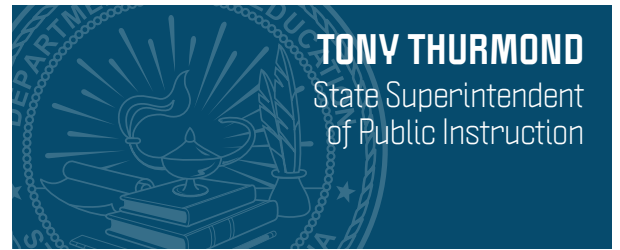




# HEAL, RECOVER, AND THRIVE

## THE NEEDED RESOURCES FOR CALIFORNIA SCHOOLS



**TONY THURMOND**  
State Superintendent  
of Public Instruction

### SUPPORTING THE TRANSFORMATION OF CALIFORNIA SCHOOLS

Last Updated 1.4.22

The COVID-19 pandemic did not create the long-standing inequities we are urgently confronting in public education — it ripped them open even wider. That means we must double down on our efforts to level the playing field for a generation of students and focus on creating a bilingual, cultured and just society, giving our students the necessary skills for later in life when they compete in the global marketplace.

I believe this to be a pivotal moment in the history of public education in California. This is an opportunity to fuse our investments in education, the urgency of the COVID 19 response, and our reckoning with racial oppression to form a once in a generation opportunity to break the cycle of educational inequity. **We can break this cycle using school transformation as our gold standard** and leveraging investments to close the opportunity gap for all.

It should be noted that as we look to transform our schools, it is critical that we integrate new programs and strategies to support our students, families, educators, and our local education agencies.

I am grateful to the Governor, Legislature, and people of California for partnering with us and providing us with this incredible opportunity to make a change. **In the coming year, we will be working on legislation to implement the recommendations that are listed on this document.** This legislative effort will support schools heal from the trauma of the pandemic, make progress towards learning recovery, and strive towards future student progress.

Thank you,

*Tony Thurmond*

Tony Thurmond  
State Superintendent of Public Instruction



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### Helping schools acquire needed COVID-19 mitigation resources

The California Department of Education (CDE) will work with the Governor, California Department of Public Health (CDPH), school leaders, and other partners to make sure schools get access to COVID 19 testing, vaccines, PPE, and other resources to keep schools safe. In 2021 we helped schools secure millions of rapid COVID tests and provided billions for securing PPE and supplies. We will continue to build on these and other efforts to help schools through 2022 and beyond.

### Scholarships to Add 10,000 Mental Health Counselors in the State

We will propose legislation for scholarships to increase the number of mental health clinicians in the state by 10,000. In order for schools to fully support the mental health needs of students that were exacerbated during the pandemic, the state must increase the number of available clinicians. This need is especially acute in rural areas that were already experiencing a shortage in mental health providers prior to the pandemic. We will work to also support loan forgiveness and to promote reforms that expedite the time that it takes for clinicians and able to practice in the state.

### Efforts to retain teachers

We will work to support the induction and preparation of teachers through legislation that would provide funds to support the induction of 15,000 new teachers currently teaching under waiver provided by executive order but who still need to complete the Teaching Performance Assessment and/or the Reading Instruction Competence Assessment. The state will support participants for induction programs to aid these new teachers to complete these requirements and commit to remain teaching in California classrooms.

### Expansion of Dual-Language Immersion Programs

We will propose legislation to secure funds to establish new dual-language immersion schools in the state. These funds

would allow districts and charter schools to convert existing schools to dual-language immersion schools. Dual immersion schools are proven to promote strong academic performance among students from all backgrounds and is one way public schools experiencing declining enrollment can attract and retain students.

### Creation of Paid Internships to Support Students in Career Technical Education Pathways

We will pursue legislation to create paid internships for high school students in career technical education (CTE) programs in the state. These paid internships would help more students learn about career pathways that they might pursue in the future while giving them an opportunity to support themselves and their families. Because these wages would be spent in the local communities where these students live, this strategy would also help to support economic development and recovery in many local communities.

### Reading by Third Grade by 2026

My team and I are currently working on a plan to make sure all students learn to read by third grade. This will include ensuring that 1 million students get access to books and at least 100,000 additional students get access to a library cards. Additionally, we will pursue resources to provide training to teachers to support gains in literacy and bi-literacy, school readiness, and reduce chronic absenteeism.

### Support for Homeless students

This proposal would help support the more than 240,000 estimated homeless students in California. These resources would help unhoused students have access to early education programs, case management, and programs to help homeless youth pursue higher education. These resources would allow for the prioritization of support for the 8,000 homeless youth who are currently unaccompanied by an adult in California and connect these youth to programs to help prevent future homelessness as they become adults.