The Political Landscape for Children in California
The 2014 Santa Clara County Children’s Summit • February 28, 2014

Ted Lempert
President, Children Now
California’s Children:  
A large and diverse group of kids in need

Leading the Way in Demographic Shifts
California is home to 9.3 million children, ages birth-to-18, 13% of the total child population in the United States.

Over half 52% of all children are Latino (4.7 million), 27% are White, 11% are Asian, 6% are African American and 4% are of mixed or unknown ethnicities. Nearly half of all children living in California (4.4 million) live in immigrant families.

Racial & socioeconomic disparities are Persistent and Pervasive
Nearly half of all California’s children are growing up in a poor or low income household, where a family of 4 earns less than $45,622 annually. Latino (31%) and African American (34%) children are 3X more likely to live in poverty than are White children (10%).

Racial & socioeconomic disparities start early
Latino 3- and 4-year olds account for 61% (532,000) of all 3- and 4-year olds not enrolled in preschool.

There are great disparities in 4th grade reading proficiency, with 13% of California's African American and 16% of Hispanic students reading at or above proficient compared to 46% of their White peers.
School-Based Health Services

Health care services offered at schools are especially important for children who lack routine access to a health care provider, such as the 1.8 million (19%) children in California who don’t receive appropriate preventive medical care. Most school-based health services are provided in school-based health centers (SBHCs). Currently, only 2% of California’s schools have a SBHC.

Preschool

Children who attend high-quality preschools have higher high school graduation rates, higher lifetime earnings and are less likely to spend time in the criminal justice system. But, among California’s 3- and 4-year-olds most likely to benefit from preschool, only 15% were attending high-quality, center-based programs.

STEM

7 of the 10 fastest growing occupations are in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) fields and, by 2020, the demand in California for employees in STEM jobs is projected to be roughly 1 million. Yet, according to the National Assessment of Educational Progress tests, 75% of California’s 8th graders are not proficient in national math standards, meaning they aren’t learning what they need to in order to succeed in today’s economy.

Developmental Screenings

Developmental screenings are critically important for identifying delays or disabilities early in their onset. However, within 1 year, 72% or 1.7 million of California’s youngest children did not receive any of the developmental screenings that are recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics.
Research:

2012-13 California County Scorecard of Children’s Well-Being

Santa Clara County

The Scorecard provides a comprehensive picture of children’s well-being, tracking 28 indicators over time, by race/ethnicity and relative to other California counties.

How does the well-being of children living in Santa Clara County compare with the well-being of children in other counties?

The graphic above indicates how children in Santa Clara County are faring compared to children in 57 other counties. The 443,583 children living in Santa Clara County are in the bottom third (red) of performance on 1 indicator, the middle third (yellow) on 12 indicators, and the top third (green) on 15 indicators of children’s well-being.

Compare how all counties are performing on 28 indicators of children’s well-being

Printable Downloads:
This Page: English | Complete Report

**How to Use the Scorecard**
- Click on any indicator title to view the county’s performance on that indicator relative to California and other similar counties in terms of population density (i.e., rural or urban) and percentage of children living above poverty (i.e., low, middle and high income).
- Hover over any "i" icon to view a complete definition of the item.
- Additional resources, including definitions, tutorials, and notes and sources, are available here.

**Indicator 1**

1. Women who receive early prenatal care

**County Comparison**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Bottom</th>
<th>Middle</th>
<th>Top</th>
<th>Trend</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Women who receive early prenatal care</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Range</td>
<td>Average</td>
<td>Bottom</td>
<td>Middle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Range: 52% to 86%</td>
<td></td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>-2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Data by Race/Ethnicity**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Latino</th>
<th>White</th>
<th>African American</th>
<th>Asian</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Women who receive early prenatal care</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79%</td>
<td>80%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

CH1LDREN NOW
## Research:
#### 2012-13 California County Scorecard of Children’s Well-Being

### INDICATOR

1. Women who receive early prenatal care
2. Newborns who are exclusively breastfed while in the hospital
3. Young children who are read to every day
4. Children, ages 0-3, who do not experience recurring neglect or abuse
5. 3- and 4-year olds who attend preschool
6. 3rd-graders who read at grade level
7. 7th-graders who meet or exceed state standards in math
8. Elementary and middle school students who are supervised by an adult after school
9. Students who are "ready" or "conditionally ready" for college-level math courses

