



K-NEWS

January
2026

KAEOP Newsletter



About Us

KAEOP is a professional Association for classified employees working for Kern County Schools. We welcome all education support professionals, including office managers, secretaries, instructional assistants, educational assistants, paraprofessionals, library techs, tech specialists, and other support staff. Our mission is to provide the membership with opportunities for professional growth and leadership through networking of ideas and information, recognizing achievements, serving the youth of our schools and our community, and providing fellowship with other educational office professionals.

Upcoming Events

Board Meeting - February 5, 2026

CAEOP Conference - March 19-21, 2026

Awards Luncheon - April 29, 2026

Contact Info

Website: kernkaeop.org

Mailing Address:

KAEOP

P.O. BOX 42844

BAKERSFIELD, CA 93384-2844

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KAEOP Holiday Party 2025



Members, family, and friends gathered at Bill Lee's Restaurant on December 9, 2025, for the KAEOP annual holiday party. Guests enjoyed a Chinese buffet and participated in an ornament exchange. Two new members joined at the event.



Holiday Lights at CALM Zoo

On December 4, 2025, KAEOP members donated canned foods and volunteered at the 23rd annual HolidayLights at the California Living Museum (CALM). The award-winning local holiday tradition features millions of lights, train rides, Santa's workshop, a Christmas tree farm, crafts, and food and treats from Teen Challenge. Proceeds from the event support plant and animal conservation and provide education programs for Kern County students.

For information about the zoo, including special events and volunteer opportunities, visit calmzoo.org.



Frugatti's Fundraiser

Thanks to the incredible support of our community, our Frugatti's fundraiser has been a huge success! Together, we've raised an impressive \$1,800 to benefit the KAEOP High School Senior Scholarship Program. These funds will go directly toward helping deserving seniors pursue their educational goals and take the next step toward their future careers.

We're so grateful to everyone who participated, shared the event, and enjoyed a great meal for a great cause—your generosity is making a real difference in the lives of local students!

We still have a limited supply of gift certificates, if anyone would like to support KAEOP today!



See's Candy Fundraiser

Crystal Ehret, Ways and Means Chair, shared the sweet news that KAEOP raised \$343.45 from our online See's Candy holiday fundraiser. The proceeds will help support KAEOP's mission and activities throughout the year.

Awards Luncheon

Save the date for the annual KAEOP Awards Luncheon, April 29, 2026, at the newly renovated Bell Tower. The Kern County Superintendent of Schools (KCSOS) purchased the historic Bell Tower Plaza to serve as a professional learning and events center. Leslie Aguilar, the Awards Luncheon Chair, and the KAEOP Board are excited to host the luncheon in the unique facility.

Nominations for Educational Administrator and Office Professional of the Year Awards are **due February 27, 2026**.

[Link to Nomination Google Form](#)

\$25 Frugatti's Gift Certificates Benefiting KAEOP

Purchase a \$25 Gift Certificate and
\$10 of each one will go directly to the
KAEOP High School Senior
Scholarship Program!

**\$25
EACH**

*Cash or
Venmo
accepted!*

For questions contact:
Crystal Ehret
cehret@standardschools.net

**FRUGATTI'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT
8109 BRIMHALL ROAD
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312**



KAEOP Karm
@Karm-KAEOP

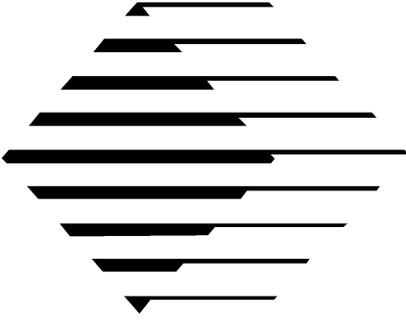


venmo

Scan this code to pay

SAVE THE DATE:
KAEOP AWARDS LUNCHEON
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 2026





ATTENTION

Kern County School Administrators & Office Personnel

Do you have a *School Administrator* or *Classified* staff member who deserves recognition for their invaluable assistance, extraordinary skills, dedication, and achievement?

Consider nominating them for KAEOP's

**2025–2026 Educational Office Professional of the Year Award
or
2025–2026 Educational Administrator of the Year Award**

The nominee should be someone who has made a significant contribution to the advancement of education through his/her personal and professional achievements as an educational office professional working in a school or educational office. Neither the nominee nor the nominator is required to be a KAEOP member.

