

Community Engagement Initiative Statute
From AB 1808 (2018-19 Education Trailer Bill)

SEC. 140.

- (a) The Legislature finds and declares both of the following:
- (1) Without capacity in California's public school system to conduct meaningful stakeholder engagement, especially as it relates to the local control and accountability plan development process, pupils, families, and communities may not be able to hold school districts accountable for decisions that affect pupil outcomes.
 - (2) The statewide system of support established pursuant to Section 52059.5 of the Education Code should include expertise and resources to help school districts improve in their ability to engage stakeholders meaningfully.
- (b) The Community Engagement Initiative is hereby established for the purpose of all of the following:
- (1) Building capacity in communities and school districts to have difficult conversations with each other and build trust, with a focus on improving outcomes for pupils.
 - (2) Identifying effective models of community engagement and metrics to evaluate those models.
 - (3) Developing effective peer-to-peer partnerships between school districts and county offices of education, utilizing the existing professional learning networks structure administered by the California Collaborative for Educational Excellence, to deepen community engagement using lessons learned from the work identified in paragraph (1) and the models identified in paragraph (2).
 - (4) Scaling up the work identified in paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) to improve community engagement statewide and incorporate practices that prove effective towards school district and county office of education continuous improvement efforts.
- (c) By November 1, 2018, the State Department of Education and the California Collaborative for Educational Excellence, with approval from the executive director of the State Board of Education, shall select an expert lead agency, consistent with Section 52073.1 of the Education Code, to coadminister the Community Engagement Initiative with the California Collaborative for Educational Excellence. The lead agency selected for this work shall demonstrate a willingness and capacity to do all of the following:
- (1) Develop and disseminate expertise in community engagement.
 - (2) Work collaboratively with the California Collaborative for Educational Excellence and a diverse group of education stakeholders.
 - (3) Communicate regularly with the State Department of Education, the California Collaborative for Educational Excellence, and the lead agencies specified in Section 52073 of the Education Code through the formal process established pursuant to subparagraph (B) of paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 52073 of the Education Code.
 - (4) Document the outcomes of the activities authorized by this section through the duration of the Community Engagement Initiative and, in partnership with the California Collaborative for Educational Excellence and the Community Engagement Initiative participants, develop resources based on the experiences and conclusions of the

Community Engagement Initiative participants from their specific contexts that are broadly applicable and actionable statewide.

- (5) Play a leadership role in disseminating the information specified in paragraph (4) throughout the statewide system of support established pursuant to Section 52059.5 of the Education Code and serving as a resource to local educational agencies and community stakeholders in applying that information to their local context.
- (d) By February 1, 2019, the California Collaborative for Educational Excellence and the lead agency selected pursuant to subdivision (c) shall solicit teams to participate in the Community Engagement Initiative. These teams shall each represent a different region of the state and shall include community members, pupils, schoolsite staff and leadership, school district staff and leadership, and county office of education staff and leadership affiliated with a common single school district. Positive consideration shall be given to teams that are engaging in activities consistent with paragraph (1) of subdivision (b), and teams that have been successful in engaging community members that have not historically been engaged with their school district. These teams shall be willing to do all of the following:
 - (1) Participate in and cofacilitate a professional learning network for no less than three years.
 - (2) Engage in an open dialogue on issues related to improving local pupil outcomes.
 - (3) Partner with other communities and school districts on improving community engagement.
- (e) The California Collaborative for Educational Excellence and the lead agency selected pursuant to subdivision (c) shall select four to six geographically diverse teams from the applicants solicited pursuant to subdivision (d), and by June 1, 2019, shall convene the first meeting of a professional learning network with those teams.
- (f) The goals of the professional learning network established pursuant to subdivision (e) shall be to do all of the following:
 - (1) Deepen the community engagement of the school districts and communities participating in the professional learning network.
 - (2) Define common characteristics and best practices of communities where engagement between communities, pupils, schools, and school districts is strong.
 - (3) Identify and test metrics for measuring increases in community engagement.
 - (4) Develop a protocol for facilitating future professional learning networks to help other communities and school districts improve and deepen their interactions.
 - (5) Develop criteria for selecting other teams that would benefit from and be successful in improving community engagement.
 - (6) Create capacity within each team to cofacilitate a future community engagement professional learning network.
- (g) For the 2020–21 and 2021–22 fiscal years, the California Collaborative for Educational Excellence and the lead agency selected pursuant to subdivision (c) shall convene five community engagement professional learning networks. Each of these professional learning networks shall be similar in composition to those described in subdivision (d). These teams shall be willing to do all of the following:
 - (1) Participate in the professional learning network for no less than two years.
 - (2) Engage in open dialogue on issues related to improving local pupil outcomes.

