



Equity in Early Education

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CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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Equitable Access to Early Learning and Care

- Harsh discipline and exclusionary practices in the early years disproportionately impact black students and students with disabilities.
- The California Department of Education's (CDE's) Early Learning and Care Division hosted a two-part webinar this year titled "Creating Brave Spaces in Early Childhood:"
 - Part 1: Strategies to interrupt and counteract bias, racism, and hate.
 - Part 2: How excluding, suspending, and expelling hurts children.

Building Equitable Child Serving Systems

- Inequities in learning settings are fueled by a complex array of issues that include individual and systemic bias, policies, and access to resources.
- Improving our child serving systems is key to supporting students and families.
- The 2021 Budget includes investments and opportunities to transform California's system of care for children.

California's Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative

- The Budget included over \$3 billion over the next few years to transform California's behavioral health system for children into an innovative and **prevention-focused** system where all children and youth are routinely screened, supported, and served for emerging and existing behavioral health needs regardless of payer.
- The initiative includes school-linked partnership, capacity, and infrastructure grants to support behavioral health services in schools and school-linked settings.

Community Schools Partnership Act

- The Budget provided \$2.8 billion for the CDE to administer the California Community Schools Partnership Act.
- Funding will serve to expand the statewide infrastructure to support community schools, which partner with families and communities to meet students' health, academic, and social emotional needs.
- Community schools offer integrated health, mental health, and social services alongside high-quality, supportive instruction.

Questions?

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<https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd/ci/assignments.asp>

Thank you

