshops on SARB, Attendance Improvement Practices and Attendance Supervision Refresher Courses.



This presentation definitely provided greater insight into specific attendance issues of today. and we are greatly indebted to Sonya and Marian. They are incredibly busy and for them to be presenters, we are honored.

Each of you have access to LACOE's website. The site is extremely valuable for all in the fields of "Student Services." This is a tremendous source of knowledge relates to every educator in California.

Please visit their websites at: www.lacoe.edu and at www.lacoe.edu/student-services.

DID YOU KNOW: If you take the 2020 USA Census and count the number of students in each state, The Los Angeles County Office of Education has the responsibility of providing services to more students than forty of the fifty state department of educations. CASCWA is proud of Sonya, Marian their entire team for what they do each day!

PRESENTATION 2: Menstrual Equity Act of 2021- Laws regarding feminine hygiene products, issues of bullying and community concerns addressed



Maria's presentation was one of the best presentations at our workshop. Maria is articulate, knowledgeable and passionate. She is an excellent presenter who cares about all students. Maria's presentation included specific situations that she addresses every day. Maria is a true champion for the Vista Unified School District and a special educator throughout San Diego County. Thank you, Maria, for making a difference!

Maria Al Shamma: Maria recently received a distinguished award as "San Diego County's Health Care Worker of the Year." Maria is a major part of the healthcare team in the Vista Unified School District and is well known as a "health care leader" throughout the San Diego Area.

Maria's responsibilities include providing support to students and their families. This includes both individual and group support covering topics such as: emotion management, social skills, grief, identity, coping skills, study skills, social skills, deportation and family dynamics.

Maria collaborates with school and district staff in SST, 504, IEP, SART, SARB and parent meetings. She provides staff professional development in LGBTQ Competency, Welcoming Schools and Trauma Informed Practices. She conducts home visits, as needed. Maria is a member of the district's Crisis Team and performs both risk and threat assessments.

AB 367 was chaptered into law on October 8, 2021. The text of the bill includes several specific requirement mandates for all districts. Maria covered the requirements in detail and share the rationale behind the bill. The question is, "Is your district in compliance?"

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB367



Legislative Update

We broke for lunch, and after everyone settled down, our past state and southern section president, Jeni Mendel covered the "October Legislative Update. This update is posted on our website at [CASCWA - Legislation \(wildapricot.org\)](https://www.wildapricot.org/cascwa-legislation)

CASCWA is proud of our "Legislative Team" of Alan Dosty, Dan Martin and Chairman, Sherman Garnett.



PRESENTATION 3: "One Pill, One Line, One Time - Fentanyl Changes Everything" STOP WHAT YOU ARE DOING AND READ ABOUT THIS PRESENTATION. IT COULD MEAN THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN LIFE OR DEATH FOR SOMEONE YOU LOVE!

It was a mid-afternoon. I had just gotten the website for VOID. I sat down alone and with no distractions. I went to the link and quickly found a video named, "Dead on Arrival." After I watched the video, I realized that I knew nothing about fentanyl. Now, every time I read or hear the word fentanyl, I think of death and poison.

Steve Filson is on a mission to raise awareness throughout America about fentanyl and to prevent tragedies for other families.

I believe that everyone attending the workshop found the video to be powerful and moving. The presenter was Steve Filson, Secretary/Treasurer of VOID, (Victims of Illicit Drugs.) Mr. Filson presentation was factual and filled with details about this terrible substance and number of deaths occurring in our society. Mr. Filson is a retired police officer. He certainly made his argument real! His presentation raised everyone's awareness and he would love for all of us to pass his message on to others! Prior to our workshop, ask every attendee to watch this video, <https://stopthevoid.org/>.



This will take you to the link to the home page of VOID (Victim of Illicit Drugs.) You will find two videos. One in English and one in Spanish. This may be the most important video of it's kind that you will ever see regarding the drug "Fentanyl. Most of us know nothing about fentanyl. This video will change that, and you will understand the crisis resulting in the deaths of young people is greater today than ever!"