KAEOP is affiliated with the National and California Associations of Educational Office Professionals, which bring together school and district office professionals through professional growth workshops and special events. KAEOP proudly awards scholarships to high school students and members who wish to re-enter college to further their education. The awards will be presented at the **KAEOP's Annual Awards Luncheon on Wednesday, April 29, 2026, at the Bell Tower, 1200 Truxtun Ave., Bakersfield, CA 93301.**

Nominations are due February 27, 2026.

Please return the nomination form along with two letters of recommendation to:

Stacy Nava, Chair – Standard School District

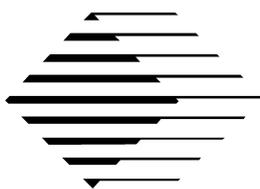
1200 N. Chester Ave., Bakersfield, California 93308

Telephone #: (661) 392-2110, Ext. 1111

Email address: kaeopmain@gmail.com



Please feel free to duplicate this form.



Kern Association of Educational Office Professionals

2025-2026 Awards Programs

Stacy Nava, Chair

Standard School District

1200 N. Chester Ave., Bakersfield, CA 93308

Phone: (661) 392-2110, Ext. 1111

Email: kaeopmain@gmail.com



Official Nomination Form

Name of Nominee: _____

Nominee's Job Title: _____

Employed by: _____
Include Job Site & District Name

Nominated by: _____ Phone # _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____



Nomination Form for KAEOP Educational Administrator of the Year or Office Professional of the Year

Please check one category:

- 2025 – 2026 KAEOP Educational Administrator of the Year Award **or**
- 2025 – 2026 KAEOP Educational Office Professional of the Year Award

To Be Completed by KAEOP	
Board Member	
# Assigned	_____
Initials	_____

Years in Education: _____

Please list professional/educational affiliations or memberships: _____

Offices held, or committees served on in the above listing: _____

Outstanding contributions made as an educational office administrator or classified professional (*Please use a separate sheet if necessary*): _____

*Please include a brief history of the nominee's career in education and two letters of recommendation. Return the completed nomination form and materials to the above address no later than **February 27, 2026**. The awards will be presented at **KAEOP's Annual Bosses Luncheon on Wednesday, April 29, 2026, at the Bell Tower Plaza, 1200 Truxtun Ave., Bakersfield, CA 93301**. You may also email this form to kaeopmain@gmail.com.*

KERN ASSOCIATION OF EDUCATIONAL OFFICE PROFESSIONALS (KAEOP)

2025 - 2026

POSTER CONTEST

What I Like Best About My School

3 DIVISIONS
GRADES K-2
GRADES 3-4
GRADES 5-6

1ST PLACE: \$50
2ND PLACE: \$25
3RD PLACE: \$15

Cristina Ruiz, Committee Chair
Contact: (661) 392-2125
Email: oruz@standardschools.net



STUDENT ENTRY CERTIFICATION FORM

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY. ATTACH THE COMPLETED FORM SECURELY TO THE UPPER RIGHT-HAND CORNER OF THE BACKSIDE OF EACH POSTER SUBMITTED.

STUDENT NAME: _____ TEACHER NAME: _____

SCHOOL NAME: _____ DISTRICT NAME: _____

GRADE: _____ DAYTIME PHONE #: _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____

ZIP: _____ DATE: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS FOR TEACHER OR PARENT: _____

TEACHER OR PARENT SIGNATURE: _____

Visit kernkaeop.org for full contest details.

Kern Association of Educational Office Professionals



Student Scholarship Opportunity

Provided to assist students who wish to continue with higher education and pursue a career in business administration or education.

The 2025-2026 scholarship is valued at \$1,000.00.

Please read carefully and follow the accompanying Guidelines.

Application and accompanying materials **MUST** be postmarked by March 16th, 2026 and mailed to:

Elsa Flores, Anna Espinoza
Scholarships Chair
P. O. Box 42844
Bakersfield, CA 93384

Applications can also be dropped off at KCSOS office at 1300 17th St. 5th floor
Or emailed to kaeopmain@gmail.com

Kern Association of Educational Office Professionals Student Scholarship 2025-2026 Application & Guidelines

The 2025-2026 scholarship is valued at \$1,000.00. More than one scholarship may be awarded.

