



Whole Child Policy Framework

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Item Type: Informational

Recommendation: That the Board of Directors receive information regarding the whole child policy framework.

Background: COVID-19 required schools and families to think differently about education. The experience highlighted that schools and teachers are much more than educators. Schools are a place for socialization, community connectedness, and often nutrition and health/mental health care. Teachers are trusted adults and mandatory reporters who monitor and care for students' wellbeing.

These realizations, coupled with decades of research demonstrating the relationship between academic success and social, behavioral, economic, and health factors, encouraged policy makers to invest in new school-based initiatives that support the "whole child/whole family." [The Learning Policy Institute](#) has been a leader in this policy area, providing both research and resources for policy makers and educators.

Recent California state investments in Whole Child policies include Universal PreKindergarten, Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELO-P), Universal Meals, California Community Schools Partnership Program (CCSPP), and the Children & Youth Behavioral Health Initiative.