

# K-NEWS

Summer Edition  
July—Sept. 2022



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## Mission Statement

The purpose of the Kern Association of Educational Office Professionals shall be to promote professional interest in educational non-certificated positions in the offices of the educational institutions and allied groups within the County of Kern; to provide opportunities for individual training and advancement within the school system of the County of Kern; and to provide a clearing house for administrators and employees for ideas and methods which will result in a finer and more efficient service to the schools and community.

## President's Message



**Elena Perez, KAEOP President  
2022-2023 President**

Happy Summer KAEOP members and friends,

I hope you enjoyed the month of cooler summer weather. Now, the heat is here.

KAEOP has been busy this past year. We now have our Board meetings available via Zoom. Cherie Anderson, Board member has made this possible. We are trying to keep active as an organization and in the community as well, even with COVID

restrictions.

We had some fundraisers: Tahoe Joe's and See's Candies. KAEOP Board volunteered at CALM holiday lights. Our annual Bosses' Luncheon was a tremendous success, after 2 years absence. Our new caterer Dickey's Barbecue Pit gave us tasty new choices.

We currently have a Tahoe Joe's fundraiser for September 1<sup>st</sup> 2022. Please contact any KAEOP member for tickets by August 30<sup>th</sup>. Keep up with our events and activities via our newsletter and our website. Visit our website soon, [kernaep.org](http://kernaep.org)

We have a few new members this year from help from our current members Cherie Anderson and Elsa Flores! We welcome you all with open arms.

Stay cool and enjoy the great outdoors this summer or a staycation. Remember rest rejuvenates our brain, body and soul. Keep safe and well and see you soon.

Yours sincerely,

Elena Perez  
KAEOP President 2022-2023



## July/August Awareness Months



July/August Awareness Months Plastic Free July is a global movement that helps millions of people be part of the

solution to plastic pollution so we can have cleaner streets, oceans, and beautiful communities. Will you be part of Plastic Free July by choosing to refuse single-use plastics? This movement has inspired an estimated 326 million participants in 177 countries. You can choose to refuse single-use plastics in July (and beyond). Taking on this small change will collectively make a massive difference to our communities.

For more information visit:

<https://www.plasticfreejuly.org>

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National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM) is an annual observance held in August to highlight the importance of vaccination for people of all ages. Use these resources to assist you in communicating to healthcare professionals and parents, about immunizations during August and throughout the year.

*Center of Disease Control and Prevention, Encouraging Routine Childhood Vaccination:*

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/partners/childhood/stayingontrack.html>



## Welcome Office Professionals

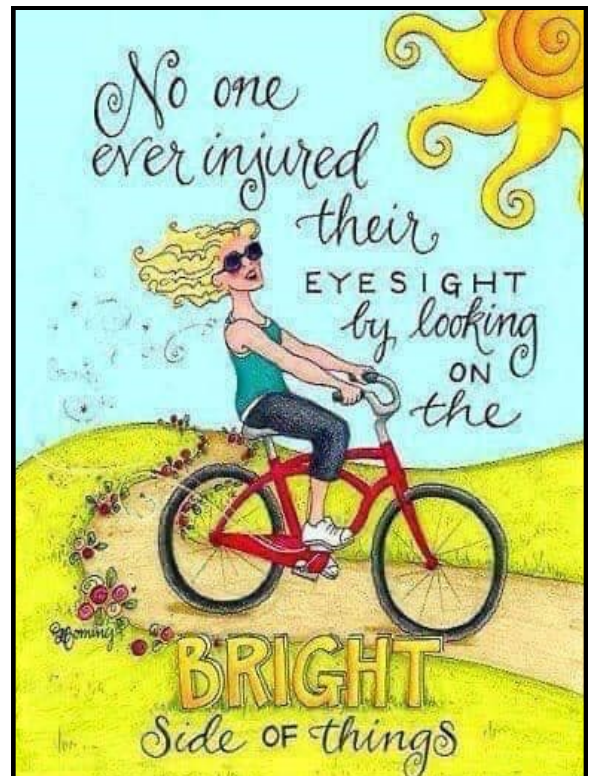
New KAEOP members:

