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**From:** Perrenoud\_Michelle  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 15, 2020 11:02 PM  
**To:**  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Region 11 Expanded Learning Updates and Resources  
**Attachments:** 3-13-20 CDE COVID-19 Update.pdf; 4-1-20 Interview with Michael Funk.pdf; 4-6-20 COVID-19 Executive Order.pdf; 4-10-20 CDE COVID-19 Additional Guidance to Executive Order N-45-20.pdf; 4-13-20 Interview with Michael Funk.pdf

Greetings Region 11 Expanded Learning Programs Stakeholders,

I hope this message finds you, your family, and your team members in good health.

We know you are facing challenges and questions on a daily basis and are figuring out how to navigate these situations and unprecedented times with your districts, schools, staff, program providers, students, and families.

CDE Expanded Learning Division (EXLD) is working as quickly as possible to get additional guidance out to the expanded learning field. These are uncharted waters so it will take time as CDE-EXLD needs to work with the state, feds, and their legal departments prior to delivering written guidance.

Here at LACOE, the unit is focusing on transitioning our technical assistance services to online platforms to further support you. We have heard about some innovative things taking place in the field including, engaging students and staff in ongoing distance learning, meal distribution, online physical activity instruction such as yoga, and mindfulness practices. These creative strategies may serve as opportunities for innovation in the future. We hope to gather more unique ideas and would like you to take some time to fill out the survey below.

We want to thank you for your patience as there is a steep learning curve, and while guidance is needed immediately, systems are not quite yet in place to address every concern. We have heard from many of you with specific questions and we encourage you to continue reach out to us. Below you find additional ways you can connect with our team, CDE-EXLD, and the larger expanded learning field.

- **Region 11 Update and Resources**

- **NEW: Online Technical Assistance - Consultation Request Form:** <https://forms.gle/k9Y1U6aC2hR9sbns6>
  - To continue providing technical assistance and support to expanded learning programs in Los Angeles County during the COVID-19 pandemic, LACOE's Expanded Learning Technical Assistance Unit is offering online consultations. Please use the link above to provide us the information necessary to schedule a consultation. After submitting the form, an ELTAU team member will be in contact with you.
- **NEW: Region 11 Check-in Survey**
  - We have created a survey that is intended for grant managers to share their expanded learning program's ongoing experience and response to the pandemic. The purpose of this survey is to find out what's taking place in LA County, by highlighting innovative solutions, surfacing challenges, and identifying trends. We hope to receive ONE response from each of the 175+ grantees in LA County by April 30, 2020. Please use the following link to respond: <https://forms.gle/V46k4BwPSTegocyGA>
- **NEW: Online Resources for Staff:** <https://www.dropbox.com/s/rzdefbwyq40s6us/Online%20Resources%20for%20Staff.docx?dl=0>

- **ELTAU:** Found on our website at [www.ExpandedLearningR11.com](http://www.ExpandedLearningR11.com) under the Resources tab, we have created Online Resources for Staff, categories include: ASES and 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC Compliance, Continuous Quality Improvement, Educational Websites for Youth, Mindfulness and Meditation, Online Platforms for Meetings, Project-Based Learning, Social Emotional Learning, STEAM, Summer Planning, and Youth Development through Sports.
- **BOOST** – Resource Center: <https://boostcafe.org/resource-center//>
- **California AfterSchool Network (CAN)** - Resources for Educators & Staff: <https://www.afterschoolnetwork.org/covid-educator-resources>
- **ELTAU Update: Some work we have been addressing (January through present)**
  - Team Health and Wellness
    - The team continues to move forward, keeping Mary Jo’s vision in mind while creating our own path.
  - 2018-2019 Wrap Up
    - Provided CDE-EXLD data for past due reports to receive our final grant payment
  - 2019-2020
    - Submitted past due quarterly reports, made budget adjustments due to personnel changes and COVID-19, amended and created contracts for work through June.
    - Create practices and protocols for the unit to continue to engage with one another while working remotely.
    - Continue 2020-2021 Strategic Planning with Region 11 stakeholders and put into place the structures to move forward.
    - Work with the personnel commission to hire two new team members (program specialist and secretary) as we are not fully staffed.
    - Transition to provide technical assistance and support via an online platform.
    - Continue to develop continuous quality improvement resources.
    - Continue to embed compassionate systems awareness in how we work with one another, internally and externally with grantees.
    - Provide ongoing technical assistance and support to Region 11 stakeholders.
  - **COVID-19 Response**
    - As a unit within LACOE’s Student Support Services Division we follow all LACOE policies and guidelines, and as a CDE-EXLD technical assistance grantee, we follow additional policies and guidance.
      - Per Michael Funk, “The grants to the County Offices of Education from the EXLD to support STEAM Hubs and the System of Support regional work will not be disrupted. The Expanded Learning Division’s priority is to support our expanded learning program participants, families, staff, and partners during this unprecedented situation regarding the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). The role of the County Office staff supported by these grants is critical to our entire expanded learning ecosystem.”
    - While COVID-19 continues to dramatically impact us all, we have been:
      - Safeguarding the health and safety of our team by operating in accordance with and taking guidance from LACOE and public health authorities.
      - Facilitating the remote working of our team and ensuring all team members have the resources and equipment they need to continue to function securely in their roles.
      - Monitoring and complying with the guidance and/or directives provided by state government, LACOE, CDE, CDE-EXLD (Expanded Learning Division).
      - Modifying, postponing and/or canceling meetings and trainings and exploring the resources and capabilities necessary to transition to online convening, facilitation, and technical assistance.

