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CCEE Council Members (Superintendents)

- Rob Adams, Redding SD

 Ted Alejandre, San Bernardino COE
- Christi Barrett, Hemet USD
- Todd Cutler, Lake Tahoe USD Debra Duardo, Los Angeles COE
- Francisco Escobedo, Chula Vista ESD
- Lisette Estrella-Henderson, Solano COE Todd Finnell, Imperial COE
- Jose Gonzalez, Planada ESD
- Dave Gordon, Sacramento COE
- Patty Gunderson, Lassen COE
- Chris Hartley, Humboldt COE
- Diann Kitamura, Santa Rosa City Schools
- Scott Kuykendall, Stanislaus COE Leslie Lockhart, Culver City USD
- Krystal Lomanto, San Benito COE
- Yvette Irving, Gonzales USD
- Susan Salcido, Santa Barbara COE Christine Walker, Hueneme ESD Jim Yovino, Fresno COE

Ex Officio Member

Mary Jane Burke, Marin COE

CCEE Member Emeritus

Christine Lizardi Frazier, Ed.D.

Advisory Council Highlights

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.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

Executive Director Tom Armelino began the Advisory Council meeting by thanking the superintendents for the incredible work they've done this year to support their students. Armelino recognized Dr. Francisco Escobedo, Leslie Lockhart, and Dr. Diann Kitamura for their service on the Advisory Council and asked Dr. Kitamura to share some words of wisdom about her experience.

Dr. Kitamura emphasized the iimportance of relationships, especially in their role in mitigating, connecting, and bringing stakeholders from various groups together. As we do this work, Dr. Kitamura encouraged the Advisory Council members to utilize procedural justice to give our stakeholders a voice and to help them understand our why behind tough decisions or policies. Lastly, she urged the members to practice self-care—to find something that rejuvenates their hearts and souls—as they take on one of the most challenging roles in their careers.

For those who want to listen and learn from fellow superintendents, Armelino noted that the Leading Forward Podcast featured Advisory Council members, including <u>Dr. Diann Kitamura</u>, <u>Dr. Chris Hartley</u>, <u>Lisette Estrella-Henderson</u>, and <u>Dr. Francisco Escobedo</u>.

CCEE AGENCY UPDATES

David M. Toston, Senior Advisor of Equity & Innovation, and Rocio Gonzalez-Frausto, Assistant Director of Direct Technical Assistance (DTA), provided an overview of the team's plans to expand access to CCEE's DTA resources by developing the Guided Instructional Review and a Facilitated Instructional Review. The Guided Instructional Review is a self-administered process guided by a series of self-paced online modules. The Facilitated Instructional Review is a fee-for-service partnership with CCEE that consists of completing a series of continuous improvement activities focused on instructional systems. These resources have been designed based on the practices and learnings from the Systemic Instructional Review to achieve sustained advances for all students.

Advisory Council members provided input on DTA's theory of action, the DTA framework, and the needs of LEAs. The feedback underscored the importance



of highlighting that CCEE support and resources are intended to supplement the differentiated assistance provided by county offices of education. CCEE staff will continue to engage and seek input from the Advisory Council as resources and processes are designed and tested over the coming year.

BUDGET UPDATES

Leilani Aguinaldo, Director of Governmental Relations at School Services of California, began with an overview of the COVID-19 funding timeline, which included state and federal resources (i.e., Learning Loss Mitigation Funds, Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund, Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund). Aguinaldo advised the Advisory Council members to keep these one-time dollars separate from their General Fund dollars, and to begin by developing a plan for investing all the funds available. She reminded Advisory Council members to spend their most restrictive dollars first, based on the deadlines associated with funding.

Aguinaldo delved into strategies for strategic planning and effective communication, highlighting a multi-perspective approach that includes the superintendent, business services, educational services, and human resources. As LEAs develop their plans, she encouraged members to utilize available state and local data, including absence rates, graduation rates, and suspension rates, to make data-driven investments that tie into the LCAP. Aguinaldo continued to emphasize the importance of maintaining consistent communication efforts to ensure stakeholders (e.g., board, administrative team, labor partners, employees, special groups) are informed and included in the decision-making process.

Danyel Conolley, Director of Management Consulting Services at School Services of California, continued the presentation with an overview of short-term staffing options and the fiscal impacts that could result if not managed effectively. While LEAs can use COVID-19 relief funding for emergency staffing needs, Conolley noted that the employee classification and the tracking of classified short-term employment are critical in avoiding long-term impacts. Rather than making adjustments to ongoing compensation with one-time funding, Conolley recommended exploring different opportunities to address compensation, including health and welfare benefits, professional learning offerings, hiring incentives, and one-time COVID-19 stipends.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

Monique Ramos from California Strategies provided a high-level overview of the budget and where the negotiations stand. Ramos mentioned that we will continue to see several trailer bills and iterations of the budget throughout the summer, as there is some resistance on allocating dollars until federal guidance provides some direction. She shared that both the Senate and the Assembly released their budget priorities before the May Revise came out, which was

CCEE Executive Director

Tom Armelino

CCEE Staff Presenters

David M. Toston, Senior Advisor, Equity & Innovation

Rocio Gonzalez-Frausto
Asst. Director, Direct Technical Assistance

CCEE Liaisons

Leilani Aguinaldo & Danyel Conolley School Services of California

Monique Ramos, California Strategies

CCEE Advisory Council Meeting

- Proposed 2021-22 Dates -

September 10, 2021 December 10, 2021 March 11, 2022 June 10, 2022

Building Educational Systems of Innovation

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Building Educational Systems of Innovation



Instructional Review Guidebook & Facilitated Instructional Review



an attempt to influence what the governor was going to release. Compared to the other sections in the budget, Ramos noted that the K-12 budget is almost a united budget package.

Ramos highlighted some bills that turned into two-year bills that will need to move to the second house by January 31, including SB 309 (school finance and college readiness grants), AB 99 (governance of cradle-to-career data system), AB 104 (pupil instruction: retention, grade changes, and exemptions), AB 599 (amendment to Ed. Code Section 1240 regarding duties of county superintendent of schools). She deferred any questions related to AB 599 to CCSESA, who is co-sponsoring the bill. When asked if there were any updates regarding independent study, Ramos shared that negotiations are continuing and that holistically, K-12 is united in their pushback.

OPEN DISCUSSION

One Advisory Council member asked if anyone could share any guidance or best practices on deploying virtual learning programs this coming year. Superintendent Christine Walker of Hueneme ESD shared how her district set up a program that looks very similar to its distance learning program, but meets all the requirements for independent study. Superintendent Walker provided a job description that her district used for a digital learning academy teacher and the teacher expectations that were shared.

Executive Director Tom Armelino concluded the Advisory Council meeting with a short presentation on creating systemic and long-term change in school systems built with structural inequities. Recognizing the pressures that come with innovation and learning acceleration, Armelino encouraged the Advisory Council members to begin by taking stock of the challenges that currently exist in order to identify the efforts needed to create effective change. Some challenges include timelines for hiring, LCAP development, and budget processes; funding; expectations of innovation; distance learning; building and sustaining capacity; and the social-emotional well-being of children and adults.

To approach these challenges, Armelino recommended starting slow and investing the time needed to make long-term change. By using aggregated school and district data to identify root causes and inform short cycles of improvement, LEA leaders will be able to prioritize initiatives, practices, and resources that best support the LEA in addressing its goals. Armelino emphasized the importance of planning with coherence to ensure all levels of the system share a unified focus and purpose, grounded in equity.



Maintaining Fiscal Stability While Ensuring a Focus on Instructional Priorities

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COVID-19 Resources for LEAs