

Acalanes High School says goodbye to beloved administrative assistant

By John T. Miller



LeeAnn Martin Photo provided

Acalanes High School will be losing a vital cog in the operation of the campus when LeeAnn Martini retires at the end of this month.

Martini has been with Acalanes for seven years as the school's administrative assistant after working at Campolindo High School for three years as their testing coordinator. Before that she volunteered as a class advisor for four years at Campolindo and also served as the volleyball parent coordinator while her daughters, Gina and Amy, went to school there.

After both her daughters graduated, it led to the job at Campolindo. "I spent so much time in the office, I figured I might as well get paid," she said.

During her tenure at Acalanes, she has worked for three different principals. Cur-

rent principal Travis Bell, who is just finishing his first year at the helm, says, "You can't put a price on what she means to the school." Referring to Martini, he added, "Everyone knows who really runs this place."

Bell mentioned that she has the inside scoop on potential problems before they happen, is aware of student and staff concerns, funnels budget requests and gets first glance at details. "She's been a great sounding board to help deal with issues," said Bell. "She reads and edits communications to the public, and since she is also a member of the community she provides valuable insight."

When asked what was her fondest memory of her time at the school, she mentioned that working with young people was a great joy. "I got close to so many kids and then miss them when they go away. They're all

good memories, and it's been a great staff to work with."

Martini does not plan on quitting work. "I'm looking to work or volunteer somewhere, but my first task will be to spend the summer helping to plan my daughter Amy's wedding."

Her husband Rich — whom she met when they were both at UC Davis — is not ready to retire yet, so her current travel plans aren't huge. Soon, however, she'd like to go to Northern Italy and Croatia with her husband and connect with her heritage; her ancestors hail from Montenegro.

Interviews for a new administrative assistant began last week and the school is hoping to have the position filled by the time Martini retires on June 30.

Stanley principal moves on but stays local as OUSD Director of Curriculum

By Pippa Fisher



David Schrag Photo provided

is happy to be gaining from his decision to accept the position as Director of Curriculum and Instruction for the district.

Unanimously approved for the appointment by the board of trustees, Schrag was one of eight candidates, selected out of 65 applicants, to interview before a committee made up of administrators, teachers and parents. His vision for teaching and learning in Orinda schools coupled with his impressive record of innovative, student-centered initiatives in Lafayette made him an obvious choice for the position, according to OUSD.

OUSD Superintendent, Carolyn Seaton, noted the outstanding candidates who had applied and commented, "Mr. Schrag impressed me as an exceptional instructional leader, a colleague who will work extraordinarily well with all employees, and as an educator who always places

students first in his decision-making process. He possess the organizational, communication and technical skills required to be highly successful as Director of Curriculum and Instruction."

Schrag, who received his undergraduate degree in English from the University of California, Davis, and his master's degree in education, administration and policy analysis from Stanford University, started his career as a fifth and sixth grade teacher for eight years in the Hayward Unified School District. He moved from there to the position of vice principal at Ralston Middle School in the Belmont-Redwood Shores Elementary School District, coming to Stanley Middle School as principal in 2007.

With Schrag at the helm, Stanley Middle School was honored as a California Gold Medal School and twice as a Cali-

fornia Distinguished School.

Schrag is thrilled to be working with the Orinda school community. He takes over the position on July 1 from Kathy Marshall. "I am aware that I am joining a district with a long tradition of excellence and I have huge shoes to fill with Kathy Marshall's departure."

He says his goals are to continue to provide strong support for teachers and principals "deepening the powerful work that is happening in teaching and learning."

"I will greatly miss the many relationships I have built with teachers and families in Lafayette and seeing middle school kids everyday."

However he says that he is looking forward to partnering with Seaton and the whole OUSD team in providing a world-class program for the students of Orinda.

