COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVE: LESSONS LEARNED SO FAR
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Steven Sterling Mitchell, Assistant Director, Community Engagement and System of Support
California Collaborative for Educational Excellence

Mars Serna, Family and Community Engagement Program Manager,
San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools | School Board Member, Fontana USD

Jan Gustafson-Corea, CEO
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Dr. Karling Aguilera-Fort, Superintendent
Oxnard School District

Tamara Otero, School Board Member
Cajon Valley USD
Our Team Today

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Our Outcomes For Today

● Become aware of the CEI program and its role and resources via the state's System of Support.

● Delve into the systemic aspects that support effective family and community engagement in districts, schools and the community to ultimately impact student achievement.

● Reflect on an assets-based approach to engaging with linguistically and culturally diverse communities.

● Consider the key role board members and leaders play to ensure community engagement is effective and equity focused.

● Feel motivated and inspired to develop and support culturally and linguistically responsive community engagement in your district and community.
CONOCIMIENTO

From your perspective, what does culturally- and linguistically responsive community engagement look, feel, or sound like?
The Community Engagement Initiative (CEI) is...

A series of multi-year professional learning networks (PLNs) that build district and community capacity to collaborate together, with a focus on improving student outcomes.
The State established the Community Engagement Initiative to:

| Build       | Build capacity in communities and districts to have difficult conversations with each other and build trust, with a focus on improving outcomes for pupils |
| Identify    | Identify effective models of community engagement and metrics to evaluate those models |
| Develop     | Develop effective peer-to-peer partnerships between districts and COEs, utilizing CCEE's PLN structure, to deepen community engagement |
| Scale up    | Scale up this work to improve community engagement statewide and incorporate practices that prove effective towards district and COE continuous improvement efforts |
Initiative Timeline

- **Cohort I**: 1 PLLN
  - 2018-19
- **Cohort II**: 5 PLLNs
  - 2019-20
  - 2020-21
  - 2021-22
- **Cohort III and Expansion**: 2022-23
  - 2023-24
  - 2029!
6 Core Root Causes of Ineffective Community Engagement

- Lack of belief that the system's success is critically dependent on its relationships with students & families
- Lack of belief in students & families as experts
- Lack of committed and consistent district & school leaders
- Lack of understanding what constitutes highly effective student & family engagement
- Lack of inclusivity based on race & culture
- Systems/Tools are not made to be community-friendly
LEVEL 1 SUPPORT FOR ALL
Various state and local agencies provide an array of support resources, tools, and voluntary technical assistance that all LEAs may use to improve student performance at the LEA and school level and narrow gaps in performance among student groups across the LCFF priorities.

LEVEL 2 DIFFERENTIATED ASSISTANCE
County Superintendents, the California Department of Education, and the California Collaborative for Educational Excellence provide differentiated assistance by working with LEAs and COEs to address identified performance gaps among student groups.

LEVEL 3 INTENSIVE INTERVENTION
The Superintendent of Public Instruction may require more intensive supports for local education agencies (LEAs) and/or schools with persistent performance issues and a lack of improvement over a specified time period.
The CEI Community Engagement Definition

**Authentic** partnerships amongst **students, families, districts, and communities** that nurture relationships, build trust, ensure cultural, racial and linguistic equity, and lead to **transformative student outcomes**
PANEL DISCUSSION

How has your participation in CEI led you to build a culture of trusting relationships?

How have you created effective partnership structures that require district teams to develop a sustainable community engagement system?
GROUP REFLECTION
PANEL DISCUSSION

What role have your various educational and community partners played in strengthening authentic community (and family) engagement to impact student outcomes?
GROUP REFLECTION
PANEL DISCUSSION

What approaches have you used to enter into courageous and difficult conversations and create more meaningful engagement in the LCAP process and to support the success of your students?
GROUP RESPONSE
How can you, in your position, leverage your role around policies, procedures and board goals to influence the ability of your staff to intentionally connect to and implement effective family and community engagement that reflects the assets and needs of your community?
Questions and Information

Go to CaliforniaEngage.org/contact
ÚLTIMA PALABRA

CLOSING