### COUNTY COMPARISON

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Bottom</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Women who receive early prenatal care</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>-2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Newborns who are exclusively breastfed while in the hospital</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Young children who are read to every day</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>+7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Children, ages 0-3, who do not experience recurring neglect or abuse</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>-2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. 3- and 4-year olds who attend preschool</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>+3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. 3rd-graders who read at grade level</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. 7th-graders who meet or exceed state standards in math</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>+30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Elementary and middle school students who are supervised by an adult after school</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Students who are &quot;ready&quot; or &quot;conditionally ready&quot; for college-level math courses</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>+10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### DATA BY RACE/ETHNICITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Women who receive early prenatal care</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Newborns who are exclusively breastfed while in the hospital</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Young children who are read to every day</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Children, ages 0-3, who do not experience recurring neglect or abuse</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. 3- and 4-year olds who attend preschool</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. 3rd-graders who read at grade level</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. 7th-graders who meet or exceed state standards in math</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Elementary and middle school students who are supervised by an adult after school</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Students who are &quot;ready&quot; or &quot;conditionally ready&quot; for college-level math courses</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Research:
### 2012-13 California County Scorecard of Children’s Well-Being

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INDICATOR</th>
<th>COUNTY COMPARISON</th>
<th>DATA BY RACE/ETHNICITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10. 12th-graders who graduate on time</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bottom</td>
<td>Middle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Classrooms with high-speed internet access</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. High school science classes that are taught by a “highly qualified</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>teacher”</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Children who feel connected to their school</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Suspensions that are limited to serious offenses, not “willful</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>defiance”</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Expulsions that are limited to serious offenses, not “willful</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>defiance”</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Children who are in a healthy weight zone</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Eligible students who eat free or reduced-price breakfasts during</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the school year</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Children who live near grocery stores, produce stands or farmers</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>markets</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CH1LDREN NOW
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INDICATOR</th>
<th>COUNTY COMPARISON</th>
<th>DATA BY RACE/ETHNICITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19. Eligible students who eat free or reduced-price meals during the summer</td>
<td>Bottom</td>
<td>Middle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. Schools that have a health center</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21. Children who have health insurance for the entire year</td>
<td>96%</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22. Children who have a usual source of health care</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>+1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23. Asthmatic children who have been given an asthma management plan</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24. Adolescents who are not at risk for depression</td>
<td>04%</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25. Children who visited a dentist in the last year</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26. Children in the child welfare system who have visited a dentist in the last year</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27. Children in the child welfare system who have stability in their placement</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28. Children in the child welfare system who exit to permanency within three years</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The opportunity in California’s children’s advocacy field

Kids are losing out to the power of other interest groups, but they shouldn’t be

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Public Support</th>
<th>Thousands of Groups</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tremendous support for kids</td>
<td>Too many uncoordinated, single-issue efforts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No organized constituency</td>
<td>- Overwhelm policymakers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Marginalize one another</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Limit results</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
We’re making the most of the opportunity: The components of our strategy

- Umbrella Representation
  - Reflects interconnectedness of issues
  - Enables Pro-Kid positioning framework
    - Similar to the Chamber of Commerce

- Grassroots Support Network
  - Provides long-missing source of power
    - Harnesses strong public support
    - Gives kids the punch they need

CHILDREN’S HEALTH
INTEGRATED SERVICES
CHILD WELFARE
EDUCATION

THE CHILDREN’S MOVEMENT OF CALIFORNIA
The significance of umbrella representation for a Pro-Kid agenda

Children Now’s Current Issue Coverage

CHILDREN’S HEALTH

Coverage & Access (ACA Implementation, Health Homes)
Former Foster Youth Health Coverage
Oral Health
Early Mental Health
Two-Generational Health Services for Child Welfare Families
Nutrition
Media & Health (Advertising & Obesity, Nutrition, Portrayal of Race)

EDUCATION

Early Learning & Development
- Infant & Toddler Care
- Program Quality
- Universal Preschool
- Workforce Quality
- Kindergarten Readiness Observation & Assessment