Jennifer Bryan  
Communications Specialist  
KCSOS

Elizabeth Mackay  
Administrative Secretary I  
KCSOS

Ericka Pineda  
Communications Specialist  
KCSOS

Cristina Valenzuela  
District Accountant  
KCSOS



## Tasty Tip



## Recipe

### *Watermelon-Strawberry Agua Fresca*

#### Ingredients

- 1/2 cup water
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 2 mint sprigs, plus more for garnish
- One 1-inch piece of fresh ginger, peeled and thinly sliced
- Pinch of salt
- 2 cups seedless watermelon cubes
- 2 cups hulled strawberries
- Ice and chilled sparkling water, for serving

#### Directions

- In a small saucepan, combine the water with the sugar. Simmer over moderate heat until the sugar has dissolved, about 1 minute. Remove from the heat. Add the 2 mint sprigs, ginger and salt and let stand for 10 minutes.
- Strain the syrup into a blender. Add the watermelon and strawberries and puree until smooth.
- Fill 8 glasses with ice. Pour the agua fresca into the glasses and top off with sparkling water. Garnish with mint sprigs and serve.

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## GEM Award

KAEOP has implemented the GEM "Going the Extra Mile Award" to recognize all outstanding classified office professionals who go "above and beyond" their usual duties. This program will recognize the amazing secretaries, receptionists, clerks, registrars, bookkeepers, and other office staff that help make all educational offices amazing. This award is for any classified employee working in a school, district or county office. You and your nominee do not have to be a member of KAEOP.

Copy & Paste this link into your search bar <https://forms.gle/jWhYsErAm817tnWm8> to nominate a deserving individual.

Each month the KAEOP executive board will select a monthly recipient. The deserving recipient will receive a \$25.00 gift card & certificate.

Take the opportunity to nominate a deserving individual. Make sure to include specific examples of how this person goes above and beyond their regular duties. Examples may include; providing the highest quality of service, contributing to a positive work place, and treating others with warmth, courtesy and respect. If you have any questions or want to nominate someone, please contact Sarah Tierce at [satierce@yahoo.com](mailto:satierce@yahoo.com) or (661) 805-1509.

## Scholarship Recipients



**Morrison Dobere** is a senior at Cesar E. Chavez High School in Delano, CA. He has a GPA of 4.25 and is ranked 16th out of a class of 316.

Morrison is the Founder and business owner of Mo PCs, which was founded at the start of virtual learning as a solution to the rising prices of computers. He currently has 2 employees. The purpose of his business is to provide quality PCs at affordable prices making them more accessible to a low-income community.

He is also the owner of Mo Vending. Mo Vending provides business owners' customers with the convenience of having snacks at their disposal, while also providing owners with a portion of sales. He does all the restocking and maintenance.

In addition to working at KFC and his businesses, he volunteers as an Information Coordinator with United Farm Workers. Morrison tells us: "Volunteering with UFW has helped me educate field workers and present them with opportunities to speak out at local city council meetings. I achieved this by being in charge of flyer distribution at UFW vaccine and food drives. Flyers carried information on resources available to field workers and city council meetings."

This young man is amazing, to say the least and is well deserving of a KAEOP scholarship.

**Katlynn Montoya** is currently ranked 7th out of her senior class of 615 at Arvin High School. She has applied to both Bakersfield College and California State University Bakersfield. Her career goal is to become a teacher of American Sign Language. Amanda Patrick, dual enrollment English teacher at Arvin High School and adjunct writing instructor for the California State University of Bakersfield related: "Katlynn's school schedule includes multiple extracurricular activities that have aided in her personal growth and development in leadership such as ASB, Spanish Club, Link Crew, Equity and Inclusion Club, Geology Club, and Dress Code Committee. Her participation in these clubs has not only allowed her the opportunity to experience multiple levels of leadership and responsibility, but also helped encourage her to become a better public speaker, more organized, and better manage her time.

