

News & Announcements

LOOKING AHEAD

- CCEE Newsletter (Nov. 2021) - Statewide Efforts to Address Staff Shortages (Part I)

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

- [Episodes 1-3](#) of the Community Engagement Initiative's six-part web series are now available!



Resources to Engage Families in Student Learning

- CCEE's Playbook for Accelerating Learning - [Engaging Families](#)
- CCEE's Field Guide - [Empowering Families](#)
- [A Principal's Guide to Effective Family Engagement Strategies and Resources](#)
- [Family Guides](#) that provide families with the information & tools to support their children in literacy and math
- Los Angeles USD's [Parent Roadmaps](#) in ELA and Math (English & Spanish)

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

- Sept 15 - Oct. 15 is National Hispanic Heritage Month. Click [here](#) to learn more!
- Celebrate National Hispanic Heritage month with these [K-12 lessons & activities!](#)
- Check out San Diego COE's [Guide for Observing Hispanic Heritage Month!](#)

LGBTQIA+ HISTORY MONTH

- [LGBTQ+ History & Pride: Lessons & Books](#)
- San Diego COE's [LGBTQIA+ Professional Learning Opportunities](#)
- [Teaching LGBTQ Topics in 2021](#) (CA History-Social Science Project)

Executive Director's Corner



A VISION FOR THE FUTURE OF CCEE

In Simon Sinek's most recent book, *The Infinite Game*, he describes the reasons why systems and organizations fail. Organizations that fail use infinite language but play a finite game, meaning they have their sights focused on the scoreboard instead of the vision. Organizations like Kodak and Blackberry ultimately described a vision that was anchored to a scoreboard, and inevitably failed to sustain innovation for the long haul. My friend and educator Gary Waddle recently said, "*The Infinite Game* captures the essence of effective teams doing the work that matters!"

And that is ultimately what CCEE envisions for the future. CCEE wants to help our educational partners do the work that matters. If we are going to make a difference, our educational community must come together to identify an infinite vision that is focused on improving equitable educational outcomes for all of California's students. Over the last two months, our team has been reflecting on our organizational mission, vision, values, and goals. We are currently in the process of finalizing a new mission statement that supports our state agency charge and meets the needs of our educational community. We are also in the midst of refining our vision statement and restructuring our organization to promote an infinite-minded focus and identity. We look forward to sharing our work with you in the November edition of our newsletter.

This month's newsletter will feature tools, strategies, and resources to reimagine how we engage families to improve student outcomes.

Sincerely,
Matt J. Navo

Ready for Back-to-School Night?

TRANSFORMING FAMILY-SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS TO IMPROVE STUDENT OUTCOMES

Like many other school districts, Cajon Valley Union School District has adapted the way they interact with and support families over the past year. Using their lessons learned, the district is finding [successful new ways](#) to partner with families, support student learning, and empower parent liaisons. Watch these short [2- to 5-minute videos](#) to learn how Cajon Valley USD is transforming the way families participate in advancing their child's learning through its Family-Teacher Teams—a twist on WestEd's [Academic Parent-Teacher Teams \(APTT\)](#).

APTT is a research-based model of family engagement that aligns grade-level learning concepts, student performance data, and family-teacher communication and collaboration to maximize student learning inside and outside of school. Click [here](#) to learn how your school can start engaging in a collaborative process with your students' families to accelerate student learning!

THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVE'S SIX-PART SERIES

We invite you to learn more about how 12 California school districts in the Community Engagement Initiative (CEI) are addressing the needs of stakeholders in their communities by using the [Root Cause Analysis of Student & Family Engagement](#). This six-part series invites two districts each week to share their journeys in addressing one of the following 6 Core Root Causes of Ineffective Community Engagement:

1. Lack of belief that the system's success is critically dependent on its relationships with students & families
2. Lack of belief in students & families as experts
3. Lack of committed and consistent district & school leaders
4. Lack of understanding and expertise around highly effective student & family engagement
5. Lack of inclusivity based on race & culture
6. Systems/tools are not made to be community-friendly

Viewers will learn about strategies, structures, practices, policies, and procedures these districts have adopted to more effectively engage their local communities in support of improving student outcomes. [Episodes I-III](#) are now available!

- [Episode I - Prioritizing Relationships](#) (Bakersfield City SD & Pajaro Valley USD)
- [Episode II - Students & Families as Experts](#) (Chino Valley USD & Salinas UHSD)
- [Episode III - Leadership Commitment](#) (Moreno Valley USD & Santa Ana USD)

UP NEXT: Episode IV will be released on October 14, 2021, in which Parlier USD and Val Verde USD will be addressing the lack of understanding and expertise around highly effective student and family engagement. All episodes can be found on the [CEI website](#).

Hot Topics in California Education

HEALTH & SAFETY

Managing COVID-19 exposure in your school community. The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) recently released a [School Liaison Toolkit](#), which includes a [decision tree](#) to help school personnel manage suspected or confirmed COVID-19 cases at school. For more information and resources related to COVID-19 and schools, visit the [CA Safe Schools for All Hub!](#)

Health & Safety Guidebook - Updated! Find the most up-to-date guidance on responding to cases, safety measures for individuals, schedules & grouping, site safety, and communication in the updated [Health & Safety Guidebook!](#)

Ready for flu season? In this [one-minute clip](#), Dr. Jennifer Johnson-Patel of the American Academy of Pediatrics shares why it's even more important now to get the flu shot. Click [here](#) for more one- to two-minute clips that explain the science behind health and safety guidelines!



Get to Know the CCEE Team!

Each month, we will be featuring spotlights on some of our CCEE team members to share a snapshot of who they are and what they do!



Erik Swanson, Senior Advisor,
Direct Technical Assistance



Erik is passionate about servant leadership and supporting the "underdog". In his Senior Advisor role, he is proud to work on an amazing team providing support to the teams of Inglewood USD, Oakland USD, and Salinas UHSD.

As a #GirlDad, there isn't anything more important than spending time laughing and going on adventures with his family.  And as a classic car enthusiast, you can find Erik with his wife Frances on a Sunday drive with the top down in his 1965 Mercury Comet Caliente. 



Gonzalo Avila, Senior Manager,
Instructional Systems & Innovation

Gonzalo works collaboratively with districts to identify effective practices that are strongly rooted around Theory of Action.

Gonzalo used to raise Birmingham roller pigeons when he was in high school.  



Nhi Hang, Administrative Assistant

Nhi provides administrative support for the team to ensure things run as smoothly as possible. With her experience as an elementary & special education teacher, and an Ed.D. candidate whose research focuses on equitable education for refugee students, she provides valuable insight to the team!

Nhi will never turn down a game of UNO. 

ABOUT THE CCEE

CCEE is an inclusive-minded statewide agency that works to improve educational systems by prioritizing and acting on feedback, differentiating supports, and modeling continuous improvement to help deliver on California's promise of a quality, equitable education for every student.