CRITERIA

- Need for financial assistance
- Scholastic achievement
- Initiative
- Extracurricular Activities and
- Quality and completeness of application materials

TO QUALIFY

- Applicant must be a graduating high school student who has applied to continue his/her education OR the applicant may currently be pursuing such a course of study in an institution of higher education.
- Applicant must have maintained a grade point average of 2.0 or better in high school.
- Applicant must have applied for admission to a post-high school accredited institution and plan to enter following the granting of the scholarship or already be enrolled in an accredited college or university.
- Applicant must be a resident of Kern County.
- Applicant must intend to continue his/her education in the field of business administration or education.
- Applicant shall be responsible for the completion and return of all required support materials to the KAEOP Scholarship Chairman before the deadline date.

APPLICATION

An application will be considered complete when the KAEOP Scholarship Chairman has received the following items:

- Completed application and biographical information forms included on pages 4 and 5.
- **Official** copy of high school transcript (or university/college transcript for higher education applicants) in a sealed envelope. High School transcript must indicate class rank. College transcript must show cumulative GPA.
- Completed one-page essay on "Why I am choosing a Career in Business or Education."
- Submit THREE letters of recommendation: (a) from a principal, counselor or other school administrator describing the candidate's activities, leadership record, character, personality, initiative, and home background; (b) from a language arts or math teacher, and (c) from someone other than a KAEOP member or other than a family member.

SELECTION CRITERIA/PROCEDURE

- Recommendations 10%
- Activities/School/Extracurricular 10%
- Financial Need 30%
- One-Page Essay 20%
- Scholastic Record (official transcript) 30%

The KAEOP Scholarship Chairman will select a panel of judges to review applications and select the winning application(s).

The KAEOP Scholarship Chairman will notify all applicants of the status of their application.

Students selected to receive a 2025-2026 KAEOP Student Scholarship will be invited to attend the KAEOP Awards Luncheon for presentation. The KAEOP Scholarship Committee will notify all candidates by April 6th, 2026 as to its selection of scholarship recipients.

AWARD DISBURSEMENT

To receive the scholarship funds, the scholarship recipient should send verification of enrollment at an accredited college or university to the KAEOP Scholarship Chairman. Upon receipt of the enrollment verification, the KAEOP Scholarship Chairman will request payment. The check, for \$1,000.00, will be awarded within 30 days.

DELAY OF SCHOLARSHIP PAYMENT

If a scholarship recipient is unable to attend a post-high school institution during the term following the granting of the scholarship and so notifies in writing to the KAEOP Scholarship Chairman, the award may be held over for one school year. The KAEOP Scholarship Chairman must receive this request letter no later than September 1st. Following receipt of the written request, the KAEOP Scholarship/Awards Chairman will confirm postponement of the scholarship award until the following year. Prior to August 1st of the following year, the scholarship recipient must request activation of their prior year scholarship by sending a letter to the KAEOP Scholarship Chairman along with proof of enrollment at a post-high school accredited institution.

CONTACT PERSONS: Anna Espinoza, Scholarship Co-Chairman
Elsa Flores KAEOP Chair
P. O. Box 42844
Bakersfield, CA 93384
Phone: (661) 636-4151 Email: elflores@kern.org, anespinoza@kern.org

Kern Association of Educational Office Professionals
2025-2026 Student Scholarship Application
Biographical Information Sheet

Name of Applicant: _____

First

Middle

Last

Father's Name: _____ Address : _____

Mother's Name: _____ Address: _____

Father's Occupation: _____ Mother's Occupation: _____

Number of parents' dependents (not including you) and their ages:

What is your chosen major? _____

What is your career objective: _____

Will your parents assist you financially in continuing your education? yes no

Will you have any other assistance (social security benefits, etc.)? yes no

Have you received any other scholarships? yes no

If yes, list name and amount : _____

How much anticipated annual assistance do you feel you will need to continue your education after graduating from high school? _____

Please check the range of your family's annual income:

Below \$25,000 \$25,000-39,999 \$40,000-69,999 \$70,000 or more

List any other family/financial/personal adversity circumstances, which should be considered:

I certify the above is true and correct.

