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**California
Community
Schools
Advocacy
Network**

23 May 2011

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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.

**Healthy Start Report Released at Senate
Hearing on Community Schools**

Chairwoman Loni Hancock and members of the Select Committee on Workforce Development, School Environment and Student Wellness hear about the community schools approach

On May 12, 2011 in Sacramento, **Partnership for Children and Youth** and **Senator Loni Hancock**, chairwoman of the Select Committee on Workforce Development, School Environment and Student Wellness, convened an informational hearing at the Capitol about the **community schools approach** as an important strategy for school improvement in California.

Deanna Niebuhr of Partnership for Children and Youth, and **Joanne Bookmyer, PhD**, of **Center for Community School Partnerships**, CRESS Center, UC Davis School of Education, began the day's proceedings by introducing their new report, **"California Healthy Start: Seed Funding to Build Partnerships for Student Success."**

The newly released **Healthy Start report** highlights the promise of utilizing schools as access points for a range of critical services for children and their families in California's low-income communities. It showcases six (former) California **Healthy Start** grant recipients that have successfully built robust partnerships among the school district, local government and community-based agencies.

The success stories suggest that providing seed funding for planning and coordination of learning-support services is a worthwhile investment in communities, one that contributes to sustained partnerships, programs and services, and ultimately better outcomes for children and families.

- **Download** the new **Healthy Start report** >>



Jennifer Peck of Partnership for Children and Youth with panel speaker **Tony Smith, PhD**, Superintendent, Oakland Unified School District, following the community schools hearing convened by Senator Loni Hancock in Sacramento, May 12, 2011.

Panel | Community Schools: What is Happening in School Districts Across the State

As the keynote of the May 12 committee proceedings, a panel of representatives from California schools and school districts presented background and viewpoints on why supporting children and families in a more comprehensive way is critical to school success and also makes good governance sense. Panel speakers included:

- **Tony Smith, PhD**, Superintendent, Oakland Unified School District
- **James Hammond, EdD**, Superintendent, Ontario-Montclair School District
- **Jan Christensen**, Superintendent, Redwood City School District
- **Amaya Weiss**, Healthy Start Coordinator, Freepoint Elementary School, Sacramento City Unified School District

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Questions, Ideas, Feedback or Strategies?

Please contact:

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