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PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

California Community Schools Advocacy Network

08 September 2010

Send Letters in Support of SB 1357 >>

Sign On in Support of Strengthened 21st CCLC Funding >>

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California Community Schools Advocacy Network

We're building a statewide network of advocates with a shared vision: **To create a supportive policy environment for community schools in California**.

Join us.

Support Senate Bill 1357

Tracking chronic absence can provide critical data for community school partners

Senate Bill 1357 (Steinberg) is on its way to **Governor Schwarzenegger's desk** for consideration after having passed the Senate on August 26, 2010. SB 1357 requires the California Department of Education to include data on student absences in the California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS), contingent upon the receipt of federal funding for this purpose.

The bill received nearly unanimous support throughout its floor votes in both the Senate and the Assembly.

- **More** on SB 1357 | Download a fact sheet >>

Action Items | **Send Letters of Support**

Please **send a letter** to the Governor in support of SB 1357 as soon as possible.

The Fax number for Governor Schwarzenegger is: **916.558.3160** (new number)

- **Template** support letter for SB 1357 | Download >>

Add your organization to a coalition letter to the Governor in support of SB 1357. Organizations wishing to be added can **send a request**, along with their logo, to Brad Strong of Children Now (bstrong@childrennow.org).

Partnership for Children and Youth Responds to U.S. Senate Appropriations Action on 21st CCLC Program

Recently, the **U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee** passed a **$100 million proposed increase** for the **21st Century Community Learning Centers** (21st CCLC) program which funds before- and after-school, and summer learning programs in low-income communities.

With this proposed increase, the Committee also included language that **would allow 21st CCLC funds to be used for an extended school day**, a move that has been very controversial amongst after-school and community schools advocates. There is concern that the current Appropriations bill language leaves open the possibility that funds could be used for simply lengthening the school day without integrating critical community partners, and that federal and/or state regulations could favor this model over existing high quality after-school programs.

Partnership for Children and Youth, along with many other organizations, have stated publicly in a sign-on letter to House Education Committee Chairman George Miller that we support extended/expanded school-day and year models if the following conditions are met:

- Strong community partnerships are required;
- Community organizations continue to have the right to be the lead agency and manage programs; and
- The choice about which model to select is entirely a local decision.

We believe the same policy provisions should be in place should the Congress move forward with an Appropriations bill that allows expanded day models in the 21st CCLC program.

Therefore, we and our partner intermediaries from the **Collaborative for Building After School Systems** (CBASS) have developed a **new sign-on letter** directed to Senate and House Appropriations Members **requesting they amend the current Appropriations bill language**.

Sign on to a Response Letter

We welcome and encourage the support of your organization on this crucial issue. Please read the sign-on letter and add your organization to the list of signers.

- **Read the response letter** and sign on >>

Thank you.

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