

THE CALIFORNIA COLLABORATIVE ON DISTRICT REFORM

AN AGENDA FOR THE FUTURE: MAPPING THE TERRAIN OF CALIFORNIA EDUCATION

THURSDAY, JUNE 22 AND FRIDAY, JUNE 23
TWIN RIVERS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
5115 DUDLEY BOULEVARD
MC CLELLAN PARK, CA

MEETING AGENDA

DAY I: THURSDAY, JUNE 22

- 8:30 am **Breakfast.** Light breakfast will be available in the Sycamore room.
- 9:00 am **Convene Meeting.** Jennifer O'Day will convene the meeting with opening remarks, introductions, and an overview of the agenda. Superintendent Steve Martinez will welcome the group to Twin Rivers Unified School District.
- 9:20 am **Reflections from Oceanside and San Bernardino.** Duane Coleman, Superintendent of Oceanside Unified School District, and Dale Marsden, Superintendent of San Bernardino City Unified School District, will share updates with the group about developments in their communities since the Collaborative met in San Bernardino in March 2017.

SESSION I

Setting the Context

- 9:35 am **Understanding California's Economy, Workforce, and Equity Landscape.** The meeting will begin with an opportunity to set the broad context for California's current and future work. The projected demands of the labor market will frame the knowledge, skills, and credentials that today's students need to acquire to thrive beyond their formal education. At the same time, demographic trends and economic and social disparities shape the conditions under which students live and learn. Finally, the outlook and trend of revenues for K-12 education in upcoming years will significantly frame the choices that districts can make in advancing the work of teaching and student learning. Presentations from Hans Johnson of Public Policy Institute of California, Kfir Mordechay of the Civil Rights Project, and Mac Taylor of the Legislative Analyst's Office will help to frame the conditions relevant to California educators' work ahead.
- 11:00 am **Break.**
- 11:10 am **Reflecting on Trends.** Having considered commentary on the key challenges related to the economy, workforce, and issues of equity, a panel of Collaborative members will add their perspectives from the ground about our central educational priorities in light of the research and

their own experience. Following their observations, we will open the floor to comments from the full group.

12:15 pm **Lunch.**

SESSION II

Mapping the Terrain

1:00 pm **Working Groups.** From a conversation about the context in which California educators are working, we will turn to the key issues that require attention from districts and others. Meeting participants will split into three working groups to consider three domains: the **instructional core** (interactions among teachers, students, and content); **financial resources** (revenues, obligations, and investment priorities); and **out-of-school factors** that influence students' abilities to engage in K-12 academic learning and thrive after high school graduation. Each group's charge is to map the terrain in this area by identifying the highest priority areas of focus, potential promising practices that might guide our work, and the capacities needed to move forward.

3:30 pm **Break.**

3:45 pm **Report Out.** We will return from the working groups to share key takeaways and identify emerging themes across the groups. Our goal is to identify the main substantive challenges on which we may want to focus over the next few years.

4:45 pm **Summary and Reflection on the Day's Discussion.**

5:00 pm **Adjourn for the Day.**

6:30 pm **Reception Followed by Dinner** at Seasons 52 Restaurant.

DAY 2: FRIDAY, JUNE 23

- 8:30 am **Breakfast.** Light breakfast will be available in the Sycamore room.
- 9:00 am **Update from Day 1.** Brief summary of the previous day and framing for the day's discussion.

SESSION III

Building Capacity for Continuous Improvement

- 9:15 am **Exploring Capacity and Continuous Improvement at the Local Level.** District strategies toward any particular goal require individuals with the knowledge and skills to carry them out. Jorge Aguilar, incoming Superintendent of Sacramento City Unified School District, and Rick Miller, Executive Director the CORE Districts, will share progress and lessons learned from two different efforts to design new systems of improvement and refine them through ongoing reflection and change. These presentations and subsequent discussion will aim to highlight the possibilities and obstacles of building capacity and moving systems toward a learning organization.
- 10:00 am **Developing A System of Support for Continuous Improvement.** Having considered two examples at the local level, we will shift the conversation to a system that facilitates continuous improvement at both the state and local levels. Some questions to consider:
- What capacities and supports are necessary at the local level to support the kind of work that Aguilar and Miller describe (e.g., staff capacities and supports, time availability and structures, leadership mindsets)?
 - What kinds of regional supports (e.g., county offices of education, networks), would help advance a continuous improvement approach at the district and school levels?
 - What needs to happen in order for the state to develop structures and supports that position classroom teachers, school administrators, and system leaders to advance the work of teaching and learning?

- 11:00 am **Break.**

- 11:10 am **Shifting the Dialogue.** Despite an ongoing focus within the Collaborative on instruction, student learning, and overall system improvement, the policy discourse frequently centers more narrowly on matters of accountability and compliance. Statewide movement in a direction that prioritizes instruction and truly embraces continuous improvement requires a shift in the way that policymakers think and talk about educational progress. We will continue our conversation about capacity with an exploration of the role the Collaborative and others might play in transforming the narrative about education in the state.

- 12:00 pm **Lunch.**

SESSION IV

Setting an Agenda for the Collaborative

- 12:30 pm **Collaborative Updates.** We will begin the day with a brief update on current Collaborative projects in support of our members. Providing this foundation of what the Collaborative is currently engaged with can help inform how we might expand, shift, or revisit our work.

- 12:40 pm **Areas for Action and Next Steps.** The meeting will conclude with an eye to the future. Given the key issues and next steps identified over the course of the two-day conversations, what are the implications for the state and the Collaborative? What are the topics that should anchor upcoming Collaborative meetings? What steps might the Collaborative take within and beyond these meetings to address the state’s most pressing education issues?
- 1:45 pm **Summary and Reflection on the Day’s Discussion.**
- 2:00 pm **Adjourn Meeting.**