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Summer Matters Campaign Unveils New Reports Linking Summer Learning to Local Control Funding Formula Priorities

Reports Tie Summer Learning to Districts' Goals for Common Core Implementation, Socio-Emotional Growth and Teacher and Staff Development

Oakland, CA – November 19, 2013 – As school district leaders prepare to make local control funding formula decisions, the [Summer Matters campaign](#) today released three new reports demonstrating that summer learning programs are essential to school districts' ability to meet time-sensitive priorities for Common Core implementation, social-emotional growth, and teacher and staff development.

The new series of reports, [Putting Summer to Work: the Development of High-Quality Summer Learning Programs in California](#), explores how high-quality summer learning programs in six diverse communities across California - Fresno, Los Angeles, Oakland, Sacramento, San Francisco and Whittier - impact students and their teachers. The reports show that summer is an essential time for districts and their community partners to support student learning, given the well-documented reality of summer learning loss for students from low-income families and English Language Learners.

As school districts are budgeting and planning for summer 2014, the Summer Matters campaign is barnstorming the state, delivering thousands of the new reports to superintendents and school district leaders and urging them to use local control funding formula dollars to invest in summer learning.

"The reports demonstrate that education leaders can and must do summer learning well in order to meet their student achievement goals," said Jennifer Peck, co-chair of the Summer Matters campaign. "Summer programs support the kinds of outcomes and strategies that are high priorities for school districts: Common Core implementation, social emotional development and teacher skill-building and professional development."

Through upcoming presentations, convenings and webinars, the Summer Matters campaign is urging educators to read the reports and contact them for individual consultation on how to implement high-quality, cost effective summer learning programs in their school district this summer.

The campaign also features the voices of superintendents whose programs are profiled in the report.

“Summer learning programs give educators implementing the Common Core a unique opportunity to experiment with new lesson plans and assess their effectiveness in a low-pressure, but very genuine learning environment,” said John Deasy, Superintendent of the Los Angeles Unified School District. “I urge my fellow educators to read these reports and learn more.”

“In Oakland, we’ve seen firsthand how summer learning programs reduce summer learning loss, promote personalized learning, and create invaluable opportunities for teachers to develop lessons based on the Common Core and Next Generation Science Standards,” said Gary Yee, Superintendent of the Oakland Unified School District. “These reports document how summer learning programs enhance students’ self-confidence, persistence, willingness to try new things, and sense of belonging to the school community.”

The new series of reports is available for download at: <http://summermatters2you.net/putting-summer-to-work>.

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About the Summer Matters Campaign

A diverse statewide coalition of educators, policymakers, advocates, school district leaders, mayors, parents and others working collaboratively to promote summer learning in California, the Summer Matters campaign is the first-ever statewide effort to expand and improve summer learning programs across California. Learn more about Summer Matters at www.summermatters2you.net.