VOID was formed to bring to the public's attention, through education, awareness and legislative advocacy, the immediate danger of sudden death associated with the use of illicit drugs, in particular FENTANYL, and other emerging synthetic analogs. This is being accomplished through the creation of a network of private, state, and national governmental organizations, working together, to provide knowledge, preventive tools, and proposed legislation necessary to reduce the number of deaths occurring through this ever-increasing scourge confronting our society. Mr. Filson spoke on behalf of many loved ones, who can no longer speak for themselves.

PRESENTATION 4: Stop Bullying Without the Need for Punishments

This presentation represents a new strategy to address the everyday problem of bullying and this strategy is getting proven positive results! Dr. Marlene Bicondova was asked by her superintendent to develop a program for the San Bernardino City School District. She became aware of a program that was being used in the land down under. After more research, a plan was put in place. Michelle Myers and Stephanie Fletcher joined Marlene and the district's team was in place. The team has a proven success rate and their presentation provided several supporting positive statistics. They are holding a workshop early next year and we are placing their flyer on our website.



The team presented on their "Positive Youth Development Program for the San Bernardino City Unified School District." Their team has worked at the district level to effectively reduce chronic absenteeism and suspension rates. Their signature accomplishment has been the creation of the SBCUSD Bullying Intervention System, which uses restorative practices and Undercover Anti-Bullying Teams as the key components, which work to change school culture to stop bullying before it starts and to stop bullying when it does happen. The team is on a mission is to empower students, families, and schools to thrive and achieve success. Their vision is for all students to realize their strengths to overcome barriers, reach their full potential, and make positive contributions to society.

Under Dr. Marlene Bicondova's leadership, the district is providing the resources they need, in order to achieve success, not only academically, but in their everyday lives as well. They begin by doing everything in their power to help students succeed by ensuring they not only attend school, but stay in school.

https://www.sbcusd.com/district_offices/student_services/youth_services_department

Workshop Sponsors

On behalf of the “Workshop’s Committee” we would like to recognize our two sponsors for the event!

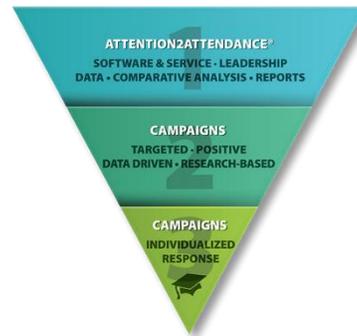


First, School Innovations and Achievement is the number 1 supporter of CASCWA and has been for decades!

SI&A are creators of award-winning software and service solutions for K-12 school administrators. Their many innovative programs are helping to protect school district funding, mitigate risk in state and federal programs, improve student attendance and close the achievement gap.

Our Southern Section Workshop team would like to thank SI&A’s Erik Elorriaga and Nicole Dickey. Erik and Nicole met with attendees throughout the day and following lunch they spoke about the programs and services offered by SI&A. CASCWA truly values our relationship with this excellent organization.

The Achievement InitiativeSM



Send **POSITIVE** correspondence to your entire student population and parent community

SI&A’s website states: The issues behind student absenteeism are complex. It will take more than one touch-point with families to discover, support and resolve the underlying challenges. Schools and families have to connect. Our customizable, data-driven campaigns help districts effectively communicate and connect with parents about age, grade and student-specific issues.



Please visit SI&A’s website at <https://www.sia-us.com>

Erick Elorriaga erike@sia-us.com (916) 618-9285 Nicole Dickey nicoled@sia-us.com (800) 487-9234

KNOWLEDGE SAVES LIVES, INC.



Knowledge Saves Lives, Inc.



Southern Section's workshop Committee wishes to thank Pasquale Guida of "Knowledge Saves Lives" for supporting our workshop. Pasquale met with our attendees and after lunch talked about this important Organization.

If you have ever experienced a major tragedy in your district, then you know how important immediate response is for the situation. You also realize that after the event, the question will focus on what preparedness and training were in place.

Knowledge Saves Lives, Inc. has a mission To help you plan, prepare, and empower your team to succeed during an emergency and they have a vision to become the evolving standard of excellence in safety and emergency training.

Their website describes their company as follows: With more than 750 years of experience in the field of law enforcement, emergency response, and violence suppression, our team knows what it takes to provide the highest level of professional safety consulting and training.

