

JUNE 24-27, 2019

# California Charter Schools Leadership Intensive

A comprehensive, 4-day leadership training that offers both advanced content for veteran charter school leaders as well as sessions tailored to those new to the charter arena or to charter school administration.



**CHARTER SCHOOLS  
DEVELOPMENT CENTER**

# About the Leadership Intensive

The Leadership Intensive (LI) is CSDC's highly informative and engaging summer training program. LI offers new and veteran school leaders an opportunity to gain comprehensive training on essential charter topics including finance, policy, facilities, special education, personnel, and more. This annual, 4-day intensive training offers both advanced content for veteran charter school leaders as well as sessions tailored to those new to the charter arena or to charter school administration.

Given the rigor of the material taught, as well as the lasting bonds that are formed between participants, many find the Leadership Intensive deserving of its nickname, the "charter school boot camp."

*Those interested in applying to this year's program are urged to read the application information [inside back cover] and apply to the program online at [chartercenter.org/li](http://chartercenter.org/li).*

**Monday, June 24 to  
Thursday, June 27, 2019**

Application window opens on  
Monday, February 25, 2019 and closes  
on Friday, April 19, 2019 at 11:59pm.

[chartercenter.org/li](http://chartercenter.org/li)





## Who Attends?

LI is designed for and targeted at new and experienced California charter school principals and school leaders who have direct responsibility for overseeing and managing a broad range of responsibilities at their schools, including:

### **Administrators new to the CA charter context**

LI provides leaders coming from out-of-state, private, and traditional public schools (or from other professional backgrounds) with the customized training they need to successfully transition to their roles as California public charter school leaders.

### **Teachers recently promoted to leadership roles**

LI ensures that newly-promoted instructional staff have the proper training in school operations (e.g., human resources, legal, finance, etc.) to succeed in their new roles.

### **Staff of newly-granted charter schools**

LI provides attendees from newly-granted charter schools with the latest practical information on a variety of critical topics, as well as the opportunity to identify and address knowledge gaps—all before their schools go fully operational in the fall.

### **Experienced charter school leaders**

LI session topics are offered in both beginning and advanced formats. Specific LI sessions have been added and are tailored to challenge experienced charter school leaders in need of deeper training.

# The Presentations

Participants attending this 4-day summer training program will be exposed to a wide range of charter topics. This sample of sessions highlights the breadth and depth of all that the Leadership Intensive has to offer participants.

## Data and Accountability

Participants will review “high stakes” state and federal accountability systems. The session includes some hands-on activities with ways to use multiple data sources to identify and address achievement challenges with a manageable action plan.

## Leadership

What is leadership? How do school directors improve and grow as leaders? Using leadership assessment tools and personal reflection, participants will answer these questions, identifying their own strengths and weaknesses, as well as learn how they can improve their own leadership. Participants will be divided into groups to examine case studies and scenarios and discuss how they would go about resolving the difficult situations that school leaders often face.

## Laws & Legal Issues

These presentations describe how charter schools’ “fit” into both federal and state education laws. They also alert participants to the numerous legal landmines that have ensnared some charter schools and provide participants with practical guidelines for determining how to identify and prevent legal challenges, when to seek consultation, and when to call a lawyer.

## An abundance of new ideas.

*The Leadership Intensive was truly a unique and rewarding professional experience! The collective expertise from CDS&C staff and other school leaders that I had access to during the week was inspiring, educational, and affirming. I ended the week with an abundance of new ideas (practical and conceptual), connections, and knowledge that I honestly don't think I could have gained anywhere else.*

— STACY EMORY, SCHOOL DIRECTOR,  
SAN CARLOS, CA

## Challenging and rewarding.

*The CSDC Leadership Intensive was a challenging and rewarding experience. Prior to participating, I had been concerned about the intensity I anticipated versus my relative in-experience (one year in the position) in my role as Executive Director. My concerns were quickly turned into total engagement.*

— JULIA KNIGHT, SCHOOL DIRECTOR,  
ANDERSON, CA

## Special Education in a Charter Context

Beginning with a review of the special education legal and regulatory framework, participants will learn how to establish sound working relationships with special education local plan areas (SELPAs) and other agencies to provide sound, cost-effective support and services to students with special needs.

## Charter School Governance

After a brief overview of a typical charter school governing board's origins and evolution, this presentation quickly moves into the finer points of successful charter school governance, including the major roles the governing board is expected to fulfill in its oversight capacity (e.g., delineating roles and responsibilities of school board members and staff, monitoring school fiscal performance, ensuring compliance with applicable laws and regulations, implementing and developing key documents, policies, and procedures, etc.).