INTEGRATED SERVICES

Home Visiting
Developmental Screening
School-Based Health Centers

CHILD WELFARE

Continuum of Care Reform for Foster Youth Placements
Reducing Dependency
Attorney Caseloads

Chronic Absence
School Discipline
Equity Finance Reform
Foster Youth Education Reform
Expanded Learning/Out of School Time
Common Core & STEM
Education Technology
Teacher Effectiveness

- Enables overarching Pro-Kid framework
  - Similar to the Chamber of Commerce
- Reflects interdependence of child outcomes
  - How parents approach it
- Maintains consistent emphasis on:
  - Equity, access, quality, and accountability
  - Disproportionate impact of race and poverty
- Accommodates new issues
Advocacy:
Giving kids punch -- The Children’s Movement of California

Over 830 organizations have joined the Movement already, including:

- Bet Tzedek
- California Council of Churches
- Clergy & Laity United for Economic Justice
- St. Matthew Baptist Church
- Congregation Emanu-El
- Calvary Temple Worship Center
- Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce
- First 5 Association of California
- American Academy of Pediatrics, California
- Congregation Emanu-El
- ZERO TO THREE Western Office
- First 5 Trinity
- The Education Trust – West
- Orange Unified School District
- YMCA of Silicon Valley
- Venicia Family Clinic
- Los Angeles Universal Preschool
- United Ways of California
- Issokson & Associates
- Atwater Police Activities League
- Half Moon Bay Coastside Chamber of Commerce
- Bet Tzedek
- First 5 Association of California
- First 5 San Francisco
- Issokson & Associates
- Bet Tzedek
- First 5 Association of California
- First 5 San Francisco
How does it work? Simply.

1. **JOIN THE MOVEMENT**
   - Publicly recognize and connect your organization to the Movement; signify “We support prioritizing children’s health and education in public policy making”

2. **GET POLICY UPDATES**
   - Gain access to updates on key goings-on in Sacramento impacting kids and what needs to happen to better ensure their well-being

3. **OPT-IN TO CAMPAIGNS**
   - Receive notifications about and have the opportunity to opt-in to collective action campaigns supporting Pro-Kid policies
The Movement provides a meaningful way for communities to participate in state-level advocacy for kids:

- Connects diverse organizations & individuals to state policymaking for children
- Otherwise diffuse support has tremendous impact working together
- Establishes two-way information exchange required to make good policy (e.g., surfaces and promotes scalable best practices)
- Has a negligible impact on local organizations’ capacity, which is often strained

Linking communities to state-level policymaking
THE 2013-14 PRO-KID POLICY AGENDA FOR CALIFORNIA
Summary Version

EDUCATION

Early Education

(1) Provide greater access to quality early care and education programs starting at birth.

(2) Support a high quality standard for all programs by maintaining Department of Education oversight, supporting quality rating and improvement systems, building workforce capacity, and promoting family involvement.

(3) Increase the frequency of licensing visits to early care and education facilities.

(4) Establish stronger links among preschool, transitional kindergarten, and kindergarten.

(5) Enhance economic and educational opportunity, including introducing a savings account program beginning in infancy.
The Children’s Movement: Early Education Campaigns

**ACTION ALERT**

It all depends on the first five years of life

Let’s all make the push together

The achievement gap, reading by third grade, the drop-out rate, workforce development, the cycle of poverty, economic growth — all of these issues would be significantly improved by expanding access to quality early childhood development programs. The failure of our education system and our economy will be decided by the number of children who are not on track. And the only way to get them on track is to invest in education, nutrition and health programs that prepare children for school and life.

**SIGN ON**

Sign on to the support statement for expanding quality early childhood development programs and help build the organized public pressure needed to get it done.

**REGISTER NOW**

Leveraging the Local Control Funding Formula for Early Learning Webinar
   Wednesday, November 13, 11 am - 12 pm PST

Print out this page to leverage the social media message to reach your early childhood programs in your area.

**CHILDRen NOW**
THE 2013-14 PRO-KID POLICY AGENDA FOR CALIFORNIA
Summary Version

EDUCATION

K-12 Education

(1) Implement a rational, student-centered, and transparent school finance system.

(2) Implement stronger, up-to-date curriculum standards with an aligned assessment and accountability system, including a greater emphasis on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math.

(3) Support teaching effectiveness with improved training and a more meaningful evaluation system.