Orinda Academy says Congratulations to its 2017 graduates

Submitted by Janet Harrison



Pictured are (not in order), Rebecca Barr, Eric Byberg, Jonathan DeWitt, Andrew Evans, Kelly Handler, Jin He, Nicolaus Haslund Fitzgerald, Jordan Leon, Alejandro Ochoa, Julia Pankonin-Dahl, Josh Ratto, Sean Stover, Olivia Tompkins, Aidan Walker, Joseph Whipple, Annu Yamaguchi, Zhengjie (Peter) Zhang, and Ansen Zhu.

Orinda Academy congratulates the Class of 2017 and wishes them well for a prosperous future.

Some of its graduates will be embarking on Gap Year projects while others will attend college in the fall. The colleges the students of the Class of 2017 will attend are: California College of the Arts, Chabot College, City College of San Francisco, College of San Mateo, Columbia College, Diablo Valley College, Ithaca College, Las Positas College, Mills College, Naropa University, Syracuse University, UC Santa Cruz, University of Puget Sound, and Whitman College.

The list of Acalanes graduates published in our June 14 issue was not complete. Please see below the complete list of the Class of 2017.

Class of 2017



Armin Adly	Jazzlynn Boynton	Owen Coleman	Cole Gallagher	Andrew Hyatt	Natalie Lira	Chase Nemanic	Arisa Routh	Madison Toma
Sean Ahmed	Faith Branch	Takori Coleman	Troy Ganter	Nicholas Jaber	John Lomond	William Newman	Matthew Ruegg	Melanie Tymn
Czarnie Alinsod	Emma Broback	Cole Combi	Nickolas Garcia	Skylar Javeli	Alexia Lucey	Lucy Nguyen	Diana Ruiz	Uma Unni
Bradley Altbaum	Samantha Browne	Kelsey Comins	Sarah Garfein	Parker Jones	Ophelia Luchin	Jacqueline Nichols	Katrina Rynne	Jilliane Vallesteros
Christopher Anderson	Jonathan Burns	Laura Connolly	Bennett Garza	Gabriela Joseph	Francesco Macayan	Meghan Nuti	Olivia Sabbadini	Anne Varellas
Rhett Anderson	Matthew Burns	Casey Conrad	Emma Godfrey	Axel Jurgens	Samuel Machol	Julian O'Donnell	Jade Sadoff	Sophia Varnai
Callista Asuncion	Cameron Burrill	Jason Cornell	Christopher Gonser	Joseph Kahler	Chase Maderious	Scott Ortlieb	Benjamin Salquist	Matthew Valencia
Emily Attiyeh	Alyssa Burtis	Lauren Cornwell	Amanda Gonzales	Jonah Kallen	Matthew Magnus	Sean Ortlieb	Daniel Seiler	Alexander Volkov
Marguerite Audley	Sterling Butler	Natalee Culver	Alyssa Gorton	Ryan Kapoor	Emilie Malinovsky	Katie Pan	David Severet	Mark von Hacht
Alexandra Awwad	Alexandra Calender	Yohannes Dagne	Hayley Gotelli	Shanel Kashaf	Evan Mann	Brooke Panfili	Bijan Shahabi	Annika Walker
Joshua Baginski	Joshua Candau	Andrew Dao	Rajiv Govindjee	Rebekah Kaufman	Mitchel Manning	Daniel Paris	Elizabeth Shehter	Katherine Walner
Madeline Bakar	Peter Candell	Molly Davis	William Grace	Alexander Kaviani	Sarah Manning	Caroline Passalacqua	Anne Shepherd	Lauren Wan
Bennett Baker	Elvia Canonizado	Kallie Deakins	Paul Griessel	Christopher Keeler	Neil Marcellini	Sabina Patel	Gabriel Singer	Meiwen Wang
