

System of Support for Expanded Learning

Standing Agenda Items Update

January 14–16, 2020

Item: Sustainability Committee

Date: January 6, 2020

Update

The work of this committee supports several key objectives in the California Expanded Learning Strategic Plan 2.0.

Purpose

The Sustainability Work Group will support the Expanded Learning Division (EXLD) in identifying, documenting and sharing promising sustainability practices with the expanded learning field. As identified in Strategic Plan 2.0, these practices include securing a diverse set of funding sources and clearly communicating the value of expanded learning programs for district and school Local Control Accountability Plan goals. The Strategic Plan 2.0 is located on the California Department of Education's web page at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/ba/cp/documents/strategicplan2.pdf>

Scope and Context

- The cost of operating afterschool and summer programs has risen every year, and has accelerated with the passage of higher minimum wage laws statewide and in many communities.
- At the same time, state funding for expanded learning has only increased once – thanks to successful field-led advocacy campaigns – and has not kept pace with increasing costs.
- While advocacy for state funding will continue, the expanded learning field needs to embrace a broader set of strategies to sustain and improve its programming.
- Many organizations have already successfully diversified their funding sources and can share effective practices, models and lessons learned with other programs.

- As the driving force behind the funding campaign, the California Afterschool Advocacy Alliance (CA3) has gathered helpful information and insights about sustainability and can be a resource and partner for the Sustainability Work Group.

- The expanded learning stakeholders that developed Strategic Plan 2.0 defined the following 3 objectives related to sustainability:

- *Objective 2.2a:* Identify statewide promising practices and create grantee guidance materials that describe a variety of sustainability strategies.

- *Objective 3.2b:* Highlight the role that Expanded Learning programs could play in supporting districts' community input process for Local Control Accountability Plans (LCAPs).

- *Objective 3.3c:* Document and promote the role that Expanded Learning partners play in advancing district LCAP goals around student engagement, student achievement, and school climate and culture.

- The Work Group has the option to broaden its scope beyond these objectives in order to further build the expanded learning field's capacity to sustain its programs.

The EXLD and the Early Learning and Care Division (ELCD) have been working collaboratively to address the dual support of the school aged group of students. We are pleased to extend this collaborative effort with the ELCD through the Sustainability Committee. Joint planning around sustainability can only make our programs stronger, with a higher level of support and efforts to produce quality programs in both early learning and after school.

History

Newly formed committee.

Next Steps

Regularly scheduled meetings and subcommittee formation.

Attachment(s)

None

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