



Early Edge California Accomplishments Second Quarter 2021

Early Edge California is pleased to share highlights of our work from April through June 2021. These accomplishments would not have been possible without the generous support of our funders — thank you.

State-Level Advocacy

- Early Edge's sponsored legislation, [AB 22 \(McCarty\) Universal Transitional Kindergarten](#), [SB 50 \(Limón\) California's Early Learning and Care System](#), and [AB 1363 \(Rivas\) Identifying & Supporting Dual Language Learners in California's Early Learning System](#), continued to move through the California State Assembly and Senate. All three bills are currently active and will be heard in Appropriations hearings in August 2021.¹
- [Patricia Lozano](#) presented information on AB 1363 and how California is taking steps to improve the identification of Dual Language Learners (DLLs) in Early Education and Care at the Migration Policy Institute's webinar: [A First Step Towards Equity for Dual Language Learners in Early Childhood Systems: Identifying Their Language Needs & Characteristics](#). Experts discussed a [newly released framework](#) describing the most critical elements that should be included in standardized, comprehensive Dual Language Learner (DLL) identification and tracking processes for early childhood systems, based on program and policy needs.

Communication Efforts for AB22, SB50, and AB 1363

- Videos
 - Early Edge released a [TK Video](#) to describe key characteristics of TK programs.
- Press Releases
 - Early Edge collaborated with AB 22 cosponsors to put out a press release in [reaction to the May Revision of the Budget and the announcement that Universal Transitional Kindergarten](#) would be included as a budget priority of the Governor. Early Edge also shared [reflections about the May Revision](#) in a blog post featured in our newsletter.
- Media Mentions
 - SB 50: [Amid pandemic, infants especially need quality child care, reformers say](#) (*EdSource*, 04/02/2021)
 - AB 22/SB 50: Facilitated the creation of an op-ed by bill authors for AB 22 and SB 50 placed in SCNG: [Why we need universal transitional kindergarten](#)

¹No funds from the Heising-Simons Foundation or The David & Lucile Packard Foundation were used for lobbying efforts related to Early Edge's state-level advocacy efforts.

- [AB 22/May Revise UTK announcement:](#)
 - [¿Cómo el preescolar gratuito ayudará a los niños y a sus familias en California? \(La Opinión, 6/28/21\)](#)
 - [¿Cuál es la importancia de que todos los niños de 4 años en California tengan acceso a un kínder transicional? \(Univision 34 Los Angeles, 5/23/21\)](#)
 - [What did he get right? Reactions to Gov. Newsom's early education budget \(EdSource, 5/19/21\)](#)
 - [We explain what the Transitional Kindergarten proposal is about for all 4-year-old children in California \(Univision 34 Los Angeles, 5/17/21\)](#)
 - [Free Preschool: Governor Newsom Announces \\$2.7 Million to Improve Education \(Telemundo 33 Sacramento, 5/14/21\)](#)
 - [Reactions to Governor Newsom's Transitional Kindergarten \(TK\) Proposal \(KFBK News Radio \(Sacramento\), 5/13/21\)](#)
 - [Advocates for Early Childhood Education are Cheering the Governor's TK Initiative \(KNX 1070 News Radio \(Los Angeles\), 5/12/21\)](#)
 - [Should California offer transitional kindergarten to all 4-year-olds? \(EdSource, 5/13/21\)](#)
 - [Newsom Proposes Universal Transitional Kindergarten. New Programs for Low-Income Students \(KQED, 5/12/21\)](#)
 - [\\$500 college accounts + transitional Kindergarten = Newsom's latest budget proposal \(The Mercury News, 5/12/21\)](#)
- Other Documents
 - Early Edge shared about [San Diego Unified School District's TK 4 Program and its Co-Teaching Model](#) as a blog featured in our newsletter, as additional promotion for UTK and our legislation AB 22.
 - Published the 2021-2022 California State Budget for Early Learning and Health: May Revise Summary on our website.

Supporting Dual Language Learners (DLL)

- [Carolyn Crolotte](#) presented with Dr. Giselle Navarro-Cruz and Professor Norma Leon from Cal Poly Pomona on "Early Childhood Faculty Beliefs and Self-Efficacy on Preparing the Early Childhood Workforce to Work With Dual Language Learners" during the American Educational Research Association (AERA) Conference.