## Independent Study and Nonclassroom-Based Instruction

Whether participants serve traditional, full-time independent study programs or work for schools looking to open an independent study "sidecar" (or blended instructional program), this presentation will provide participants with the fundamentals and major areas of compliance for independent study and nonclassroom-based programs.

## Charter School Financial Leadership

A condensed set of presentations that highlight key points from CSDC's comprehensive 60+ hour Chief Business Officer Training program, the Charter School Financial Leadership presentation helps participants assess their personal grasp of the complex financial management landscape and how to develop a financial leadership strategy that maximizes limited financial resources to support quality instruction. The session reviews key funding programs, budget development and oversight strategies, cash flow management, and how to establish and manage cost-effective back-office business functions.

## Facilities

Given the myriad challenges charter schools face in identifying satisfactory facilities, charters often find it difficult to find school sites that reflect their overall missions and instructional goals. This presentation will address these challenges, enabling participants to reach their schools' facilities objectives. Topics include facilities funding programs, Prop 39, and more.

**Many More Sessions** concerning all aspects of successful charter school management and operations and leadership development.

### True empowerment for educational leaders.

*Simply stated, CSDC's Leadership Intensive is the ultimate experience for charter school leaders! The Intensive is true empowerment for educational leaders in a collegial, interactive environment.*

— GARY BOWMAN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, SACRAMENTO, CA



# Sample Schedule

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
Registration	Group Walk on River	Group Walk on River	Group Walk on River
Break	Break	Break	Break
Welcome: Why We Are Here	Data and Accountability	Data and Accountability	Governance Intro [OR] Governance Intensive
Group Norms and Breakouts			
History of Charter Schools	Finance 101 [OR] Financial Leadership	Workgroup: Finance Scenario	Charter School Law
Charter School Leadership		Special Education	
Community Relations	Dashboard [OR] LCAP		Workgroup: Governance Scenario
Student Support	Lab: Dashboard [OR] LCAP	Lab: Special Education	School Culture
Independent Study	Strategic Planning	Calendar for New Directors	Personnel and Employment Issues [OR] HR Management
Work Groups	Team Building and Conflict Management	Planning for the Year	Leadership
Reception	Social Outing	Social Dinner	



# Teaching Staff

CSDC's team of charter experts creates and presents much of the Leadership Intensive curriculum while also inviting experienced charter school leaders to LI to share ideas and best practices with attendees.

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## Eric Premack

*Executive Director  
& Founder*



Since helping to write California's first charter school law in 1992, Eric Premack has been one of the nation's most effective charter school advocates and is the state's foremost expert on charter fiscal and policy matters.

## Susanne Coie

*School Accountability  
and Development  
Specialist*



In addition to assisting California charter school developers with a variety of start-up tasks (including financial plan development, petition reviews, and more), Susanne is also an expert in charter school accountability matters and has presented extensively on the LCFF and LCAP.

## Caitlin O'Halloran

*Governance and  
Policy Specialist*



Caitlin leads the development and delivery of CSDC's Governance offering and is CSDC's main point of contact for matters relating to governance, advocacy, policy and other charter school leadership topics. In 2004, Caitlin co-founded the Dixon Montessori Charter School (DMCS). In 2013 she was appointed to and continues to serve on the Dixon Unified School District Governing Board which authorizes DMCS.

## Jennifer McQuarrie

*Education Law and  
Policy Specialist*



Jennifer McQuarrie works with CSDC while simultaneously operating her own law practice specializing in charter school representation and employment litigation. Jennifer provides a wide range of advice to charter schools on school policies, personnel, student issues, and more.



# Guest Experts

CSDC invites a variety of experts to share their unique ideas and insights into successful charter school operations and management. Past speakers have included university professors, authorizing agency staff, attorneys, CPAs, and veteran charter school leaders.

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## **Gary Bowman**

*California Montessori  
Project*

Gary is currently serving his 15th year as Executive Director at California Montessori Project. Authorized through 4 school districts, CMP serves 2,700 students on 8 campuses in the greater Sacramento area. A former firefighter, zoo keeper, and traditional district superintendent, Gary embraces the challenges and opportunities of the charter school movement.

## **Jody Graf**

*Visions In Education*

Jody is the Superintendent of a K-12 Independent Study Charter school serving students within northern California. Her educational experience includes twenty years serving as an administrator within San Juan Unified School District. Jody earned her Doctorate from LaVerne University in Organizational Development.

## **Michelle Hammons**

*Eagle Peak  
Montessori Schools*

Michelle has worked in administration for the past 19 years, both in Texas and California charter schools, and holds administrative credentials in both states. Michelle formerly served as chair of the Public Policy Committee for the American Montessori Society and is a part-time instructor in the St. Mary's College Montessori program.

