The CCEE Advisory Council Highlights is a newsletter that captures the highlights of council meeting discussions. This newsletter is intended to inform the field. Please share with your fellow superintendents or any interested parties.

May Meeting 5/1/19

CCEE Executive Director Report

CCEE Executive Director Tom Armelino provided his Executive Director’s Report which first focused on the agency’s interest in highlighting notable examples of how counties and LEAs are working together as part of the differentiated assistance process under the state System of Support.

Armelino indicated the CCEE would like to promote and publicize how differentiated assistance is impacting teaching and learning in classrooms by leveraging its media/communication platforms such as CCEE’s CA School Field Trip Podcast and CCEE Video Shorts. Armelino encouraged council members to contact CCEE Senior Manager of Communications Ana Tintocalis should they have story ideas.

Armelino also spent time during the Executive Director’s Report bringing attention to current state budget deliberations taking place among California legislators in Sacramento.

He led a discussion focused on receiving feedback and gauging interest from council members about the need for more professional development resources to help address teaching and learning needs at the local level.

Members of the council expressed a need for more funding and professional development. Armelino encouraged council members to contact the Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) and the California School Board Association (CSBA) to understand the results of a recent report commissioned by these two agencies titled Attitudes on...
Education Funding Options in California and to share their ideas to advocate for increased public school funding. He also underscored the importance of educators at all levels coming together to agree on a “common focus” for education funding priorities.

Communications Update

CCEE Senior Manager of Communications Ana Tintocalis provided a brief update on CCEE’s current media/communications platforms to illustrate the many ways in which the agency is raising awareness about its role, activities and initiatives. Currently, the CCEE’s media/communications platforms are: 1) Multimedia – podcasts, videos, toolkit resources 2) Digital Publications – e-Newsletter, blog 3) Social Media – Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn and 4) the CCEE Website.

In addition, Tintocalis introduced the CCEE’s new official tagline: “Working to strengthen the System of Support for every student.” The tagline is part of the agency’s new core messaging framework. Tintocalis also reviewed the fundamental talking points the agency is now using in the field and within collateral materials.

>> Click here: the CCEE’s key core messages/talking points

System of Support Update

CCEE Deputy Executive Director Sujie Shin provided an update on how CCEE continues to partner with the California Department of Education (CDE) and the State Board of Education (SBE) to operationalize the new state System of Support.

Shin indicated the CCEE worked directly with the CDE to coordinate and facilitate a second meeting with all the Lead Agencies within the System of Support earlier in April. The purpose of the meeting was to learn more about several of the initiatives including the Equity Performance and Improvement Program Leads, the Title III English Learner Lead and the Multi-Tier System of Support Leads.

In addition, Shin explained how the Lead Agencies are currently engaged in “relationship building” and “asset mapping” to identify the strengths/resources of each Lead
Agency in an effort to build system capacity. More conversations are expected to focus on evaluation i.e. success, metrics, feedback etc.

Shin also shared how the CDE and the CCEE recently hosted a productive **System of Support Stakeholder Planning Meeting** with a variety of key advocacy groups which will offer additional considerations and next steps in trying to strengthen the system.

After her presentation, council members expressed interest in having “common talking points” to help them understand and communicate the System of Support. Shin agreed and highlighted a CCEE Lead Agencies Handout/Map to help council members become familiar with the new support structure.

>> Click here: the CCEE Lead Agencies Handout/Map

### Systemic Instructional Review

**CCEE Director of Systems Improvement and Innovation Dr. Karla Estrada** provided an overview of the agency’s **Direct Technical Assistance** program. Estrada explained how the CCEE uses an integrated, highly collaborative approach, in which the agency focuses on key areas, and provides whatever form of assistance is called for via several distinct “Modes of Engagement,” based on the approach best suited to the LEA’s need.

Estrada also emphasized how the CCEE strives to utilize innovation to drive equity and access for all students by leveraging what will become a “rolodex” of professional experts to meet the needs of our partners. Council members praised Estrada for developing this approach because it allows for ongoing customized support.

Estrada also provided an overview of **CCEE’s Systemic Instructional Review**, a comprehensive analysis process intended to help districts identify areas of strengths and challenges within their academic systems. Estrada indicated the CCEE has finalized its first Systemic Instructional Review with the Inglewood Unified School District. Based on the current purpose/goal of this kind of report, Estrada asked council members to provide input and feedback on elements of the report in hopes of shaping the
Charter Discussion

Armelino provided an overview of current proposals introduced in the Legislature that have the potential to impact the CCEE and its role with charter schools and charter authorizers.

Armelino focused the discussion on the CCEE’s current role regarding differentiated assistance support for charter schools. He requested council member feedback and thoughts about possible options for the CCEE’s role in differentiated assistance through consultation with other members of the System of Support.

Council members expressed an interest in aligning differentiated assistance within the System of Support and advised the CCEE to avoid assuming a compliance-oriented role as is currently defined in statute.