(4) Foster innovation in approaches to the traditional school day and expanded learning time (i.e., afterschool and summer programs) to extend proven programs, such as Linked Learning.

(5) Leverage technology more fully and appropriately to advance academic achievement by revamping the education infrastructure, taking successful blended learning models to scale, and supporting professional development.

(6) Address inequitable suspension and expulsion policies and chronic absence.
The Children’s Movement: K-12 Campaigns

The biggest positive change for school equity reform in California since the ’70s

SCHOOL FUNDING REFORM IS PRO-KID

A remarkably diverse group of business, education, civil rights, parent, faith-based, and community organizations and leaders are all supporting the Local Control Funding Formula because it’s the right thing to do for California’s kids.

California’s current school funding system is outdated, irrational, and inequitable. Our students can’t wait any longer. Over 70 percent of the public is in favor of the Local Control Funding Formula approach.

We cannot delay fixing the way the state funds schools.

AGLU of California
Alliance College-Ready Public Schools
Alliance for a Safer Community
Alliance for Boys and Men of Color
Alliance San Diego
Alliance Business Association
Aspire Public Schools
Associated Administrators of Los Angeles

First 5 Fresno County
Fresno Unified School District
Full Circle Education Fund
Gay-Straight Alliance Network of California
Hillbilly Ugly Coastside Chamber of Commerce
Hopkins Foundation of Silicon Valley
Inception of the National Association of Latino
Students in Common

San Jose Leadership Group
Silver Spring Foundation
Superintendent Antonio Cabral
Los Angeles County Schools
Superintendent Christine Freda
Kern County Schools
Superintendent Christopher Steele
Long Beach Unified School District
Superintendent Kathy Eagles
Hollywood County Schools
Superintendent Gene Rutherford

CHILDREN NOW

PRO-KID
The Children’s Movement: K-12 Campaigns

Making sure everyone understands CA’s new school funding system

ATTEND A WEBINAR

We’ve been on the ground in communities across the state and know people everywhere are struggling to understand California’s new school funding system. So, we invite you to attend any or all of three upcoming webinars by Children Now that are geared to make sure everyone — parents, students, educators, school board members, and community and business leaders — has an equal and accurate understanding of the new school funding system. Children Now has been leading the work on school funding reform in Sacramento and understands how all the pieces fit together.

For the new system to work most effectively, everyone needs to be on the same page as school leaders in terms of their understanding of the law. This will ensure decisions made locally about how to spend education funding strongly reflect community input, as intended.

Choose from 3 webinars:

1. In-Depth Policy Updates about the New School Funding System

2. How Decisions about the New School Funding System Will Be Made in Your Community

3. Local Control Education Funding for Early Learning Programs

Here are 3 ways you can learn more and help:

1. Forward this email
   Let your friends and colleagues know about the webinars

2. Contact Us
   with questions or comments about school funding

3. Sign up for a webinar

PRO-KID

WEBINAR REMINDER

This new webinar by Children Now will give you a better understanding of what the current Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) regulations mean and provide tips for how community groups, educators, and parents can participate in the process in their school district. Your participation is critical to making the most of this historic school funding reform.

The webinar will also cover the Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) that every school district must complete to ensure accountability, letting you know what to expect and how to address the development of your community’s plan and what information you will need to consider and understand throughout the development process.

Looking for ideas on how to support community engagement in the LCFF process?

# Join us for a Tweet Chat on 2/3 at 11am using the hashtag #LCFFEngage

REGISTRATION NOW

It’s not too late, you can still register for the webinar LCFF 101: How school funding decisions will be made in your community

Friday, February 7th, 2014
11:00 AM – 12:00 PM PST
45 minute presentation followed by a 15 minute Q & A session.

THE CHILDREN’S MOVEMENT OF CALIFORNIA

CHILDOREN NOW
The Children’s Movement: K-12 Campaigns

Unfair, Ineffective School Discipline Practices Are Needlessly Lowering Student Achievement

Support Assembly Bill 420 to correct this widespread problem with proven alternatives, so more kids can succeed in school.

We’ve all heard children say, “But that’s not fair,” when they are being disciplined. Unfortunately, discipline practices in California’s schools really aren’t fair.

