LAUSD Receives California Community Schools Planning and Implementation Grant of $44 Million

For a second year in a row, L.A. Unified was awarded a $44 million grant from the state’s Community Schools Partnership Program to sustain and expand the district’s Community Schools Initiative for another five years. Expanding the Community School model has been a key priority of the L.A. Compact since 2018. A program of the California Department of Education, the Community Schools Partnership has provided funding to more than 70 local education agencies across the state since 2021 to support schools’ efforts to partner with community agencies and local government to align community resources to improve student outcomes.
The L.A. Opportunity Youth Collaborative recently released its 2021 Impact Report, demonstrating the power and impact of this regional partnership to improve education and employment outcomes for transition-age foster youth. The report highlights achievements across the collaborative’s three major campaigns: OYC Young Leaders, the Foster Youth College Advancement Project, and Foster Youth at Work.

This month, the Los Angeles County Department of Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services (WDACS) shared with all Youth@Work providers that they have approved an increase in the fiscal amount (slot allocation cost) dedicated per youth who participate in the workforce program from $2,650 to $3,873 for FY 2022-2023. This decision ensures more funding allocated for youth wages, supportive services, case management costs and more. Read more.

The L.A. Compact Charting Progress Dashboard has revealed the impact of the pandemic on student enrollment in the L.A. Community College District. Enrollment dropped by 32 percent from Fall 2019 to Fall 2020 (from 18,461 students to 12,408). Even more alarming is the fact that Black student enrollment dropped by almost 50 percent (from 1,507 students in 2019 to 816 students in 2020).

Compact signer California State University, Dominguez Hills (CSUDH), with UNITE-LA support, is leading the way in transforming the transfer culture on campus and among feeder community colleges in the area. With funding from L.A.’s Postsecondary Funders Collaborative, CSUDH is developing a transfer hub to support students and is providing emergency funding to ensure matriculation. Read more.
Many CCCs and CSUs are working towards developing solutions for the long-term effects of the pandemic. Read more.

**Partner Highlights**

**LAUSD Releases 2022-2026 Strategic Plan**

L.A. Unified School District has released their *2022-2026 Strategic Plan* that outlines a new vision for the district. The strategic plan focuses on ensuring “all students graduate ready for the world” and aims to create alignment across LAUSD schools. Under the direction of Superintendent Carvalho, the Strategic Plan incorporates the input from thousands of community participants.

**LA Deal Launches E-Newsletter**

The Los Angeles Digital Equity Action League (LA DEAL) has launched their monthly e-newsletter. The LA DEAL has worked with regional collaboratives, including the L.A. Compact, to identify areas that need broadband infrastructure and are involved in public policy and advocacy around digital equity. The e-newsletter is a great way to stay informed on digital equity issues not only in L.A. but also throughout California and the country. Sign up for future LA DEAL newsletters [here](#).
**UCLA Recognizes Distinguished Alumni**

Compact signing institution UCLA has produced hundreds of thousands of alumni who have become Nobel laureates; leaders of state, business and education; community change-makers; and, of course, UNITE-LA staff. Each year, UCLA honors a select few of these alumni who go above and beyond to serve our community. This year, UCLA awarded two L.A. Compact signers, Dr. Debra Duardo and Sheila Kuehl, for their careers supporting L.A. County residents. [Read more.](#)

**Community Schools Initiative Represented at 2022 CSxFE Conference**

Many of our L.A. Compact partners presented at this year’s [2022 National Community Schools and Family Engagement Conference](#) held in downtown L.A. to represent our region’s growing [Community Schools Initiative](#). Partners who attended and presented include Cora Watkins representing LAUSD, Esperanza Martinez representing UTLA, and Michelle Broadnax representing LAEP. Many of our local community schools served as models for demonstration visits during the conference.

**Our Corner**

**Welcome, Raylene Paris!**

We are excited to have Raylene Paris join the L.A. Compact team as our L.A. Compact Coordinator. As the newest addition to the Systems team, Raylene will support the Community Schools Initiative and assist in shaping and advancing a communications strategy for the L.A. Compact. [Read more.](#)

**What We're Reading**

[College Futures Foundation]

**Eloy Ortiz Oakley to Lead College Futures Foundation as Next President & CEO**

What information would help you plan your education path? California wants to know. [EdSource]
Report says Los Angeles Unified should focus on retaining, recruiting Black educators [EdSource]

Schools would likely weather a recession; should the state budget for one? [EdSource]

The L.A. Compact is convened primarily by UNITE-LA. Select workgroups are convened by other partner agencies.