



June 3, 2022

Mr. Steve Zimmer  
Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction, Student Support Services Branch  
California Department of Education  
1430 N Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Mr. Brooks Allen  
Executive Director, California State Board of Education  
1430 N Street, Room 5111  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Deputy Superintendent Zimmer and Executive Director Allen ,

I am writing on behalf of the California County Superintendents Educational Services Association (CCSESA) regarding the California Community Schools Partnership Program (CCSPP). All 58 county offices of education are ready to follow Alameda County's lead as the State Technical Assistance Center and we look forward to future guidance on how best to support CCSPP implementation. It is within the spirit of collaboration that we write to you to respectfully provide recommendations regarding the state and regional lead technical assistance center (TAC) process.

Our recommendations are as follows:

**The State adds the following into the Regional TAC Request for Application (RFA).**

- A. Require candidates to demonstrate their ability to bring work to scale. A history of systems change within public education will be necessary to provide support to their communities.
- B. Require partnerships with entities such as local government agencies and community-based organizations that are representative of their local needs. In addition to this requirement, the RFA should require that the applicant identify experience and expertise in engaging local community partnerships in a collective impact approach to develop, sustain and scale mutual efforts to meet the needs of students and families.
- C. Require the applicant to display expertise in at least one of the six specified areas of assistance, as specified in EDC Section 8902(k). When all regional applicants are selected, we would recommend that the group as a whole have a strong history with each of these six core competencies.

**The State considers ALL eligible applicants.** Once the RFAs for the regional technical assistance center are released and reviewed, we recommend that the State consider *all* eligible applicants that meet the criteria, rather than limiting to the minimum required number of five regional TACs. As



## California County Superintendents Educational Services Association

*Promoting, influencing, and advocating for high-quality education.*

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referenced in our [letter](#) submitted to the SBE in January 2022, where we see community schools thriving, county offices are deeply involved in building the essential local relationships, offering technical assistance, and building the capacity of school districts to offer sustainable programs. Across CCSESA's 11 service regions, we see countless examples of "strong and intentional community partnerships" being built to "ensure pupil learning and whole child and family development" (Education Code § 8901). The forthcoming RFA for the Lead and Regional TACs should build on these successful precedents.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide these recommendations to you on behalf of the county superintendents across the state. We strongly believe that our recommendations are what is necessary to ensure the successful implementation of the CCSP programs. County offices of education are in the best possible position to support LEAs to do this important work at the level it needs to be successful and meaningful.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Karen Stapf-Walters".

Karen Stapf-Walters, Executive Director, CCSESA