Each year, suspensions and expulsions affect more than 400,000 California students. Reports released by federal Secretary of Education Arne Duncan, the Office of Civil Rights, and others show that suspension and expulsion policies are unfairly impacting African-American and Latino students. These reports also show that “willful defiance,” an unspecific, non-violent offense that leaves wide margins for interpretation, is the leading reason cited for student suspensions.

Help make school discipline fairer in our state so more kids can succeed in school by urging the Governor and Legislature to support Assembly Bill 420.

AB 420 encourages the use of other means of correction and alternative discipline practices that are decreasing student suspensions and expulsions by as much as half in many schools and districts, while improving school climate and student success at the same time. The bill addresses the fact that the state’s current school discipline policies aren’t making our schools safer, better places to learn.


Want more information? We suggest you read the fact sheet on AB 420 and the Mercury News article, “Suspensions hurt kids, schools and don’t improve safety.”

We’ll keep you updated on AB 420 and other ways you can help see it through.

This email pertains to the following goal of The 2013-14 Pro-Kid Policy Agenda for California:

Address inequitable suspension and expulsion policies and chronic absence.

Deeper Understanding of Common Core Standards

ACTION ALERT

The Children’s Movement and the rest of the nation have begun implementing the Common Core State Standards in the last few years. These new academic standards reflect the notion that how students learn is as important as what they learn. The standards set goals to ensure all students are prepared for the challenges of the 21st century global economy and set clear learning expectations to be met along the way towards high school graduation, preparing how to meet them up to teachers.

Different Ways of Learning

The Common Core will not result in students learning substantially different information; rather it will push them to learn in different ways. The focus will be on-critical thinking and problem solving instead of rote memorization. As Andreas Gouk, math coordinator for the San Mateo Union High School District, puts it, “Common Core offers a lot of opportunities for more rigor in our classrooms, and also actually tries to get students to learn ideas more deeply and understand concepts.” California students will have a much greater and more active role in their education. This will mean changes in how they are taught. For example:

The Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts in California:

- Expose students to more complex text, meaning what they read will have a higher level of difficulty. This is important for college readiness, as the ability to answer questions about complex text is a key predictor of college success.
- Place a much greater emphasis on informational text as it is increasingly important. Currently, in many elementary programs, only 15% of text is considered expository. The Common Core sets the expectation that, in grades three through eight, 50% of the text be expository.
THE 2013-14 PRO-KID POLICY AGENDA FOR CALIFORNIA

Summary Version

HEALTH

(1) Expand and strengthen preventive services for at-risk infants and toddlers, including developmental screenings, early intervention, and home visitation.

(2) Provide every child with affordable and comprehensive health insurance coverage.

(3) Promote children’s timely access to the complete range of critical health care services they need, including preventive screenings, immunizations, dental, mental, vision, and hearing care.

(4) Establish a tech-savvy “health home” for every child, and expand the number of school-based health centers.

(5) Institute a comprehensive approach to combating childhood obesity, focusing on healthy food and beverage choices, increased physical activity, and nutrition education.
The Children's Movement: Health Campaigns

**PRO-KID**

**THE CHILDREN’S MOVEMENT OF CALIFORNIA**

**HEALTH CARE REFORM IS HAPPENING NOW IN CALIFORNIA: HELP ENSURE KIDS GET ALL THEY CAN OUT OF IT**

Tell the Governor and Legislature to take full advantage of this historic opportunity to improve children's health.

Take action for kids >

Any parent who’s watched their child grow up knows that time really flies. California’s leaders have only nine months to figure out how to implement the most important requirements of the federal health reform law (i.e., the Affordable Care Act of ACA), including enrolling health insurance options to cover millions of uninsured kids and families.

Roughly two-thirds of uninsured California children are already eligible for coverage, so they just aren’t signed up.

We can change that if our state’s leaders do a good job on health reform.

Send a message to the Legislature and Governor urging them to pass legislation ensuring affordable health insurance is available to more kids and families.

Specifically, here’s what they need to do:

- The Legislature needs to pass Assembly Bill X1 (Senate Bill X1) (A.K.A. ABX1 (SBX1)) in the first special session, which is happening now.