Bryan Bamford	Jessica Carlin	Dylan Decool	Devin Grobeck	Cecily Kenney	Windy Margerum	Ben Peck	Carter Smith	Kai Watanabe
Dante Bamont	Payson Carpenter	Charles Delamore	Hannah Gurson	Daniel Kim	Jesse Marlow	Marguerite Phillips	Jonathan Smith	William Watson
Nikolas Barakos	Emily Carr	Anna deRoque	Madeline Guzaitis	Isabel Kirke	Veronica Marrone	Meredith Pierce	Riley Smith	Nathaniel Welcomer
Benjamin Barreto	Marina Carr	Alexandra Donner	Benyamin Hakimjavadi	Sean Ko	Maia Marshall	Robert Plafker	Nickolas Smyrnios	Markus Wesser
Caroline Basha	Mia Carvotta	Elizabeth Dornier	Kelsey Hansen	Lauren Kobayashi	Alexandra Matson	Justin Plummer	Samuel Stack	Ethan Westemeier
Natalie Basha	Alexis Caviness	Rachel Dresdner	Sarah Hansen	Greta Kohls	Connor McCarthy	Eva Poulsen	Heidi Stanford	Mia Westphal
Harrison Bauer	Cole Christensen	Brenden Duboff	Quinn Harrington	Hannah Kramer	Kevin McConnell	Liza Pressman	Julia Stedman	Tai White
Aidan Beard	Ian Churchill	Alexander Edraki	Alexander Hashim	Mandan Kuhn	Chloe McCullough	Noah Prozan	Dominique	Alexis Williams
Cameron Beattie	Caroline Clark	Thomas Edwards	Madeleine Helvey	Drew Kuzmin	Mason McKay	Brody Quinn	Steinbrecher	Arman Williams
Dylan Beaunae	Ryan Clavin	Melissa Elliott	Brian Hemmenway	Batchelor	Harley McKee	Stefan Ramsey	Madison Stewart	Nicholas Wilson
Samantha Bell	Eliza Cleaver	Charlotte Ensley	Jin Young Heo	Daniel Kvitko	Mitchell McTigue	Cassandra Reid	Mia Noelle Stripling	Kira Wiseman
Ryan Bixler	Kaitlin Clever	Callie Ericksen	Fernanda Heredia	Stanley Kvitko	Seth McWhirter	William Rembac	John Stryker	Nicole Wiseman
Imani Boggan	Lindsay Cocotis	Danielle Evangelista	Hadas Hessler	Lauren Ladrech	Allison Merrill	Cole Robertson	Cameran Stuart	Kelianne Witt
Michael Bone	William Cohen	Isaac Evans	Thomas Higgins	Michael Lalor	Evan Mickas	Kyra Robertson	Ryan Summerlin	Camryn Woehrl
		Michael Everton	Aaron Hill	Rebecca LaMotte	Sarah Miles	Bradley Robison	Lia Swan	Meghan Wolf
		Tyler Ewing	Lan Chi Ho	Katharine Larson	Joseph Miller	Flavia Caroline	Asiana Tam	Cara Wolfe
		John Feddersen	John Hoffman	Natalie Lawton	Kai Mills	Rodrigues	Kouros Tavakoli	Drew Wondolowski
		Alexandra Figueredo	Lillian Hooker	Brianna Lee	Mea Mitchell	Juan Rodriguez	Leah Templeton	Zachary Woodworth
		Hailey Fisher	Foster Houlston	Ryan Levy	Matthew Mlynek	Eric Rogers	Claire Terentieff	Christy Xie
		Ryan Franke	Naomi House	John Lewerenz	Matthew Moorehead	Morgan Rogers	Delila Tesfai	Cameron Yokoi
		Joseph Frument	Taylor Howell	Jingyanshan Li	Diego Mountin	Patrick Romero	Steffen Thallaug	Kirsten Yu
		Olivia Gaffney	Trinity Howell	Derrick Lin	Julia Mueller	Karina Ron	Adrielle Thorenfeldt	Sayeh Zarechian
		Nicole Gagliardi	Kyle Hulsey	Olivia Lindgren	Nixon Murgia	Wesley Rosemont	Zachary Tom	William Zimmer