In a migrant community that values family and hard work, Katlynn has proven that it is possible to have roots and wings; she works hard to help her family and community with tasks such as babysitting, helping with Bakersfield Track Club events. and donating blood."

KAEOP is excited to offer Katlynn a scholarship for continuing education.



## KAEOP Membership

KAEOP provides opportunities for personal and professional growth, leadership, service, networking and recognition to all office professionals. Any classified employee at an educational facility in Kern County is eligible for membership. Won't you join us?

*Respect for the past...*

*Responsibility for the present...*

*Vision for the future...*



**Kern Association of Educational Office Professionals**

### **MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

*January 1 - December 31*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Membership Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name First Name M.I. \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address City State Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_

(Month/Day)

Position (Job Title): \_\_\_\_\_

District: \_\_\_\_\_ School/Office: \_\_\_\_\_

District/School Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address/Dept./Room City State Zip

New Active Membership \$20.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Regular Active Renewal \$20.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Retired Renewal \$10.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a member of CAEOP (State)? [ ] Yes [ ] No

If no, would you like membership information sent to you? [ ] Yes [ ] No

Are you a member of NAEOP (National)? [ ] Yes [ ] No

Would you be interested in serving on a committee or helping with a KAEOP event? [ ] Yes [ ] No

Referred by: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please make your check payable to KAEOP and mail to:* **KAEOP Membership**

**P. O. Box 42844**

**Bakersfield, CA 93384**

## NAEOP Annual Conference

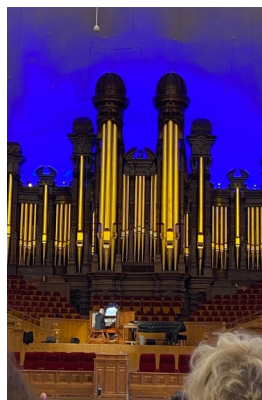


Office professionals from across the country came together to learn, renew friendships and have fun. Our very own Southwest Area hosted the 88th Annual NAEOP Conference in Salt Lake City. The conference featured a variety of sessions as well as the Keynote speaker, Michelle McCullough who motivated us to “Make It Happen” with tools that will help us get more done with greater purpose and happiness.

Lorri Kilby, CEOE and Sarah Tierce, CEOE were co-chairmen of the Hospitality table.

In addition to the fabulous breakout sessions at conference, Sarah Tierce, CEOE was installed as President of National Association of Retired Office Professionals (NAREOP) following its annual meeting with members on Tuesday, July 19, 2022. Her theme is “NAREOP—A Lifetime of Excellence.” Becky Shipley, CEOE member of KAEOP and Past President of NAREOP was her installing officer. As President, Sarah is also an ex-officio member of the NAEOP Board and was installed the next day at its installation.

If you ever have the opportunity to attend a national conference, we encourage you to do so. You will come away motivated and excited for next year’s conference! We hope to see you next year in Omaha, Nebraska!



Pictures, upper left clockwise: Watching the Mormon Tabernacle Choir practice; Salt Lake City Capitol building; California AEOP members representing our state with pride; NAREOP Board members following installation; Organ recital given by the Mormon Tabernacle Choir organist; 2022-2023 NAEOP Executive Board.

## Office Professional of the Year—Stacie Nava

**Stacy Nava**, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent at Standard School District was awarded the KAEOP Office Professional of the Year. Stacy came highly recommended by the staff at Standard, stating she has excelled in her role and is exceptional in performing her duties and supporting the district superintendent.

Stacy made a significant contribution the school district by performing the crucial function as the single point of contact and district liaison to Kern County Public Health during COVID-19. She had the unique responsibility to work with each and every staff member who was either exposed or contracted COVID-19 to explain the policies and procedures for isolation, quarantine, contact tracing and required testing. With nearly 500 employees, this was and still is an enormous task!

Jocelyn Hively, Ed.D. Director of Student Support Services reports:

Continued on Page 8



## Administrator of the Year—Tom Corson

**Tom Corson**, Director of Kern County Network for Children (KCNC) for Kern County Superintendent of Schools Office was chosen as this year's Administrator of the Year. In 1992, Tom began organizing community partnerships between schools, community members, social service, law enforcement, mental health care agencies within neighborhoods throughout Kern County so they could collaboratively identify the issues that their children and families were struggling with the most, develop action plans that they could successfully implement together, and measurably improve the condition of the children and families who live in those communities.

