

## UPDATE – California Summit Initiative New Directions for Student Support - 5/21/04

As proposed at the Summit meeting, a listserv has been established for the California Summit Initiative New Directions for Student Support. The listserv will be used mainly to provide periodic updates on the work. All replies to this email come back to the Center for processing.

### Initiative Infrastructure is Germinating

**I. Steering Group Grows** – To date, the following leaders have agreed to Steer California's Initiative for New Directions for Student Support

Jackie Allen, Education Programs Consultant, CA Department of Education  
Lynne Aung, California Association of School Psychologists  
Wade Brynson, Asst. Superintendent, State Department of Education  
Howard Blonsky, San Francisco Unified Pupil Services/CA Association of School SW  
Stephen Brock, NASP rep; Prof CSU Sacramento  
Mary Jo Buettner, Director, Chula Vista Community Collaborative  
Matt Collier, Director, Prevention & Intervention, Elk Grove USD  
Lynn Covarrubias, Program Manager, Systems of Support, Sweetwater Union HSD  
Joe Dear, Consultant, CA Commission on Teacher Credentialing  
Dorinda Dee, Asst. Superintendent, Lawndale  
Cory DeMars, California Federation of Teachers representative  
Frida Friend, Director, Student Support Services, Santa Paula ESD  
Michele Hobza, Director, Integrated Support Services, Sacramento City USD  
Mariaelena Huizar, Parent Program Specialist, San Bernardino Co. Schools  
Phil Kauble, Director, Student Support Services, LA County Office of Education  
David Kopperud, Education Programs Consultant, CA Department of Education  
Diane Lappi, Executive Director, Capistrano USD  
Renee Newton, Center for Community-School Partnerships  
Carol Osbrink, Assistant Superintendent, Huntington Beach Union HSD  
Barbara Owens, California Federation of Teachers representative  
D J Peterson, Consultant, CA Department of Education  
Mercedes Richardson, Student Support Services, Sweetwater Union HSD  
Eric Rofes, Humboldt State University  
Meredith Rolfe, Learning Support and Partnerships Div., Safe and Healthy Kids, CA DOE  
Richard Russell, Director, Student Support Services, Whittier UHSD  
Robert Slaby, Superintendent, Salinas City School District  
Nancy Spradling, Executive Director, CA School Nurses Organization  
Susan Thompson, Ed. Admin, CA Department of Education

**II. Work Groups are Being Formed** – The work group process involves each member sharing their ideas by email for reaction. Center staff will synthesize what has been shared and decided and send it to all CA summit participants and interested parties for their feedback and additional ideas.

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**Work Group A. Social Marketing Campaign.** One work group is focusing on clarifying the nature and scope of a social marketing campaign aimed at specific groups and key leaders (e.g., what to distribute, to who, how). At this juncture, two Steering Group members have indicated willingness to lead in developing and pursuing the functions of this work group

>>>Eric Rofes, Assistant Prof. Education, Humboldt State University  
>>>Frida Friend, Director Special Ed & Student Services, Santa Paula

If you would you like to be a part of this workgroup, please let us know by responding to this email.

The work group will build a plan for widely disseminating ideas and information about New Directions for Student Support throughout California.

*First Task – What to distribute?* The focus is on deciding what to disseminate. This will involve reviewing/revamping existing brief documents about New Directions, such as

>>the concept paper "New Directions for Student Support" which some folks around the country already are adapting to meet their needs. (Online in the Summits section of our Center website – <http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/pdfdocs/studentsupport/studentsupport.pdf>)

>>two "white" papers developed for a urban and suburban district respectively (with talking points). (Also online in the Summit section, these are briefer than the concept paper and thus easier to use in developing a brief. See – "New Directions for School & Community Initiatives to Address Barriers to LearningTwo Examples of White Papers to Inform and Guide Policy Makers" – <http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/pdfdocs/Report/newdirectionsforschoolandcommunity.pdf>)

>>the small brochure describing why new directions are imperative and what the Summits Initiative is about (also online in the Summits section under "Outreach Campaign")

And, the Center is about to put online, two additional related resources

>>One is a Q & A document responding to the basic questions that folks seem to ask related to a new directions initiative.

>>A second is a brief article that was published in the journal of the National Association of School Boards of Education (NASBE). "So you want higher achievement scores? It's Time to Rethink Learning Supports"

Each of these five resources can be used as is or drawn on and quickly revised for various audiences.

*Second Task – Contact Who?* The task here is to identify who the target audiences should be at this stage of the initiative – school/district administrators? directors of support service? special ed.? Title I? higher ed? ??????????

*Third Task – How to Make Contact?* The task here involves deciding on best strategies for getting the "message"out at this juncture.

NoteSome related work has already been undertaken. For exampleSuzanne Fisher, Executive Director, California Association of School Psychologists, included info on New Directions for Student Support in the CASP Spring 2004 newsletter; Frida Friend reports sharing info on the initiative at the March 20 CA Association for Counseling and Development and at the April 30 CA Association of School Counselors

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#### **Work Group B. Identifying School Districts who are Ready to Move and Enhancing Decision Maker Interest in New Directions for Student Support.**

This work group is focused on how to identify school districts that are ready to move (e.g., what criteria to use in determining readiness, who to contact for nominations) and how to engage decision makers.

Steering group members leading this work group include

>>>Renee Newton, Director, Center for Comm. School Partnerships, UC Davis  
>>>Dorina Dee, Assistant Superintendent, Lawndale  
>>>Steve Brock, Asst. Prof. CSU Sacramento/NASP delegate  
>>>Frida Friend, Director Special Ed & Student Services, Santa Paula

If you would you like to be a part of this workgroup, please let us know by responding to this email.

*First Task – Establishing Readiness Criteria.* Work group members need to formulate and react to a beginning list of criteria. The following is designed as a "starter" list to stimulate additional criteria and reactions. Examples of possible criteria – Key leaders in the district

>>are interested (see there is a need and an opportunity).

- >>will consider policy proposals for New Directions for Student Support
- >>are ready to map the range of resources in the district/schools/community
- >>have some infrastructure at the district/school level for focusing on New Directions or are willing to develop such infrastructure
- >>see opportunities for system changes that would sustain New Directions for Student Support (budgeting, professional development, capacity building, aligning policies, developing relevant standards and accountability).

After the work group provides their input on criteria, Center staff will synthesize what has been decided and send it to all CA summit participants and interested parties for their feedback, additional ideas, nominations of sites, etc.

*Second Task – Top Level Meetings to Engage Decision Makers.* There is a good deal of interest in top level meetings to engage decision makers in New Directions for Student Support. At this point, Steering Group members already indicate that they are taking info from the Summit and sharing it at key meetings they attend. The next step is to approach this matter more strategically, which means identifying top level meetings and clarifying how to obtain access. If you know of upcoming, top level meetings where there could be an opportunity to engage decision makers in exploring New Directions for Student Support, let us know by replying to this email or contact ltaylor@ucla.edu

We will follow up on all of this in the next few weeks.

We appreciate the opportunity to work with you on the CA. Initiative for New Directions for Student Support.

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On another note, we understand that Assembly Bill 2569 Comprehensive Pupil Learning Support System is still in the pipeline (with letters of support from many of you).

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