_____ Date: _____

Signature of Applicant

**MUST BE POSTMARKED BY MARCH 16th, 2026
OR DROPPED OFF AT KCSOS OFFICE, 1300 17TH ST. 5TH FLOOR**

KAEOP MEMBERSHIP

KAEOP membership is open to anyone who works in or has retired from an education-related office in Kern County. We have four membership categories:

- Active: For current employees. Dues are \$20.00.
- Retired: For retired professionals. Dues are \$10.00.
- Honorary: Conferred by the Executive Board for service; no dues.
- Associate: For former members who no longer work in the field but wish to stay in touch; dues remain the same as those of active members.

All members except Honorary and Associate can hold office.

Click on the link below to renew or apply for membership. Contact [Stacy Nava](#), VP of Membership, if you have any questions.

[Online Membership Application](#)
[Membership Brochure](#)

ELECTIONS

KAEOP members interested in serving as a 2026-2027 board member are invited to contact [Kathy Ramos](#), Nominations Chair, by February 1, 2026.

CAEOP

The California Association of Educational Office Professionals (CAEOP) 76th Annual Professional Development Conference will be held March 19-21, 2026, at the Embassy Suites by Hilton Temecula Wine Country. Register early for discounted rates on registration and the hotel. Visit caeop.org for all of the details.

NAEOP

The National Association of Educational Office Professionals (NAEOP) 92nd Annual Conference will be held in Portland, Oregon July 12-15, 2026.

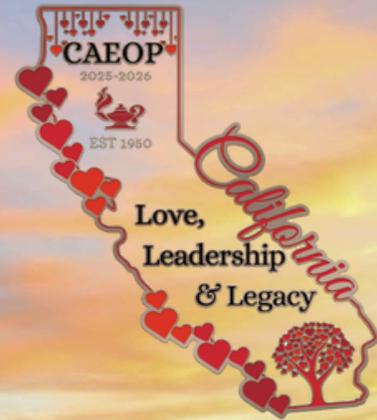
Visit the NAEOP website (naeop.org) for conference details and to become an NAEOP member.

CAEOP

Conference

MARCH 19-21

2026



California Association of Educational Office Professionals 76th Annual Professional Development Conference



DR. CHERINA BETTERS

Chief of Equity and Access &
Board Trustee



MALAIKA BRYANT

Executive Director
Educator Development



IRMA SANCHEZ

Executive Assistant &
Public Relations Officer

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

- Professional Development
- Pre-conference Activities
- Networking Opportunities
- Awards and Scholarships
- Inspiration & Celebration
- Financial Planning with SchoolsFirst FCU

REGISTRATION & HOUSING

- Embassy Suites Temecula Wine Country, Temecula, CA
- Early Bird Registration by October 31
- Late Registration Rate after Jan. 31
- Reserve Early for Conference Hotel Rate. Link: <https://hil.tn/o34lpv>
 - Click on 'Visit the booking page.'



CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

California Association of Educational Office Professionals
76th Annual Conference - March 19 - 21, 2026
Embassy Suites - Temecula, CA



Name _____ Telephone/Cell# _____

School District _____ Retired Yes No

Mailing Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Email Address (print clearly) _____ Local Affiliate _____

FULL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION includes all conference sessions, materials, Friday and Saturday buffet luncheons, and the Saturday banquet dinner. *Register early to be entered into a special drawing.*

- A. CAEOP CURRENT & NEW MEMBER - EARLY BIRD BY OCTOBER 31** \$300.00 \$ _____
- B. CAEOP CURRENT MEMBER - Active & Retiree Registration Nov. 1-Jan. 31** \$350.00 \$ _____
- C. EMPLOYED BY CAEOP INSTITUTIONAL MEMBER DISTRICT** \$350.00 \$ _____
- D. NON-CAEOP MEMBER - Actively Employed or Retired Educational Professional** \$400.00 \$ _____
- E. LATE REGISTRATION RATE (All registrations received on or after February 1)** \$400.00 \$ _____

SATURDAY LUNCH AND DINNER are included in the registration price. Additional meals may be purchased for guests.

Choice of entree for Saturday's banquet dinner: Beef, Poultry, or Vegetarian.