In 2004, Tom was promoted by KCSOS to serve as the KCNC's Executive Director. As such, he has advocated for in-home case management services provided by community-based organization or schools where the families live, that would provide supportive services at the first sign of struggle rather than waiting for those struggles to escalate to the point where formal intervention was necessary.

In 2007, when KCNC took over the foster youth services (FYS) program, Tom asked emancipated foster youth what they needed most. They said they needed jobs and a place to feel safe. Tom set out to establish the Dream Center, a one-stop shop where foster youth could meet with a social worker, get counseling or work on a job application, get help with the school records, education needs, tutoring or college enrollment and have a safe place where they could hang out. The Dream Center received the Kern Council of Government's Community Involvement award in 2017.

This an extremely condensed version of Tom's accomplishments. He is truly deserving of this award and we are proud to bestow it upon him. Congratulations Tom!



## **Office Professional of the Year—Stacie Nava (continued)**

“Stacy is smart, organized, and thorough. She recognizes what needs to be done before being asked and completes these tasks in a timely manner. Her quick wit, attention to detail, thoughtfulness, sense of humor and loyalty to the district have endeared her to her colleagues. Stacy has proven herself to be a hard-worker, always going the extra mile to help staff and families. She discerns quickly their individual needs and moves efficiently to provide key information, recommendations or direction. She is quick to respond to requests for additional information is a thorough in ensuring all loose ends are completed.”

As a life-long learner, Stacy has completed various professional development academies including ACSA Personnel Academy and CSBA Executive Assistant Program, as well as serving in various volunteer/service roles such as SEIU Chapter President and Standard Education Foundation Secretary.

We are very proud to have Stacy as our 2022 Office Professional of the Year. Congratulations!

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## **Fundraiser—Tahoe Joe's**



***Join KAEOP on September 1 @ Tahoe Joe's Famous Steakhouse from 11a to 9p***

***\*\*Dine-In or Take-Out\*\* Call ahead for Take-Out (661-664-7750)***

**KAEOP will be selling Dinner Tickets for \$22.00**

Choice of: **6oz Joe's Steak Dinner** or **Wood Grilled BBQ Chicken Breast**

All dinners include Blue Lake Green Beans, Mountain Mashers, & your choice of Salad

***Buy your Tickets from any KAEOP Board Member by August 30***

*All proceeds from this fundraiser remain in Kern County...*



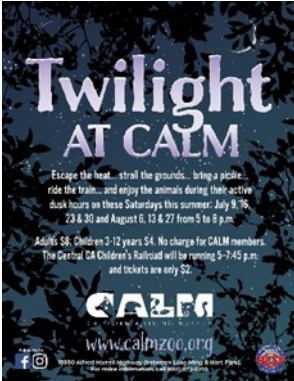
9000 Ming Ave – Bakersfield

661-664-7750

Any questions about Tickets, contact Elena Perez @ 661-333-0195



## Community Involvement



I want to share a bit about our community involvement project California Living Museum (CALM), which started out, and remains today primarily a rehabilitation center. None of the animals that live at or on exhibit CALM are releasable. They came to live at CALM because they were injured, orphaned or imprinted (not afraid of humans) and were no longer able to survive in the wild. Another interesting fact is that all of the plants and animals that live at CALM are found in the California wild (with the exception of the Children's Park which has farm animals and is a petting zoo.) There is so much to share about CALM, but that is for another article, not the summer issue.

It is "Twilight at CALM" time of year. Let's face it, Bakersfield is hot in the summer no matter what time of day it is, or where you are. CALM is so beautiful, the sound of the water and the breeze blowing through the trees gives an illusion of a cooler climate, especially at twilight. Another thing special about Twilight at CALM is that it allows guests an opportunity to see the nocturnal animals (who are usually sleeping during the day) awake, up, walking around and greeting their guests.

