



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
September 14, 2016

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### **Data Network Expands to Support Local School Improvement Efforts**

The CORE Districts announced today the expansion of the CORE Data Collaborative to include a range of urban, suburban and rural schools serving more than 1.8 million California students. In addition to the 8 founding CORE districts, a combination of county offices, individual districts, charter management organizations, and district consortia now are working within this voluntary network, and using locally-driven data to guide resource allocation, stakeholder communication and improvement planning.

“This innovative system is growing because it supports collaboration within and across districts, and it provides easy-to-use, state and locally-generated information to help educators improve student outcomes,” explained Michael Hanson, president of the CORE Districts and superintendent of Fresno Unified School District.

The Data Collaborative previously was limited to Fresno, Garden Grove, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Oakland, Sacramento, San Francisco, and Santa Ana Unified as founding CORE Districts. It is now open to all local educational agencies in California. Beginning with the 2016-17 school year, more than 1.8 million students will be supported through collaboration among the original CORE Districts, plus districts throughout Sacramento and Riverside counties (coordinated through their County Offices of Education), San Bernardino City Unified School District, a consortium of districts in the Silicon Valley (the East Side Alliance coordinated by the Silicon Valley Education Foundation), the Sweetwater Union High School District, Aspire Public Schools, Green Dot Public Schools, and the Oxnard family of schools (coordinated by the Ventura County Office of Education).

“Being part of this broader network furthers our work to ensure students are college- and career-ready when they graduate,” said Manny Barbara, vice president of the Silicon Valley Education Foundation and coordinator of the East Side Alliance. “By being able to compare our schools’ performance on multiple measures to the performance of similar schools throughout the state, we intend to get clearer picture of our strengths and challenge areas.”

David Gordon, Sacramento County Superintendent of Schools added, “The network gives our districts better access to information and resources to improve school performance and student outcomes.”

The network provides educators a complete picture of school performance, including information that is not collected by or available through the state, to inform local decision-making. In addition, the network helps build school and district capacity by bringing educators together twice annually to share what they are learning and to learn from others. School and



district profiles include locally-driven measures of growth in student academic performance, a middle school indicator noting students' high school readiness, chronic absenteeism rates, students' social emotional skills, school climate measures and English Learner reclassification rates, as well as state driven measures of student test scores and graduation rates. All available data aligns with state and federal accountability requirements.

"Long Beach's focus on continuous improvement and our thinking about data have evolved through our partnership with the CORE Districts," explained Chris Lund, assistant superintendent of Long Beach USD. "We have changed from monitoring school-wide attendance to examining chronic absenteeism rates. Our survey data no longer stands alone, but now connects key survey measures, like growth mindset, to achievement results. In addition to test results, we now examine a unique achievement growth measure year-to-year."

The CORE Districts partner with Policy Analysis in California Education (PACE) to analyze data and promote innovation within and across districts. The CORE-PACE partnership also shares data and analyses with policymakers to inform emerging state and federal school accountability systems. For more information, please contact the CORE Districts' Director of External Relations, Julie White, at [julie@coredistricts.org](mailto:julie@coredistricts.org).

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