Executive Director's Corner

‘Dream big, start small, but most of all, START!’ - Simon Sinek

I think this quote describes our opportunities as a state, with regards to the various statewide initiatives and funding available for the challenging circumstances we face. The bottom line is that we all have an opportunity. Whether it is with our own current programs or the statewide initiatives around community schools, expanded learning opportunities, early childhood Pre-K, and universal transitional kindergarten, we have an opportunity to reimagine a bit of what we could do, develop, or create.

CCEE is in a similar position having now landed on an identity that gives us hope of a sustained mission, vision, values, goals, and initiatives. Our work to advise and assist local educational agencies (school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools) in achieving the goals set forth in a LCAP by facilitating continuous improvement within California’s System of Support.

CCEE’s vision is to transform public education so every student is inspired and prepared to thrive as their best self in the world. Aligned to our mission of being a statewide leader delivering on California’s promise of a quality, equitable education for every student, we hope to better serve local education agencies through CCEE’s three Centers:

1. The Center for Statewide Innovation, Instruction, and Impact (I3)
2. The Center for Teaching, Learning and Leading (TLLC)
3. The Center for Transformative Systems for Educational Equity (TSEE)

Click here to learn more about each Center, its goals, and initiatives. Now the work begins...

Dream big, start small, but most of all, START!

Sincerely,
Matt J. Navo

California's Historic State Budget: Now What?

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEAs

By Roni Jones, Assistant Director, System of Support, CCEE

Extraordinary levels of funding in the 2021-22 state budget require coordinated efforts to build capacity, develop programs, and facilitate communications across various California education systems. CCEE is providing technical assistance to ensure educational leaders have what they need to successfully access funds and implement programs to support all students. Below are a few examples of CCEE’s collaborative support for county offices of education and school districts across the state.

Collaborating with CCEE, Partnership for Children and Youth (PCY) has developed a variety of resources to support school districts as they plan for Summer 2022. Leaders can read about and see best practices for re-engagement, reconnection, and reimaged summer learning from Summer 2021. PCY is also offering a series of webinars to help districts ‘Make Your Summer Game Plan.’ The first Summer Learning Roundtable provided K-12 leaders, educators, and community partners with new technical assistance opportunities, resources, and on-the-spot coaching on pressing challenges to get ready for Summer 2022. Missed it? Click here to access archived session materials and to register for upcoming workshops!
Perspective of a Student Board Member

By Kaleena Fowler, Student Board Member, Mt. Diablo USD

Note: During CCEE’s Governing Board Meeting on December 2, 2021, Kaleena Fowler, who currently serves as a student board member in Mt. Diablo USD, shared her voice and thoughts on the road ahead for students. CCEE has been providing technical assistance support to Mt. Diablo USD since 2020.

Hi, my name is Kaleena Fowler. I am a senior at College Park High School and also the student board member for the Mount Diablo Unified School District (MDUSD) this year. My role as the student board member is to represent all 30,000 students in the district. My voting status is preferential, meaning my vote does not influence the outcome of policies being passed, but it does influence the other governing members’ votes.

As the student board member, I have got the Student Advisory Committee (SAC) up and running with the help of Cherise Khaund, the President of the MDUSD Governing Board. The SAC is basically a group of pupils, from each individual school, on their student site council. We come together once a month, and bring policies, solutions, input, and more to the board. The topics we are discussing this year are the availability of COVID vaccination sites, a district-wide event for each big club (Black Student Union, Gay Straight Alliance, Latino Club, Interact, etc.), diversifying the English curriculum and novels, and more.

In September, I had the opportunity to speak at the capitol, on behalf of the Boys and Girls Club and the Yellow Heart Committee, regarding how COVID-19 has impacted students’ mental health. In my speech, I highlighted what students need right now is accommodation. Since they spent a whole year confined to little black boxes on a screen, they have forgotten how to sit in a classroom for hours. No one knows how to compromise with others anymore. That is why the social-emotional learning concept is so important during these times.

Click here to learn more about Kaleena’s experience as a student board member!