

The logo features the words "CALIFORNIA" in orange and "COMEBACK PLAN" in white, both in a bold, sans-serif font. They are centered within a dark blue rectangular box. Two horizontal orange bars extend from the left and right sides of the blue box.

# CALIFORNIA COMEBACK PLAN

## TRANSFORMING PUBLIC SCHOOLS INTO GATEWAYS OF OPPORTUNITY

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- 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
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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**

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## 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.

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- **\$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.