

## Network Overview & Vision

The **Linked Learning Alliance** leads a movement to help every young person determine their own future through a proven approach to education called Linked Learning. In California, the Alliance supports a network comprising more than 600+ Linked Learning pathways in 80+ school districts. Each pathway engages students with a college-bound program of study, a continuum of work-based learning experiences, and personalized supports. The Alliance and network members focus on intentionally integrating these elements and providing them at levels of quality research links with outcomes including improved graduation and college enrollment rates, work-ready skills, and equity. Through this Pilot, a subset of districts participating in Linked Learning Secondary School Redesign Network will partner with students, families, and businesses to grow rigorous pathways and generate fresh evidence and insights strengthening secondary school transformation across California.



## Demonstration & Pilot Sites



### Demonstration Sites

- Antelope Valley Union High School District
- Fresno Unified School District
- Los Angeles Unified School District
- San Bernardino City Unified School District



### Pilot Sites

- Sacramento City Unified School District
- Oakland Unified School District

## Key Partners & Collaborators

### Golden State Pathways Program (GSPP)

This landmark California investment is modeled on the Linked Learning framework, and the Alliance now partners statewide to ensure high-quality pathway design and effective LTAC and RTAC implementation, offering a robust set of strategies, tools, training models, and a community of practice.

### Statewide Leadership with Tulare-Kings COE

The Alliance is lead partner of Tulare-Kings COE in its role as the state's Lead Technical Assistance Center for GSPP and helped the COE secure this role.

### Fast Forward California (FFCA)

The Alliance co-launched Fast Forward California to align more than \$700M in GSPP and dual enrollment investments, providing tools like the Catalyzing Coherence Workbook to help communities design seamless K-14 pathways.

### Going for Gold Initiative

The Alliance is driving an increase in pathways achieving Gold Linked Learning Certification by demonstrating they uphold the highest standards in college and career preparation, a process that includes peer coaching, site visits, and continuous improvement.

### Workforce Partnerships

The Alliance strengthens the career pipeline by aligning pathways with high-growth, high-wage regional industry sectors; providing valuable tools such as the Labor Market Index in conjunction with Georgia Policy Labs; and strengthening work-based learning, e.g., by piloting internships across LAUSD in partnership with Great Public Schools Now.

## Redesigned Learning Examples

Redesign Element	Current Strengths
Every Student is Known & Supported	Linked Learning sites ensure every student is known through integrated supports including small learning communities, advisories, and integrated academic-SEL counseling. At Antelope Valley and Fresno Unified, students receive personalized support through Habitudes lessons, SEL surveys, Academic Contracts, and Freshman Success Teams. At LAUSD and San Bernardino City, student-led conferences, MTSS supports, and culturally responsive climates help students stay connected, celebrated, and on track.
Redesign Learning for Deeper Knowledge & Skills	Linked Learning pathways redesign learning so students build deeper knowledge and durable skills by integrating rigorous academics, technical coursework, and real-world, work-based learning. At Antelope Valley and Fresno Unified, students design cross-disciplinary projects, earn industry certifications, and receive “harsh and helpful” feedback from employers and partners to strengthen mastery. At LAUSD and San Bernardino City, students build theater sets to apply geometry, complete senior projects and portfolio defenses, and engage in dual enrollment and internships that make learning relevant and career connected.
Equitable Student-Centered Learning & Supports	At Antelope Valley and Fresno, students track SEL growth, receive targeted interventions, and access adapted internships designed around their needs, including for English Learners and students with disabilities. At LAUSD and San Bernardino, students use reflection tools like Friday Parent Letters, and benefit from MTSS structures that ensure every learner receives the right support at the right time.
Promote Measurable Growth in Student Engagement & Learning	Linked Learning students experience measurable growth through authentic assessments—exhibitions, defenses, portfolios, and industry-reviewed projects—that make mastery, agency, and engagement visible. Across districts, students earn early college credit, complete internships, and receive college/career guidance while tracking graduation progress through personalized plans and work-based learning reflections.
Design Sustainable Structures to Maintain Impact Over Time	Linked Learning students benefit from pathway systems built on collaborative teacher planning, distributed leadership, and stable CTE funding that keeps high-quality learning experiences intact year after year. Sustainability is strengthened through the wider Linked Learning network, where districts learn from mentor sites, engage in statewide convenings, and document practices so student experiences remain strong even as staff change.

## Pilot Activity Highlights

- ✓ **Strengthen & Expand High-Quality Pathways:** Demonstration sites receive funding and technical assistance to improve or launch pathways, and pursue two cycles of Gold Certification (or recertification), while Pilot sites receive support to certify 1–2 new pathways.
- ✓ **Cross-District Learning & Public Sharing:** All districts engage in Linked Learning Certification reviews, statewide site visits, and a pilot community of practice, with the Alliance producing case studies and public-facing narratives highlighting student belonging, engagement, and durable skills.
- ✓ **Statewide Data & Policy Learning:** Case studies and quantitative metrics inform continuous improvement, culminating in a final report offering actionable insights for CCEE, CDE, and legislators to scale Linked Learning-based secondary redesign across California.