These bills expand Medi-Cal eligibility to low-income adults and streamline enrollment. When parents are eligible for Medi-Cal engagement, they are more likely to enroll their children. By also streamlining the Medi-Cal enrollment and health insurance coverage, more eligible but uninsured kids will get the health insurance coverage and help they need. Additionally, these bills allow Medi-Cal to cover health care needs up to age 26, so kids under state care still need them.

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On March 7, the Assembly overwhelmingly passed ABX1, and the Senate did the same with SBX1. If passed because these bills are the best way to expand Medi-Cal without taking money away from other critical programs for kids, like those...

Children Now
The Children’s Movement: Health Campaigns

PRO-KID

PROVIDING HEALTH CARE TO KIDS AT SCHOOL MAKES SENSE
Support school-based health centers so all California children get the medical, mental health, and dental services they need.

Please join many other organizations and people in supporting more school-based health centers for California’s kids.

School-based health centers (SBHCs) are improving children’s health and education by bringing comprehensive health care services to kids, where they are — at school. While California’s 200 SBHCs are a good start, hundreds of thousands of kids in our state still don’t have access to the medical, mental health, and dental services they need to be healthy and safe, and do their best in school. More SBHCs are needed to close this gap, and you can help.

SBHCs are providing children with services, screenings, preventive care, and immunizations. They are also helping children get health insurance coverage, like Medi-Cal, and enrollment is critical to within the community and meet eligible kids needs.

For more information, read our issue brief on why school-based health centers make sense for California.

CH1LDREN NOW
THE 2013-14 PRO-KID POLICY AGENDA FOR CALIFORNIA
Summary Version

INTEGRATED SERVICES

(1) Institute a Children's Coordinating Council.

(2) Establish a comprehensive, longitudinal interagency data system.

(3) Develop eligibility and enrollment standards and outcome measures to be used across agencies.
The Children’s Movement of California

We’re One Step From A Children’s Cabinet
Urge Governor Brown to Sign AB 823

Thanks in part to the efforts of members of The Children’s Movement of California, Assembly Bill 823 (Dickinson) passed the Senate floor yesterday and is moving to the Governor’s desk for his consideration. If he signs it, the bill becomes law.

AB 823 would create the California Children’s Coordinating Council (formerly known as the Children’s Cabinet of California), a committee focused on increasing efficiency and improving service delivery across California’s many child-serving agencies. Children would benefit greatly from the increased attention the Council would give to the issues undermining their education, health and well-being.

Please urge the Governor to sign Assembly Bill 823

The Children’s Movement of California has pushed AB 823 along every step of the way. Now, we’re only one step away from realizing this big victory for kids, so please take a minute to help.

California begins with kids™

Take Action for Kids ➤
THE 2013-14 PRO-KID POLICY AGENDA FOR CALIFORNIA

Summary Version

CHILD WELFARE

(1) Hold local governments accountable for child welfare realignment outcomes.

(2) Strengthen and expand prevention, early intervention, and at-home services.

(3) Prioritize stability and permanence.

(4) Ensure foster youth aging out of the system have access to education, health care, and other services.
The Children’s Movement: Child Welfare Campaigns

PRO-KID

Former Foster Youth in CA are now eligible for Medi-Cal coverage until age 26

Find out more at the February 27 webinar

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) now requires states to provide health care coverage to former foster youth until age 26, regardless of income or resources.

Join Children Now and the Youth Law Center for a webinar focusing on how this change is being implemented in California. Topics covered will include:

- An overview of the California Department of Health Care Services policies;
- Practical information on how former foster youth can enroll in Medi-Cal coverage, including valuable tips on overcoming common enrollment barriers;
- Outreach efforts to inform former foster youth about this new benefit and best practices from several counties that have developed streamlined enrollment processes.

For further information

1. Check out CoveredCA26.org. Children Now's new youth-focused website which provides current information about Medi-Cal coverage for former foster youth, including tips for youth on how to sign up and FAQs.
2. Print the CoverCA26 Tip and Information to pass publicly, hand out, or email to others.
3. Watch California Youth Connection’s (CYC) public service announcement about how the ACA benefits former foster youth.
4. Request training or presentation for more information contact

Visit: COVERED*26

Tell Others

CoveredCA26.org

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The full version of the 2013-14 Pro-Kid Policy Agenda is available here:

http://www.childrennow.org/index.php/movement/prokidagenda