



# OUR STUDENTS CAN'T WAIT

## OUR VOICES MAKE EQUITY MATTER FOR BLACK STUDENTS

“As a student, we live out the rules that adults set for our school. If you don't give guidelines on how to make our schools and students succeed, then they only do the bare minimum.”

**CHER'QUORA HUNN,**  
CAJON HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT

## WE CAN'T WAIT BECAUSE:



### BIRTH - AGE 5:

**LESS THAN 2/3 OF BLACK CHILDREN ARE IN EARLY LEARNING PROGRAMS.**

By age 2, low-income children—regardless of race—are already six months behind their higher income peers in language development, and by age 5 they are more than two years behind.



### ELEMENTARY / MIDDLE SCHOOL :

**LESS THAN 15% OF BLACK STUDENTS MET MATH STANDARDS AND LESS THAN 30% OF BLACK STUDENTS MET ENGLISH LANGUAGE STANDARDS.**

Math and English are gateway requirements for more rigorous college readiness courses. Students who lag behind are already at a disadvantage if they fail to make improvements.

**HELP US PUSH FOR TARGETED INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT TO GIVE EXTRA HELP AND RESOURCES TO STUDENTS WHO LAG BEHIND ACADEMICALLY.**

**BLACK STUDENTS ARE 3 TIME MORE LIKELY THAN WHITE STUDENTS TO BE SUSPENDED FROM SCHOOL.**

Excessive suspensions exclude students from learning, contribute to disengagement from school, and are frequently a precursor to encounters with law enforcement or the juvenile justice system.

**HELP US PUSH FOR MORE ALTERNATIVES TO SUSPENSION, EXPULSION, TICKETING, AND ARREST BY CREATING NEW POLICIES, SUCH AS POSITIVE BEHAVIOR AND RESTORATIVE JUSTICE TO ADDRESS SCHOOL CLIMATE AND DISCIPLINE.**



### HIGH SCHOOL / COLLEGE READINESS:

**LESS THAN 30% OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES COMPLETE COURSE WORK FOR UC/CSU COLLEGE ADMISSION.**

**HELP US PUSH SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO ADDRESS DISPARITIES IN ACCESS TO A-G COURSE ENROLLMENT AMONG BLACK STUDENTS.**



### COLLEGE COMPLETION:

**BLACK STUDENTS REQUIRE REMEDIATION BEFORE THEY START THEIR COLLEGE COURSEWORK.**

Black college students are more likely than their peers to require remedial, non-credit bearing coursework that must be completed before they can start making headway on their degrees.

**HELP US ENSURE ALL STUDENTS HAVE THE EFFECTIVE EDUCATORS, RIGOROUS STANDARDS AND INSTRUCTION, AND ACADEMIC RESOURCES THEY NEED TO SUCCEED.**



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## OUR VOICE MATTERS:

**JOIN LOCAL & STATEWIDE ADVOCACY EFFORTS TO PUSH FOR EQUITY FOR BLACK STUDENTS.**