TRANSFORMING PUBLIC SCHOOLS INTO GATEWAYS OF OPPORTUNITY

- Highest level of school and per-pupil funding in California’s history – $123.9B
- Universal Pre-K by 2025, $3 billion to create full-service community schools
- Investing $20 billion to reimagine public schools and reduce class sizes

California’s recovery is underway, with the state reopened after achieving the most vaccinations in the entire country, and now we’re leading the nation’s economic recovery. But we still have a long way to go and can’t be satisfied with just returning to the way things were. Governor Newsom’s $100 billion California Comeback Plan is the comprehensive strategy needed to address the state’s most persistent challenges and ensure California comes back from this pandemic stronger than before.

The California Comeback Plan is reimagining our public schools with the highest level of state school funding in California history. With the new $20 billion investment, the total $123.9 billion school and per-pupil state funding that will transform our K-12 public schools includes $3 billion to convert thousands of school sites into full-service community schools and growing to $2.7 billion for universal pre-K. Under this plan, California public schools will be transformed with wraparound services — from mental health, to social and family services, to tutoring and after-school programs — the kind of complete campus every parent would want for their child.

In addition to these targeted intervention strategies, the California Comeback Plan has one overarching goal – hit fast forward on our state’s recovery by directly confronting California’s most pressing challenges:

- Providing Immediate Relief for Those Hardest Hit by COVID-19
- Confronting the Homelessness & Housing Affordability Crisis
- Transforming Public Schools as Gateways for Opportunity
- Building Infrastructure for the Next Century
- Combating Wildfires & Tackling Climate Change
KEY ACTIONS TO RE-IMAGINE CALIFORNIA’S PUBLIC SCHOOLS:

TRANSFORMING PUBLIC SCHOOLS INTO GATEWAYS OF EQUITY AND OPPORTUNITY

- **$3 billion to convert thousands of school sites into full-service community schools**, with wraparound mental health, social and family services — the kind of complete campus every parent would want for their child.
- **$1.8 billion for summer and after-school programs** at all schools serving the highest concentrations of vulnerable students, growing to $5 billion by 2025.
- **$2.9 billion to match well-prepared teachers with the most vulnerable students**, including $500 million in grants for teachers who commit to high-need schools and $250 million to attract board-certified expert teachers to high-poverty schools.
- **$1.1 billion to ongoing funds to improve staff-to-student ratios** at all schools serving the highest concentrations of vulnerable students, including up to five additional counselors, nurses, teachers or paraeducators at each school.
- **$1.9 billion to set up college savings accounts of up to $1,500 for every vulnerable student**, with $170 million in ongoing funds to set up accounts for all vulnerable students when they enter first grade.
- **$4.3 billion over five years to transform the youth behavioral health system (ages 0-25)** to identify and treat behavioral health needs early, including trauma, depression, anxiety, psychological disorders and substance use.
- **$6 billion to increase broadband infrastructure, access, and affordability** — a critical step to bringing communities together and improving educational outcomes.

PROVIDING RESOURCES TO HELP ALL STUDENTS THRIVE

- **$650 million for universal school nutrition**, providing access to two free meals to all students, at an estimated ongoing cost of $650 million in ongoing funds and $150 million in one-time funds to upgrade kitchens and train staff on nutritional services.
- **$1.5 billion to enhance special education**, including a nearly $400 million increase in ongoing funds and $260 million for early intervention for preschool-aged children.
- **$439 million for an equity-focused matching grant to improve public libraries**, supplementing opportunities for learning, enrichment, and social connection.
- **$35 million to expand broadband access to isolated and under-served communities** through a collaborative partnership of local education agencies, regional libraries, and telehealth providers and leverage available federal funds.
- **$40 million over three years to support the Arts Council’s existing Creative Youth Development programs** to partner with CBOs, educators, and local artists to expand participation in programs statewide.
• $43.1 million for outdoor environmental education and access programs through the Outdoor Equity Grants Program to enable underserved and at-risk populations to participate in outdoor environmental education experiences at state parks.

• $180 million to invest in establishing and revitalizing community open spaces in park-poor neighborhoods throughout the state.

• $15 million for the Student Success Coach Grant Program, which will establish student success coaches in communities to nurture relationships with K-12 students and collaborate with teachers to help prepare students with skills and mindsets to achieve their goals.

FINALLY ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL PRE-K

• Universal transitional kindergarten by 2025, phasing in access for four-year-olds growing to $2.7 billion in 2025-26.

• Reducing class sizes, cutting adult-to-child ratios in half with at least an average of 1 adult for every 10 children by 2023-24.

• Expanding access and supporting Pre-K educators, providing $300 million to increase number of state preschool or transitional kindergarten programs and provide additional pre-k teacher training.

• Increasing Pre-K facilities, providing $490 million to support the building and renovating of state preschool, transitional kindergarten and kindergarten facilities.