Proudly serving public and private schools, community colleges and universities, small and large businesses, churches, healthcare organizations and City, County, State and Federal agencies. Save lives with our emergency preparedness resources and training. In this day and age, active shooter situations and acts of violence are a very real threat that you could encounter anytime, anywhere. To keep yourself and those around you safe, coming up with emergency operations plans is vital.

Here at Knowledge Saves Lives, Inc., our mission is to provide proper emergency preparedness where it is needed most. Our organization is made up of more than two dozen emergency response professionals, including current and retired law enforcement officers, firefighters, correctional officers, and military veterans. Together, we possess more than 750 years of first responder experience. When you rely on us for safety training and services, trust that you're learning from the experts.

Active shooter event survivors, Patrol and investigations sergeants, lieutenants and chiefs, SWAT operators, team

leaders and County SWAT team commanders, Task force agents, detectives, school resource officers, field training officers, Special agents, special agent supervisors and task force commanders, Department of Homeland Security (DHS) instructors, P.O.S.T instructors and adjunct professors.

STEP1 DEVICE



- Standardizes school lockdowns at any campus.
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- All purchases include a three-year full replacement warranty. We stand by our product's durability and ease of use.

SERVICES:

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- Crisis Communication Resources & Training
- Site Specific Lockdown Training
- CASB390 Campus Security Course
- Bus Driver & MOT Emergency Response Training
- Video Surveillance Project Consulting & Mapping
- Emergency Operations & Comprehensive Safety Plans
- Incident Command System (ICS)
- Wildfire Prevention Consulting & Mapping
- Subject Matter Expert Consulting



Knowledge Saves Lives, Inc.

We provide businesses, churches, schools, as well as county, state, and federal agencies with site-specific, active shooter response training and other safety solutions. We use repetitive muscle memory training, as well as employee and job specific information to build a custom training curriculum for you and your employees. Our training will elevate your emergency response and reduce injuries and casualties in any life-threatening situation.

Please visit Knowledge Saves Lives website at: <https://www.knowledgesaveslives.com>
Pasquale.Guida@knowledgesaveslives.com (209) 710-0271

Enjoy a few pictures from the workshop





GONE IN A SNAP

V D

100% of pills bought on social media are FAKE.
Over 40% of them are potentially lethal

THEVOID.ORG



WHERE TO NOW?

As we have tried to emphasize, "Fentanyl Changes Everything."
It is a complex issue affecting every community nationwide; the only question is to what degree?
It is now beginning to gain the notoriety it deserves, with education and awareness fueling that effort.
Knowledge is power! We sincerely appreciate you listening. Please help by spreading this lifesaving message anywhere and everywhere you can.

STOPTHEVOID.ORG



What is CASCWA?

California Association of Supervisors of Child Welfare and Attendance is an organization comprised of school and community professionals who are dedicated to improving school climate, safety, and increasing school attendance. We create a network of professional support, mentors and educators, and we influence relevant legislation and advocate for the needs of students, families, and schools.

Our organization includes four regional sections of California:

- Bay Section
- Delta-Sierra Section
- San Joaquin Section
- Southern Section

CASCWA is the only professional organization in the State of California for professionals in the fields of "Child Welfare and Attendance."

CASCWA became an organization in the late 1940's. CASCWA's membership is strong and growing. The professional interaction that exists is more important today than it has ever been!

If you are not a member of CASCWA and wish to become a member, please go to:

[CASCWA - Membership \(wildapricot.org\)](http://www.cascwa.wildapricot.org)

CASCWA Intercom October 2022



Recently we released the October 2022 Edition of the CASCWA newsletter "The Intercom." We are pleased with this edition and take great pride in our past editions. All of our editions have been placed on our website. Please go to www.cascwa.wildapricot.org and click on "News." This will take you to the latest edition and to all of the past editions.



SAVE THE DATE
CASCWA STATE CONFERENCE
MAY 10-12TH, 2023
DOUBLE TREE by Hilton in Fresno

CASCWA is known for their excellent state conferences and this year is no exception. CASCWA's State President, Sharma Uma, is busy in the process of selecting presenters and putting together a quality program. Please mark your calendar and visit the conference's website at: [CASCWA - State Conference \(wildapricot.org\)](http://www.cascwa.wildapricot.org). This site will constantly be updated prior to the conference,

[A special "Thank You" to all who attended our October 14th workshop!](#)