Friday Buffet Luncheon for Additional Guests _____ # of Tickets @ \$60.00 = \$ _____

Saturday Buffet Luncheon for Additional Guests _____ # of Tickets @ \$60.00 = \$ _____

Dinner for Additional Guests Beef, Poultry, or Vegetarian _____ # of Tickets @ \$100.00 = \$ _____

SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS: _____ (name and restriction)

MEMBERSHIP (NEW OR RENEWAL)

- RENEWAL - Active Membership (April 1, 2026 to March 31, 2027) \$40.00 \$ _____
- RENEWAL - Retired Membership (April 1, 2026 to March 31, 2027) \$20.00 \$ _____
- SPECIAL NEW MEMBER OFFER - Save \$70.00! Join CAEOP with your paid registration, and get two years for the price of one (2026-2028; check **A** above). \$60.00 \$ _____

Add registration, guest meals, and membership for TOTAL DUE: \$

PAYMENT

- CHECK - Mail the registration form and check to the California Association of Educational Office Professionals.
- CREDIT CARD - Visit CAEOP.org, click on the "Event" tab, pay online, and submit the registration form by mail or email.
- PURCHASE ORDER - Email the purchase order and registration form to the registrar, who will then invoice the district.

CANCELLATION POLICY: A \$35 fee will be charged for any returned check. To receive a refund (minus a \$100 administrative fee), you must cancel your registration in writing by February 15, 2026. No refunds will be issued for cancellations after this date or for "no-shows." CAEOP can make reasonable substitutions for tours, speakers, or conference rooms if needed. CAEOP and its officers are not responsible for any personal injury or property damage during association-sponsored events.

Submit the completed registration form to the CAEOP Conference Registrar:

Kathy Ramos, 5413 Walton Drive, Bakersfield, CA, 93304

Email Kathy at: kgranny49@gmail.com

HOTEL INFORMATION

Embassy Suites by Hilton Temecula Wine Country is situated off-15 and within a 10-minute drive of Old Town Temecula, Pechanga Casino, and local wineries. The hotel offers on-site dining, an outdoor pool and hot tub, a fitness center, complimentary breakfast, and free WiFi.

Hilton.com Embassy Suites by Hilton Temecula Wine Country

Address: 29345 Rancho California Road, Temecula, CA, 92591

Phone: (951) 676-5656

Check-in: 4:00 p.m.

Check-out: 11:00 a.m.

Deposit: \$100 credit card hold at check-in

Self-Parking: \$10 per night

Reservation Link: <https://hil.tn/o34lpv>

Click on 'Visit the booking page'

The average daily rate is \$246.

For questions, please contact Mary Alice Means at mameans1125@gmail.com.

Things to Do in Temecula: <https://www.visitemeculavalley.com/things-to-do>

Conference Layaway Program:

As a no-cost service to CAEOP members, the Conference Layaway program allows you to support your continuing education by saving for registration, hotel, and conference expenses in advance.

Click on this link to enroll in the layaway program.

Deposits will be accepted by personal check, money order, or credit card.

CAEOP will credit funds received in the member's name, which will be automatically applied to the member's conference registration and hotel costs.

Any funds received in excess of the amount due for conference expenses will be returned to the member via a CAEOP check by March 31, 2026.

Participation dates are July 1, 2025, through February 1, 2026.



MEET THE SPEAKERS

DR. CHERINA BETTERS

Cherina Betters is the Chief of Equity and Access for the San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools and Board Trustee for the San Bernardino Community College District (SBCCD). A lifelong learner, she has served in the field of PK-12 and higher education for over 20 years in the capacity of teacher, administrator, and professor, serving the students, families, and communities of San Bernardino and Riverside Counties in Southern California.



Dr. Betters has been recognized for her contributions to the educational community by several organizations, including being named by Cal State San Bernardino as the Doctoral Student of the year and as the CSUSB Transformational Change Leader. The Association of California School Administrators honored Dr. Betters with their 2024 Exemplary Woman in Education award; and ACSA's 2021-2022 Valuing Diversity Administrator of the year for region 12; 2022-2023 Outstanding Faculty Lecturer in the James R. Watson & Judy Rodriguez Watson College of Education for CSUSB; the Inland Valley News honored Dr. Betters their inaugural, 2023 Publisher's Emeritus Award; as well as her being recognized as the State of California 23rd Senate District's Woman of the Year.

