CDE Guidance Regarding School Reopenings

Earlier this week, the California Department of Education released new guidance on schools reopening. The guidebook, titled Stronger Together, provides guidance for Local Education Agencies (LEAs) to use when planning how they will open their schools in the fall. The guide was created with the most up-to-date information at the time and may be updated should new data become available.

While the majority of the guidance document focuses on K-12, there is a chapter on Early Learning and Care starting on page 39. Some of the guidance includes:

- Instituting procedures to ensure children are grouped in the same configuration, with the same staff throughout the day and restrict mixing between groups. This may require reconfiguring the physical space (e.g., deconstructing centers to ensure access to all types of activities for all children) or moving children between physical spaces throughout the day.
- Maximizing outdoor time for children in accordance with schedules to rotate use and allow for cleaning of any shared materials or equipment.
- Utilizing head-to-toe placement of children and creating physical barriers, as needed, to protect children and ensure distancing during nap times.
- Staggering arrival and pick-up times to limit direct contact with and between parents and caregivers to the greatest extent possible and creating processes such as curb pick-up or different doors for entering and exiting to the greatest extent possible.