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Help Shape the Future of California Education Applicants Needed for Community Engagement Initiative

SAN BERNARDINO, Calif. (March 9, 2020) - Applications are now being accepted for school districts interested in serving in the Community Engagement Initiative's Peer Leading and Learning Network.

The Community Engagement Initiative is looking to partner with local school districts across the state to help communities and schools establish peer-to-peer relationships and develop a deeper understanding of the types of engagement desired by diverse populations.

Participants in the Community Engagement Initiative will play an important role not only helping those within their individual communities, but also in school districts across California. Additionally, district partners will enjoy the opportunity to learn effective practices already seeing success improving outcomes for English learners, low-income students, foster youth, and students from other underserved groups. This includes opportunities to engage in an open dialogue on issues related to improving local pupil outcomes.

Districts selected to participate in Cohort II will join the Cohort I Districts (Anaheim Union High School District, Azusa Unified School District, Cajon Valley Union School District, East Side Union School District Ontario-Montclair School District and Oxnard School District) in leading the Community Engagement Initiative's efforts to build statewide capacity for authentic community engagement. Participants receive an annual District Team stipend of at least \$2,000 for each of the eight CEI meetings to support participation, along with travel stipends.

New resources are also available to further share information and successes of the Community Engagement initiative. This includes a recently launched website, www.CaliforniaEngage.org and social media accounts. Participants and other interested parties, including community leaders, teachers, students and others can now follow www.facebook.com/caengage on Facebook, <http://www.twitter.com/caengage> on Twitter and explore YouTube video clips on the California Engagement Initiative channel.

The Community Engagement Initiative is co-administered by the California Collaborative for Educational Excellence along with a consortium consisting of San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools, California Association for Bilingual Education and Families in Schools.

Visit www.CaliforniaEngage.org for more information about the Community Engagement Initiative and details on how to participate. Applications are due by 9 a.m. on Wednesday, March 18, 2020.

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