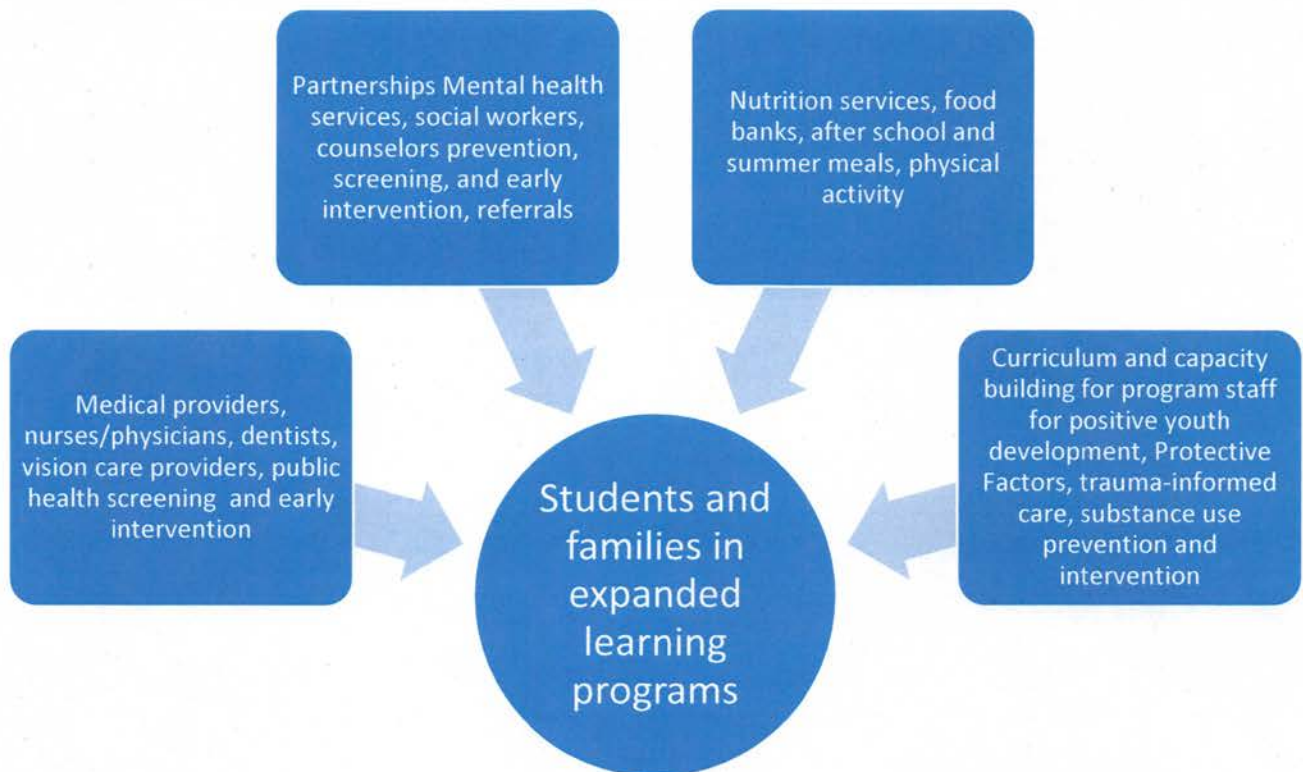


The California AfterSchool Network is Embarking on a Planning Process to Promote Expanded Learning Programs as Centers of Whole Child Health & Wellness

Purpose of the Project

The purpose of the project is to create positive outcomes for youth and families in Expanded Learning programs by increasing cohesion between education, intervention, public health, health care, behavioral health, social services, and treatment stakeholders. The result would position Expanded Learning programs as key collaborators promoting whole child and family health and wellness. **We are creating a statewide, cross-sector strategic plan between now and August 2020!**

The Opportunity



Get Involved

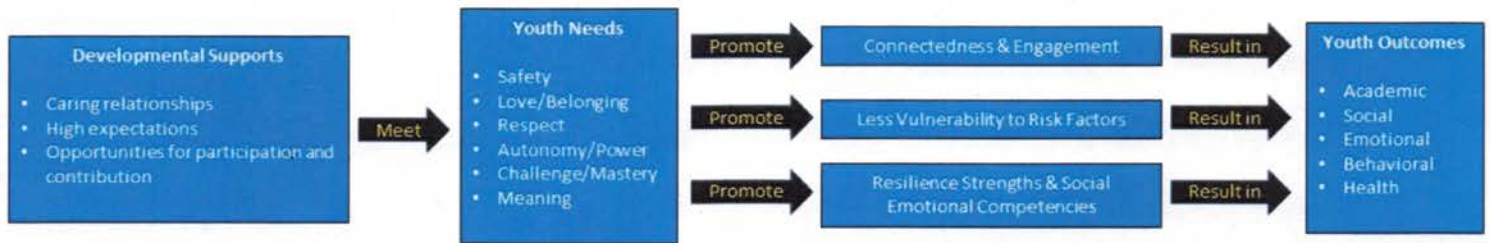
- Sign up to join the effort OR stay informed and advise the effort occasionally - <https://bit.ly/2tEGXDK>
- Learn more at <https://www.afterschoolnetwork.org/whole-child-health-and-wellness-collaborative>
- Contact Heather Williams, Program Director of Policy and Outreach for the California AfterSchool Network at hwilliams@afterschoolnetwork.org

Why Expanded Learning?

