

ECSpotlight

NEWS OF INTEREST
WITH OUR MEMBERS IN MIND

Winter 2025



INSIGHT

A Few Words From Our CEO

First and foremost, I wanted to wish you and yours a very safe, happy and prosperous New Year.

Next, I want to devote this space to honoring someone who has meant a great deal to the growth and success of East County Schools Federal Credit Union over the last eight-and-a-half years. I am speaking about the recent retirement of Karen Fleck, our Vice-President of Marketing & Business Development.

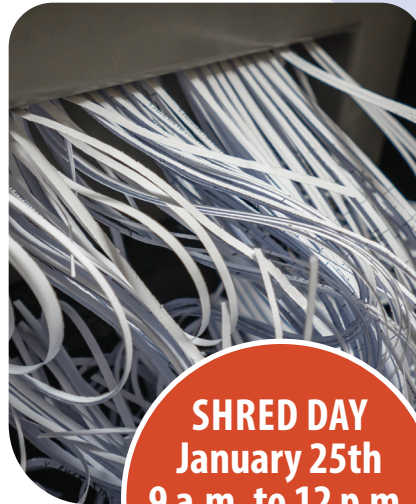
For more than 20 years we have been very intentional in our efforts to develop very deep, meaningful and lasting relationships throughout our East County education community. We would not be where we are today without Karen's efforts to spread the word on the principles, values, beliefs and most importantly, our unique services to our member owners... past, present and future.

Karen's legacy of volunteerism is legendary, whether it be through her 10 years serving on the board of the Ninth District PTA, numerous educational foundations, Chamber of Commerce events that support our education community, not to mention her leadership roles on the Rotary Club of Santee-Lakeside. Whether you know her or not, there is little doubt that she has touched your life directly or indirectly over the past 30+ years.

To say the least, Karen will be missed but never forgotten as I'm sure that many of us will see her at one event or several others in the near future.

Congratulations on your retirement Karen, it is well deserved.

Steven A. Devan
President & Chief Executive Officer



SHRED DAY
January 25th
9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
1069 Graves Ave.
El Cajon

Save the Date
FREE Shred Day is
Saturday, January 25th
9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Bring your sensitive paper documents (up to eight copy paper-sized boxes) to our El Cajon branch and watch as they are shredded on-site. It's a drive-thru event, you may stay in your vehicle and we will unload your boxes or bags.

This free event is open to all ECSFCU members and all school district employees. We are pleased to assist in disposing of your confidential documents.



Classified Employees – Earn up to \$6,000 in Additional Money for Next Summer!

Before March 1, 2025 - take advantage of the Classified School Employee Summer Assistance Program (CSESAP) through the California Dept. of Education (CDE), if your school district offers it. CSESAP is available for classified employees working 11 months or less and earning below \$62,400, and allows you to contribute up to 10 percent of your pay, which the CDE will match, up to 100%. Can't afford that in your budget? That's where East County Schools FCU can help. We offer a line of credit that will credit back your CSESAP contribution, less a small interest payment, and allow you to keep almost a full monthly paycheck while taking advantage of this generous program. Visit EastCountySchools.org/CSESAP or call (619) 588-1515 to apply.

Subject to approval, terms and conditions apply. Payroll direct deposit required.

You're Invited to the ECSFCU Annual Meeting!

Wednesday, February 19, 2025 at 5:15 p.m.

Join us for the East County Schools FCU Annual Meeting, **Wednesday, February 19, 2025 at 5:15 p.m.** The meeting will be held as a hybrid event both in person in our El Cajon branch lobby at 1069 Graves Avenue, and as a Zoom event. The Board of Directors election results and highlights of our accomplishments will be presented. All member-owners are welcome to attend. Information on how to connect to the Zoom meeting can be found at EastCountySchools.org/annualmeeting.



Training Breakfast at ECSFCU

Thanks to those who joined us for a networking morning with our staff, while educating some of our business clients on remote check cashing, counterfeit bill detection and more.



Meet Bradley Johnson, Supervisory Committee Member

Bradley brings over two decades of experience in school finance, facilities management, and educational leadership to his role on the Supervisory Committee of East County Schools Federal Credit Union. As Superintendent of the Dehesa

School District, Bradley leads a thriving district that has been serving students since 1876.

At the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, Dehesa faced significant challenges, including low enrollment and critical funding shortfalls that put the district at risk of closure or absorption into another district. Under Bradley's leadership, the district embraced innovation, creating two new non-classroom-based educational programs that have reinvigorated its mission.

The SoCal Scholars Academy emphasizes enrichment programs tailored to diverse learning needs, while the Dehesa Method Sports Academy supports student-athletes by integrating athletic training into their education. These programs have spurred growth and brought renewed energy to the district, which is now flourishing with a bright future.

In addition to his work in Dehesa, Bradley is a Certified Chief Business Official who has managed \$2.7 billion across five capital bond programs and served as Associate Faculty in accounting and business management at the University of Arizona Global Campus.

A passionate advocate for education and community service, Bradley has contributed to organizations like the Make-A-Wish Foundation and I Love a Clean San Diego. He also enjoys volunteering as a foster parent for the San Diego Humane Society.

Introducing Vicki Ordway, Supervisory Committee

Vicki brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to our Supervisory Committee. Originally starting work at El Cajon Valley High School in 1975, Vicki left to work for 9 years in the banking industry, before returning to GUHSD in 1995.

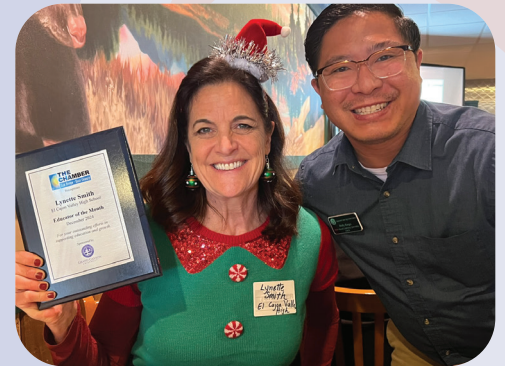
She recently retired as the Executive Assistant and Governing Board Secretary from Steele Canyon Charter High School where she worked since it's opening in 2000. Fun fact: Ordway's Uncle Thomas Gould established the Grossmont Union High School District Employees Federal Credit Union in the 1950's and she became a member when she was eligible. Vicki was also part of the renaming committee when we became East County Schools Federal Credit Union in 2015!



Educator of the Month Lynette Smith!

Lynette Smith of El Cajon Valley High School was honored as Educator of the Month for December by the East County Chamber for her leadership in implementing GUHSD's new Health Careers in the Community pathway with emphasis on creating a structure that enables more English Language learners to enroll. Multilingual workers are in high demand, and this new pathway in the Career Technical Education program removes barriers.

Well done Lynette!



Lynette Smith and Ardy Riego of Grossmont Union High School District.

HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

New Year's Day

Wednesday, January 1, 2025

Martin Luther King Jr

Monday, January 20, 2025

President's Day

Monday, February 17, 2025



El Cajon - Main Office

1069 Graves Avenue, Suite 100

El Cajon, CA 92021-4573

Monday - Friday: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Credit Union to You (CU2U)

Your office or nearby place of business

Monday - Friday: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

(619) 588-1515 Call to schedule

Phone (619) 588-1515 | Fax (619) 588-2197

www.EastCountySchools.org