Twilight at CALM is open from 5:00-8:00 P.M. Saturday nights July 9, 16, 23, 30 and August 6, 13, and 27. Admission is \$4 for Children 3-12 \$8. for Adults and free to CALM Members. The Central California Children's Railroad will be running and tickets are \$2. with unlimited rides. I hope to see you out there.

Mark your Calendar and be sure to attend CALM's ANNUAL ZooFari, Saturday, August 20, 2022 a special Ice Cream Social, complete with build your own Ice Cream Sundaes, Dixie Band and Root BEAR Floats. Everyone is guaranteed to have a BEARY good time and there will be plenty of volunteer opportunities too! 😊.

I'm also excited to share about the reopening of some of CALM's volunteer programs. Listed below are ongoing volunteer opportunities for young and the young at heart. These can be done on an individual bases or as a group. Some require training and others just require you to show up with a "let's do this attitude" 😊. I can promise you that all of them will make you feel happy that you contributed your time to a worthy cause. If you are interested in volunteering, please visit the CALM website for a complete list and more detailed information.

California Living Museum Volunteer opportunities:

- |                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| 1) Animal Care Volunteers   | (16+) – Orientation Class Required   |
| 2) Commissary Volunteers    | (16+) – Orientation Class Required   |
| 3) Grounds Volunteers       | (13+) (13-15) must be accompanied by an adult  |
| 4) Special Event Volunteers | (16+)(13-15) must be accompanied by an adult   |
| 5) Group Volunteers         | (10+) (10 or more people; ages 10-15 require 1one adult lead per 10 Volunteers (16+) |

During your visit to CALM, make sure you stop by and see our KAEOP Commemorative Plaque. It just before you walk into the Reptile House.

There are many opportunities you can support CALM, the commemorative plaque and volunteering are just a couple. Other ways include "Adopt and Animal", "Wish List" "Animal Care", "Amazon Wish". Visit their website for the entire list of ways to support CALM and lots of other information.

[www.calmzoo.org](http://www.calmzoo.org)

*Submitted by: Mary Alice Means, KAEOP Vice President, Programs  
Community Involvement Chair*

## Meeting Dates

KAEOP Executive Board and Committees meet the fourth Thursday of every month at 5:15 p.m. except for the months of July and August. Please join us at any meeting to discuss community activities and events. We value your input.

Date:	Meeting Location:	Time:
9/22/2022	Larry Reider Bldg. - 101	5:15pm – 7:00pm
10/27/2022	Larry Reider Bldg. - 101	5:15pm – 7:00pm
12/8/2022	Larry Reider Bldg. - 101	5:15pm – 8:00pm
1/26/2023	City Centre – 1B	5:15pm – 7:00pm
2/23/2023	City Centre – 1B	5:15pm – 7:00pm
3/23/2023	City Centre – 1B	5:15pm – 7:00pm
4/27/2023	City Centre – 1B	5:15pm – 7:00pm
5/25/2023	City Centre – 1B	5:15pm – 7:00pm
6/22/2023	City Centre – 1B	5:15pm – 7:00pm

## 2021-2022 KAEOP Board

Elena Perez	President; Bosses Luncheon; Ways and Means	elperez@kern.org
Mary Alice Means	Vice President, Programs; Community Involvement	mameans@kern.org
Kenton Miller, CEOE	Treasurer; Website Coordinator	kentonmiller56@gmail.com
Cherie Anderson	Vice President, Membership; Bosses Luncheon Co-Chairman	chanderson@kern.org
Lorri Kilby, CEOE	Secretary, Inspiration	lokilby@kern.org
Kathryn Miller, CEOE	Awards	kamiller@kern.org
Connie Vargas	Immediate Past President	covargas@kern.org
Sarah Tierce, CEOE	Newsletter	satierce@yahoo.com
Elsa Flores	Scholarships	elflores@kern.org
Cristina Valenzuela	Poster Contest	crvalenzuela@kern.org
Kathy Ramos, CEOE	Nominations and Elections	kgranny2013@att.net