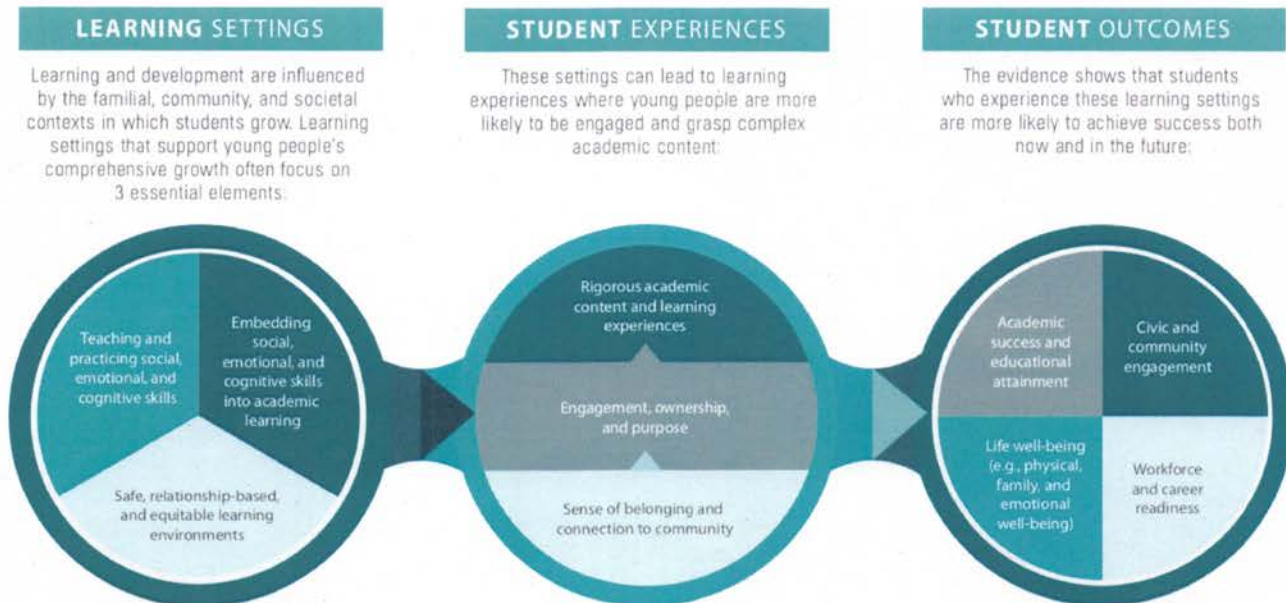
California's Expanded Learning Programs Create the Conditions Necessary for Student Success in School and in Life

California's Expanded Learning Programs are Rooted in the Science of Learning and Development (SoLD) and Social-Emotional Learning (SEL)

In 2007, CAN began building field capacity to create the conditions necessary for youth to thrive by training on WestEd's research-based model of Resilience and Positive Youth Development.



Research continues to support this framework, including the National Aspen Commission on Social, Emotional, and Academic Development's (SEAD Commission) groundbreaking new report, *From A Nation At Risk to A Nation At Hope* that describes similar learning settings and experiences that result in positive student outcomes.



These notions are foundational to the Quality Standards for Expanded Learning in California. Additionally, Expanded Learning programs have long promoted healthy choices and behaviors and addressed food security by providing a healthy snack or meal. Physical, social, and emotional health are the cornerstone of expanded learning programs.

Now is the time for Expanded Learning Programs to increase their role as integral K-12 partners and hubs for families and communities

California's Expanded Learning Programs are poised to promote whole child health and wellness because:

California has set a clear vision of Expanded Learning program quality that is aligned with the types of learning settings and student experiences proven to result in positive outcomes in school and in life.

The Quality Standards for Expanded Learning in California	
Point of Service Quality Standards	Programmatic Quality Standards
1. Safe and Supportive Environment	7. Quality Staff
2. Active and Engaged Learning	8. Clear vision, mission, and purpose
3. Skill Building	9. Collaborative partnerships
4. Youth Voice and Leadership	10. Continuous Quality Improvement
5. Healthy Choices and Behaviors	11. Program Management
6. Diversity, access, and Equity	12. Sustainability



Promoting Expanded Learning Programs as centers of whole child health is consistent with recommendations from the SEAD Commission. In their report, *Building Partnerships in Support of Where, When, and How Learning Happens*, the SEAD Commission highlights the importance of positive youth development and the value of community-based youth development partnerships with schools, during and out-of-school time.

Promoting Expanded Learning Programs as Centers of Whole Child Health is consistent with new research from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine. A new report highlights that changes in brain structure that happen in adolescence create unique opportunities for positive, life-shaping development, and for recovery from past adversity. The report recommends education, health, child welfare system to invest in their (adult) capacities, and apply knowledge about healthy adolescent development because, "supportive familial, caregiver(s), and adult relationships play a significant role in fostering positive outcomes for adolescents. Such investments need to be multilevel and multisectoral." Such efforts are critical, especially at a time of increased risk-taking.



Enrichment activities emphasize real-world learning and community problem solving.

After-school, weekend, and summer programs provide academic instruction and individualized support.

Expanded and Enriched Learning Time and Opportunities

Promoting Expanded Learning Programs as centers of whole child health is consistent with the four pillars of Community Schools. The Partnership for the Future of Learning in their *Community Schools Playbook* outlines the four pillars as integrated student supports, active family and community engagement, collaborative leadership and practices, and Expanded and Enriched Learning opportunities.