



April 15, 2020

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: The Urgency of Educating California's Students – Immediate Relief and Long-Term Commitments

Dear Governor Newsom,

In light of the current COVID-19 crisis gripping the state, the nation, and the world, the time is urgent to support and protect California's efforts to close educational achievement gaps. We call on your support in three areas:

- 1.

funds for California schools. However, neither the ADA assurances nor this federal funding will be sufficient to cover the additional costs we are incurring to address the digital divide, to distribute meals to both children and adults, and labor costs to provide overtime, stipends and differential pay to maintain a minimum level of staffing.

1. Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund

We estimate California will receive \$355 million from this Fund. In addition to our vulnerable populations, students whose parents are experiencing job loss, homelessness, or who may be in foster care will need additional supports to ensure their academic success. ***We request the state distribute this funding directly to school districts on a discretionary basis to offset unforeseen costs and to provide summer instruction to bridge the academic needs of students.***

2. Coronavirus Relief Fund

We are concerned the C

early intervention preschool grant through the same mechanism adopted in the