Dr. Betters also serves as an adjunct professor in both the Teacher Education & Foundations and Educational Leadership & Technology departments for the College of Education at California State University, San Bernardino. In addition, Dr. Betters serves as a board member for the non-profit Santa Claus Inc., whose mission is to provide critical services to youth in the Inland Empire by empowering families through year-round and seasonal programs.

Dr. Betters is committed to advocating for students and educational excellence through equity and further serves in the capacity of Director for the Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) Academy, as well as serving as ACSA Region 12's 2025 President. Past roles for Dr. Betters include ACSA's Region 12 Equity Representative for the region and the State of California, and ACSA's statewide Legislative Policy Committee.

Dr. Betters has always viewed education as the means to overcome. The first in her family to graduate from college, Dr. Betters has a deep appreciation for education and the educational process. Dr. Betters is committed to advocating for students and educational excellence through equity. Dr. Betters is the proud parent of six children and one grandchild.

MEET THE SPEAKERS

MALAIKA BRYANT

Malaika Bryant works as the Executive Director of Educator Development for the Kern County Superintendent of Schools. Malaika began her career as an elementary teacher, working with students in grades 4, 5, and Kindergarten. As her career progressed, she discovered her passion for mentoring new teachers—work that opened an entirely new and exciting professional path. Malaika eventually shifted her focus to support adults in education full-time, developing mentoring, coaching, and professional learning opportunities that empower educators to thrive.



She is dedicated to her own ongoing growth, grateful for regular access to new information and tools, and energized by learning-focused conversations that deepen understanding and connection. Malaika loves to go on adventures with her husband, family, and German Shepherd pup. Her favorite new pastime is spending time with her sweet baby granddaughter.



Since 1934, SchoolsFirst has been focused on one thing: providing World-Class Personal Service and financial security to California school employees and their families. Although SchoolsFirst offers products and services similar to those of other financial institutions, its structure and culture are vastly different. Banks are for profit, while credit unions are Member-owned financial cooperatives, meaning excess earnings are returned to SchoolsFirst members in the form of lower loan rates, higher savings rates, low-to-no fees, and many complimentary services.

MEET THE SPEAKERS

IRMA SANCHEZ

*Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and Board of Trustees
& Public Relations Officer, Ontario-Montclair School District*



With over 20 years of experience as an Executive Assistant in the Superintendent's Office, and a total of 23 years in education, she has developed a deep understanding of the vital role that administrative support plays in enhancing the educational experience for students and families. Her career began as an Instructional Assistant and a member of the Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) while her children were in school. It was during this time that she recognized a calling to be part of an educational system committed to meeting the diverse needs of students, staff, and families. She was drawn to a profession that provided not only a sense of purpose but also the opportunity to contribute meaningfully to the community. She pursued her studies at California State University, Long Beach.

Irma remains deeply committed to service and ethics in all aspects of her work. Holding high standards for herself and for those with whom she collaborates, she approaches the task of supporting education with a clear sense of responsibility. She believes that every function performed by an Executive Assistant or clerical staff member ultimately supports the essential relationship between teacher and student, which is the cornerstone of any school system. This understanding drives her passion for fostering the next generation of educational leaders, as she seeks to share her experiences and expertise, particularly in guiding future leaders with empathy and integrity.

Irma has served and is a member of the Association of California School Administrators (ACSA), the ACSA Classified Leadership Committee, and the California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA), and has been recognized by her peers as the 2024 ACSA Classified Leader of the Year. She has shared many presentations on Communications, Leadership, and Increasing Human Effectiveness. Most recently, Irma was the Master of Ceremonies as Chair of the ACSA Women in School Leadership Conference, Planning Committee. She works diligently to continue to contribute to the advancement of educational leadership and the professional development of classified support staff.