- Carolyn Crolotte provided public comment at the Los Angeles Unified School District Board Meeting where the Universal Pre-Kindergarten Resolution was taken up by the board and passed unanimously.
- [Anna Ioakimedes](#) presented with Dr. Giselle Navarro-Cruz on “Institutions of Higher Education Supporting the Multilingual Early Learning and Care Workforce” at the Comparative and International Education Society Conference.
- Early Edge hosted two DLL Master Plan for Early Learning and Care (MPELC) Action Plan Workgroup meetings on April 30th and May 28th as part of a two-year project to support DLL-related recommendations in the MPELC.
- Early Edge launched the First 5 California (F5CA) DLL Pilot Expansion Communities of Practice on April 29, 2021, providing an opportunity for participating counties to learn and share DLL best practices.
 - Since the launch, Early Edge has hosted two substrand meetings: effective, culturally, and linguistically responsive family engagement and identification of DLLs on May 19, 2021 and a meeting for the systems substrand on June 16th.
- As part of the [Emerging Bilingual Collaborative \(EBC\) project](#) work, Early Edge California accomplished the following activities during this quarter:
 - In collaboration with the American Institutes for Research (AIR), finalized the *Multilingual Learning Toolkit Overview*, a guide describing the foundational principles and evidence-based strategies for instruction that are critical for educators of children in Pre-K-3rd grade.
 - The document will be shared via an interactive, standalone website, the Multilingual Learning Toolkit, that will feature accompanying quality, vetted resources that are geared for a practitioner audience.
 - The website will be launched on September 2, 2021.
- Early Edge launched our new [DLL Interactive Map](#) to help capture California’s current efforts to support DLLs and the teachers and programs that serve them.
- Early Edge hosted the third and final convening of the [DLL/EL PreK-3rd COVID-19 Learning Community](#). Participants discussed strategies and resources on assessing student knowledge and effective professional development, two topics they had identified as critical issues they were currently facing in their work.
- Patricia Lozano presented information on AB 1363 and how California is taking steps to improve the identification of Dual Language Learners (DLLs) in Early Education and Care at the Migration Policy Institute’s webinar: [A First Step Towards Equity for Dual Language Learners in Early Childhood Systems: Identifying Their Language Needs & Characteristics](#). Experts discussed a [newly released framework](#) describing the most critical elements that should be included in standardized, comprehensive Dual Language Learner (DLL) identification and tracking processes for early childhood systems, based on program and policy needs.
- Carolyn Crolotte presented on AB 1363 (Rivas) at the English Learner Leadership and Legacy Initiative’s Annual Convening hosted by Californians Together.

Connecting Policy to Practice

Friends, Family, and Neighbors (FFN) Agency Workgroup

- Early Edge hosted the [second FFN Agency Workgroup Meeting](#) where participants went through an exercise to ideate on ways to improve FFN access to training and improve FFN wages. The group [met for a third time on May 26, 2021](#) to finalize recommendations. The key themes that emerged were that trainings for FFNs should be free, incentivized, and easily accessible. The wage conversation focused on ways to work towards achieving wage parity with Family Child Care providers.

Friends, Family, and Neighbors (FFN) Advisory Group

- Early Edge hosted an FFN Advisory Group meeting in partnership with WestEd. The conversation with four FFN providers from the Early Edge FFN Advisory group regarding their experiences with online training will assist WestEd as they work on developing a statewide training system for FFN providers.
- On June 5, Early Edge hosted its [first English-language FFN Advisory Group](#). Four FFNs participated in the conversation. The FFNs discussed the benefits and challenges of providing FFN care and reviewed the proposed FFN recommendations. The group indicated in their evaluation that they enjoyed the conversation and greatly looked forward to the next meeting.
- Early Edge's FFN Advisory Groups met in June to review the recommendations developed by the FFN Agency Workgroup which will be shared with state agencies in the future as recommendations for improving FFN training and wages.

Parent Advisory Groups

- Early Edge hosted its [third round of Parent Advisory Groups](#) in English and Spanish. The conversation focused on how parents choose FFN providers and what they want their children to get out of FFN care.

Educator Advisory Groups

- Educator Advisory Groups are scheduled for August 2021. Staff schedule meetings to allow time to prepare a robust discussion on TK implementation, details of which were not available until mid July 2021.

Communications

- Provided media to help address concerns of parents, teachers, and administrators, some highlights include:
 - [Amid pandemic, infants especially need quality child care, reformers say](#), (EdSource, 4/2/21)
 - EdSource: [Why some early childhood advocates want more transitional kindergarten choices](#), (EdSource, 06/17/21)

Organizational Development and Capacity Building

- Early Edge held our kickoff meeting with Liberation by Design Team to start to discuss our equity organizational development work plan.
- Early Edge hosted the first Strategic Planning Committee Meeting with the Gina Airey Consulting team and advisory board members.
- Early Edge participated in two full team training sessions with Expert Effects: High Impact Communications Strategies Workshop on May 4th and Time Effectiveness Workshop on June 14th.

COVID-19 Response

- Early Edge California partnered with Child360 to host Early Learning and Care During COVID: Stories from the Field.
- Early Edge prepared the [CDE Management Bulletin 21-08 Summary](#) and shared the information with members of the community through our bi-weekly newsletter.

Summary of our Resources 2021:

Q1: <https://earlyedgecalifornia.org/early-edge-california-resources/>

Summary of our Resources 2020:

Q1: <https://earlyedgecalifornia.org/early-edge-california-resources-q1-2020/>

Q2: <https://earlyedgecalifornia.org/early-edge-california-resources-q2-2020/>

Q3: <https://earlyedgecalifornia.org/early-edge-california-resources-q3-2020/>

Q4: <https://earlyedgecalifornia.org/early-edge-california-resources>