- Designing, creating, and integrating collaboration tools to support online technical assistance and keep our team connected, ready to support our stakeholders, and involved in nested systems while they work remotely.
- We will continue to act thoughtfully and courageously despite the disruption and uncertainty COVID-19 brings to our daily lives, while learning and adapting as new information is available.
- Our focus – three main priorities:
  - Communicating with transparency and acting responsibly to ensure the health and well-being of the expanded learning field, stakeholders, workforce, and students.
  - Playing a constructive role in supporting the needs of expanded learning program grantees and leaders as they work through this crisis locally.
  - Establishing and providing a regular cadence of communications and opportunities for our stakeholders to stay connected.
- **CDE-EXLD Update and Resources**
  - **CDE Updates Regarding COVID-19** (view corresponding attachments - listed below with some highlights)

- **Reminder: CDE-EXLD is taking additional questions from the field via email at [expandedlearning@cde.ca.gov](mailto:expandedlearning@cde.ca.gov)**

NOTE: Summarized Notes regarding the following attachments

- **Attachment: 3/13/20 CDE-EXLD COVID-19 Communication**
  - CDE responds to initial closures of schools and expanded learning programs. Highlight: “Any program closure or decreased participation related to COVID-19 will receive attendance relief to protect grant funding. The EXLD is working to make this process as efficient as possible. More specific guidance will be sent as soon as it is completed.”
- **Attachment: 4/1/20 CAN Interview with Michael Funk (1)**
  - Michael Funk, CDE’s Director of Expanded Learning, provides an update via interview. Some highlights:
    - Information about permissive expenses will be included in the FAQs (soon to come)
    - CDE is working on extending the deadline for programs (carry-over) to use funds past June 30<sup>th</sup>
    - FPMs will be moved online or cancelled, each will be handled case-by-case.
    - Guidance as of 3/27/20: Grant Protection (closure or decreased participation relate to COVID-19 – ASES, 21stCCLC, and ASSETs funded programs will receive attendance relief to protect grant funding; SB117 waives the requirement for ASES programs to submit the form and any back-up documentation).
    - Guidance as of 3/27/20: Paying Program Staff and Partners (it is permissible for grantees to develop local agreements).
      - School closure does not prevent the expanded learning program from paying and using staff, doing professional development and program planning, and purchasing materials and supplies (in accordance with current grant guidelines).
    - Summer Programs: Yes, plan for and prepare to offer something – what our children and families need – “distance learning” and “helping kids be ready to get back into the rhythm of going to school and connecting with their peers”.
    - Kids Code grant guidance forthcoming.
    - Disclaimer: Guidance that is binding and directive will always be provided by CDE-EXLD in writing. Conversations and dialogue are meant to be informative and interpretive only.

- **Attachment: 4/6/20 CDE COVID-19 Executive Order (issued 4/4/20)**
  - “Governor Newsom Signs Executive Order to Provide Expanded Access to Child Care for Essential Workers During COVID-19 Response”.
    - Items 6, 7, 8 and 9 pertain to Expanded Learning Programs specifically funded with ASES, 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC and ASSETs grants.
  
- **Attachment: 4/10/20 CDE COVID-19 Additional Guidance to Executive Order**
  - “Governor Newsom Signs Executive Order to Provide Expanded Access to Child Care for Essential Workers During COVID-19 Response”.
    - CDE provides guidance for the Executive Order, including how “essential workers” is defined, and the social and physical distancing guidance programs should refer to.
  
- **Attachment: 4/13/20 CAN Interview with Michael Funk (2)**
  - Michael Funk, CDE’s Director of Expanded Learning, provides an update via interview. Some highlights:
    - Attendance will not be reduced based on calendar year 2019 attendance.
      - This language was not included for 21st CCLC programs in the Executive Order nor CDE’s Guidance; however, Michael shared that this will be corrected to include 21st CCLC.
    - “ASES grantees may use ASES funds to serve school-age children of essential critical infrastructure workers through June 3, 2020.” However, 21st CCLC funds and ASSETs funds cannot be used for this purpose.
    - ASES grantees are not required to offer such programs; the Executive Order provides permission to do so.
    - Next steps for CDE:
      - Working on FAQs that will address additional questions.
      - Working on extending the deadline to use funds.

On a personal note, I envisioned myself in this job but it has obviously been different than I expected. I anticipated a transition and a timeline but instead unexpectedly had to hit the ground running December 30. And just when I thought I was getting my feet under me, mid-March came and along with it, this global pandemic that quite frankly has taken the entire world by surprise. So while there may be some of you who are looking for more information and guidance, this is what I have to share for now. I am being as transparent as I can be and will continue to be as things unfold. While nobody wishes to be where we are right now, we have to find our way to come out of this stronger and with a new perspective, not only as how we live our lives as individuals do with our family and friends, but how we do our work. I encourage you to take advantage of this time as an opportunity to reflect on what we have been, pivot in this moment, and utilize this as planning for what a new tomorrow could look like. Our response will be a testament of our resiliency. Let us focus on engaging social and emotional learning for our youth and take care of one another.

As tough as all of this has been, I am so fortunate to have such a great team to come to work with. My vision for Region 11 includes a transformational change by which we operationalize compassionate systems and compassionate leadership; reinventing and revitalizing the work of the Region utilizing the tools and archetypes identified in this work to best serve programs, the youth, and the community. Presencing ourselves in what might be possible and what we, the larger we, want to grow by discovering the power to shape our reality and our responsibility to an emerging future.

I will continue to stay in contact regularly. For additional support, please reach out to us.

Sincerely,  
Michelle

**Michelle R. Perrenoud, Ed.D.**

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