CAEOP 76TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

March 19 - 21, 2026



Thursday, March 19 - Preconference

TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.	Registration	Embassy Suites
9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	CAEOP Board Meeting	Conference Room
12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.	Lunch on your own	
1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Parliamentarian Meeting	Conference Room
3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Registration	Embassy Suites
5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.	Networking Opportunity	
	Dinner on your own	

Friday, March 20 - Conference Day One

TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.	Registration	Embassy Suites
9:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.	Welcome Message from President Jaquenette Green	Ballroom
9:15 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.	Dr. Cherina Betters - People Are The Mission	
10:45 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Break - Vendor Shopping - Opportunity Basket Tickets	
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	SchoolsFirst - Savings and Retirement	
12:00 p.m. - 12:15 p.m.	Announcements	
12:15 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.	Affiliate Reports and Spirit Luncheon	
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	CAEOP Business Meeting - Robert's Rules of Order	
3:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.	Break - Vendor Shopping - Opportunity Basket Tickets	
3:15 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Announcements and Mystery Box Drawing	
5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.	Networking Opportunity	
	Dinner on Your Own	

Saturday, March 21 - Conference Day Two

TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
	Breakfast on your own	
8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.	Registration	Embassy Suites
9:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.	Welcome and Announcements	Ballroom
9:15 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	Irma Sanchez - Speak to Lead: The Art of Professional Communication	
10:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.	Break - Vendor Shopping - Opportunity Basket Tickets	
10:45 am - 12:00 p.m.	Malaika Bryant - The Ripple Effect: Resilience, Connection, Growth	
12:00 p.m. - 12:15 p.m.	Break - Vendor Shopping - Opportunity Basket Tickets	
12:15pm - 2:15pm	Awards Luncheon New Members, First Timers, and Service Years Newsletter, Poster Contest, and Scholarship Winners Connie Wilson Service Award Administrator and Office Professional of the Year Remembrance	
2:15 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Break - Vendor Shopping - Opportunity Basket Tickets	
2:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Opportunity - Weekender - Mystery Box Drawing	
3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	Closing Remarks	

Saturday Evening Installation Dinner

TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.	Networking and Photograph Opportunities	Embassy Suites
6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.	Celebration Dinner and Installation of 2026-2027 Officers Semi-Formal Attire in Royal Blue, Black, and Champagne	Ballroom

Sunday, March 22 - Post Conference

TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
	Breakfast on your own	
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	2026-2027 CAEOP Board Meeting	Conference Room
11:00 a.m.	Hotel Check-out	
	Lunch on your own	

Whipped Feta Dip Recipe

Shared by Kari Williams, KAEOP Member

Ingredients:

7 oz block of feta cheese, packaged in brine - Trader Joe's has the best one, in my opinion

4 oz (½ package) regular cream cheese (not low fat)

2-4 cloves garlic

1-2 Tbs. Olive oil

Directions:

1. Remove feta from brine and pat dry with a paper towel.
2. Add feta, cream cheese cut into chunks, two cloves of garlic (more if you're brave), and 1 Tbs olive oil into a food processor.
3. Blend until smooth, adding more olive oil about 1 tsp at a time until the consistency resembles cake frosting.
4. Spread in a thin layer on a shallow plate or platter and top with your choice of toppings such as:
 - a. Honey and chopped pistachios or other nuts, sprinkled with dried herbs de Provence
 - b. Honey and fresh herbs (thyme is amazing) and cracked black pepper
 - c. Chopped dried apricots and fresh chopped basil
 - d. Crumbled bacon, chopped dates, and balsamic glaze
 - e. Pomegranate arils (seeds), basil, and spicy honey
 - f. Chopped mint and lemon zest

Experiment with toppings, you can hardly go wrong!



2025-2026 KAEOP Board

Elected Officers

Mary Alice Means, Vice President of Programs and Acting President

Stacy Nava, Vice President of Membership

Lorri Kilby, CEOE, Secretary

Connie Vargas, Treasurer

Cherie Anderson, Immediate Past President

Committee Chairs:

Inspiration - Kathy Ramos

Poster Contest - Cristina Ruiz

Awards - Stacy Nava

Scholarships - Elsa Flores & Anna Espinoza

Awards Luncheon - Leslie Aguilar

Community Involvement - Mary Alice Means

Website Coordinator - Stacy Nava

Ways & Means - Crystal Ehret

Newsletter - Irene Bautista-Estevez

Nominations/Elections - Kathy Ramos

Historian & Bylaws - Cherie Anderson

Parliamentarian - Kathy Ramos

Auditor - Gail Ramos



Upcoming Meeting Dates

KAEOP Monthly Board meetings are currently held on the first Thursday of the month from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. in the Standard School District Education Service Center Board Room, located at 1200 North Chester Avenue, Bakersfield, CA, 93308.

February 5, 2025

March 5, 2026

April 2, 2026

May 7, 2026

June 4, 2026