## **Jean Hatch**

*Consultant, Special Ed.*

Jean, now retired, is a charter school special education expert, and was the founder and co-director for Redding School of the Arts (RSA), which has been in operation for nearly 20 years. Jean taught for 23 years prior to starting RSA. She has a degree from the University of California, Davis and from San Francisco State University.

Laurie is the chair of the Liberal Studies department at CSUDH. Her work with early teacher candidates focuses on culturally responsive practices. Previously, she was the founding Chief Executive and Academic Officer/Principal of Apple Academy Charter Public Schools in South Los Angeles, serving students in grades TK - 5.

### **Laurie Inman**

*College of Education,  
CSU Dominguez Hills*

Jesse is an educational consultant specializing in all aspects of K-12 compliance, operations, and new school development. Jesse is also a CSDC board member. Prior to his work in educational consulting, Jesse served as a bilingual teacher, state preschool director, principal, and district office administrator in a traditional setting, and was a charter school director in classroom-based, non-classroom-based, and virtual programs.

### **Jesse Leyva**

*Consultant*

Joyce is the Chief Financial Officer at Summit Public Schools and has over 11 years in the charter school finance industry and over 20 years in education finance. She has an MBA in Finance from Notre Dame de Namur, and a BA from CSU Long Beach.

### **Joyce Montgomery**

*School Summit Public*

Beryl recently retired from CSDC as the Accountability Services Manager working with charter schools and their granting agencies. Beryl's career spanned much of the education landscape including work in Washington, DC for the US Department of Education, for a research firm in Berkeley, and more than ten years at CSDC.

### **Beryl Nelson**

*Advisor and  
Guest Instructor*

Ting is the co-founder and Executive Director of Natomas Charter School, one of the oldest charter schools in the nation. She has more than 30 years of experience in the field of education, most all of which have been dedicated to educational reform and charter schools. Ting is an appointee to the California Board of Education (SBE) and previously served on the California's Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CCTC).

### **Dr. Ting Sun**

*Natomas Charter School*



**CHARTER SCHOOLS  
DEVELOPMENT CENTER**

817 14th Street, Ste. 300  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Office: (916) 538-6612  
Fax: (916) 471-0155  
[csdc@chartercenter.org](mailto:csdc@chartercenter.org)

[chartercenter.org](http://chartercenter.org)

## Convenient Sacramento Venue

This year's Leadership Intensive will be held at the Lake Natoma Inn in downtown Folsom, California. LNI is located 30 miles from Sacramento International Airport (SMF).

## Program Cost

- Organizations **with** an active CSDC Membership pay **\$1,885** per participant
- Organizations **without\*** an active CSDC Membership pay **\$2,685** per participant

Program fees cover registration, materials, presentations, lunch on each day of the in-person trainings, and an evening cocktail reception the first evening, and specific networking events.

Lodging, food (besides lunch), and travel expenses are not included in the program fees. CSDC arranges for a room block at the hosting hotel, but participants are responsible for their own reservations. For more information, go to [chartercenter.org/li](http://chartercenter.org/li).

\* *For more on CSDC Membership, please visit our website, [chartercenter.org/membership](http://chartercenter.org/membership).*

## Apply to the 2019 Leadership Intensive

Admittance to the 2019 Leadership Intensive is limited and participation is granted by competitive application. We strongly encourage applicants with culturally diverse backgrounds and/or those who will be leading schools serving at-risk students.

Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis during the Leadership Intensive 2019 Application Window from Monday, February 25, 2019 – Friday, April 19, 2019.

Apply online at  
[chartercenter.org/li](http://chartercenter.org/li)



## About Us

The Charter Schools Development Center (CSDC) provides experienced and expert technical assistance and resources to charter school developers, operators, charter-granting agencies, and policymakers, primarily in California. We support all charter schools, in California and beyond, with our knowledge and expertise in the areas of charter school leadership, finance, operations, governance, accountability, advocacy and development.

## Our Mission

Our mission is to help public education change from a highly regulated, process-based system to one that allows and encourages schools to be more creative, performance-based centers of effective teaching and learning. We aim to achieve this by providing technical assistance to the charter school reform movement in California, nationally, and internationally.

Learn more about these efforts at [chartercenter.org/advocacy](http://chartercenter.org/advocacy).

## Join Us – become a member!

If you share our vision, we urge you to join with the hundreds of charter schools that have become members of our organization. For more on CSDC Membership and its benefits, please visit [chartercenter.org/membership](http://chartercenter.org/membership).