- (3) Partner with other communities and school districts on improving community engagement.
- (h) Each of the professional learning networks created pursuant to subdivision (g) shall include as cofacilitators members of a team that participated in the initial community engagement professional learning network established pursuant to subdivision (e).
- (i) Each of the professional learning networks established pursuant to subdivision (g) shall do both of the following:
 - (1) Deepen the community engagement of the school districts and communities participating in each professional learning network, including by engaging in the protocol developed pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (f).
 - (2) Use the metrics developed pursuant to paragraph (3) of subdivision (f) to measure changes in community engagement in each of the participating communities and school districts.
- (j) By January 1, 2021, and using funds provided for this purpose in the annual Budget Act, the California Collaborative for Educational Excellence shall develop and conduct a statewide training on community engagement based on, but not limited to, the findings of the professional learning networks created pursuant to subdivisions (e) and (g). The California Collaborative for Educational Excellence shall periodically update this training, as needed, based on the findings of future community engagement professional learning networks and other research. The California Collaborative for Educational Excellence is encouraged to feature this training in the future years using funds provided for this purpose in the annual Budget Act.
- (k) For the 2022–23 and 2023–24 fiscal years, the California Collaborative for Educational Excellence and the lead agency selected pursuant to subdivision (c) shall convene additional community engagement professional learning networks with the remaining funds available for that purpose. Each of these professional learning networks shall be similar in composition as those described in subdivision (d). These teams shall be willing to do all of the following:
 - (1) Participate in the professional learning network for no less than two years.
 - (2) Engage in open dialogue on issues related to improving local pupil outcomes.
 - (3) Partner with other communities and school districts on improving community engagement.
- (l) To the extent possible, each of the professional learning networks created pursuant to subdivision (k) shall include as cofacilitators members of a team that had previously participated in a community engagement professional learning network established pursuant to this section.
- (m) Each of the professional learning networks established pursuant to subdivision (k) shall do both of the following:
 - (1) Deepen the community engagement of the school districts and communities participating in each professional learning network, including by engaging in the protocol developed pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (f), updated as appropriate by the lead agency selected pursuant to subdivision (c) based on feedback from the professional learning networks authorized by subdivision (g).
 - (2) Use the metrics developed pursuant to paragraph (3) of subdivision (f), updated as appropriate by the lead agency selected pursuant to subdivision (c) based on feedback

from the professional learning networks authorized by subdivision (g), to measure changes in community engagement in each of the participating communities and school districts.

- (n) By June 30, 2024, the California Collaborative for Educational Excellence and the lead agency selected pursuant to subdivision (c) shall submit a report to the executive director of the State Board of Education, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the executive director of the California Collaborative of Educational Excellence, the superintendent of each of the lead agencies identified pursuant to Section 52073 of the Education Code, and the chairpersons of each of the appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature. The report shall include all of the following:
- (1) A description of best practices for improving community engagement identified by the professional learning networks established under the Community Engagement Initiative, and any changes in the understanding of best practices throughout the duration of the program.
 - (2) Using the metrics identified pursuant to paragraph (3) of subdivision (f) and additional metrics developed by subsequent professional learning networks, an analysis of the impact of the work done by each team through the professional learning networks on their home communities and school districts.
 - (3) Feedback to improve the community engagement professional learning network protocol and metrics, and additional activities or resources that would assist in continued development of capacity within local educational agencies and local communities for conducting meaningful stakeholder engagement.
- (o) The sum of thirteen million two hundred seventy-four thousand dollars (\$13,274,000) is hereby appropriated from the General Fund to the Superintendent of Public Instruction for allocation to the California Collaborative for Educational Excellence for the Community Engagement Initiative pursuant to this section. The administrative agent of the California Collaborative of Educational Excellence, pursuant to policy and program direction from the governing board of the California Collaborative for Educational Excellence, shall develop the budget for the Community Engagement Initiative, subject to approval by the Department of Finance. Of the amount appropriated in this subdivision, six hundred sixty thousand dollars (\$660,000) shall be allocated to the administrative agent of the California Collaborative for Educational Excellence for costs associated with administering this program. All funds appropriated pursuant to this subdivision shall be available for encumbrance until June 30, 2024.
- (p) For purposes of making the computations required by Section 8 of Article XVI of the California Constitution, the appropriation made by subdivision (o) shall be deemed to be "General Fund revenues appropriated for school districts," as defined in subdivision (c) of Section 41202 of the Education Code, for the 2016-17 fiscal year, and included within the "total allocations to school districts and community college districts from General Fund proceeds of taxes appropriated pursuant to Article XIII B," as defined in subdivision (e) of Section 41202 of the Education Code, for the 2016-17 fiscal year.