



First 5 California AND THE Water Cooler Joint Conference

April 10-11, 2013

Sheraton Grand Sacramento Hotel
Sacramento, California



Day One – April 10, 2013

PARTNERSHIPS FOR EARLY LEARNING:
Many Voices – One Chorus



Day Two – April 11, 2013

STRONGER TOGETHER:
Moving Our Children Forward

PROGRAM GUIDE

WELCOME!

Welcome to the **First 5 California and the Water Cooler Joint Conference**

Day One: Wednesday, April 10, 2013

PARTNERSHIPS FOR EARLY LEARNING: Many Voices – One Chorus



How will the next chapter read for California's early learning and health programs? How will it be written, and by whom? It must reflect not a singular voice, but a chorus united on behalf of children ages 0 to 5, with an articulation up the line to bridge seamlessly to K-12.

The first day of the conference is designed to provide attendees with a context for the key issues in early education and child care that are critical to address in 2013 so we can become a chorus of many voices.

Speakers will share insights, best practices, and strategies for providing successful, high-quality early learning and health programs designed to meet the varied needs of young children and families across the state.

Keynote and panel presentations by early education and health experts from national, state, and local perspectives will address critical and timely topics in early learning and care that include:

- Learning from and building upon past success to inform future efforts
- Embracing opportunities for transition and the importance of forging strategic partnerships
- Successful and innovative health and education programs and practices from First 5 counties

Day Two: Thursday, April 11, 2013

STRONGER TOGETHER: Moving Our Children Forward



Featured presentations by nationally acclaimed early learning leaders and advocates will discuss:

- Innovations in policy and practice with perspectives ranging from prenatal care through third grade
- The state of early care and education for California's children and opportunities for increasing California's investment in the early years
- The impact of the 2012 National Election on federal policy and budget priorities and opportunities to move forward California's early learning policy

Speakers will offer perspectives on the current policy environment and will reflect on how California can most effectively contribute to policy change. The conference is designed as an opportunity for experts, First 5 county commissions, and other partners to highlight successes, strategies, and promising practices that are grounded in evidence-based research.

Again, we look forward to the opportunity to engage, inform, and inspire you through our joint conference.



Day One: Wednesday, April 10, 2013

PARTNERSHIPS FOR EARLY LEARNING: Many Voices – One Chorus



- 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **Registration**
- 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. **Lunch**
- 12:00 p.m. – 12:30 p.m. **Greetings**
Camille Maben, Executive Director, First 5 California
Performance by Rocklin Elementary School, Kindergarten Class
- 12:30 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. **Welcome Remarks**
Camille Maben, Executive Director, First 5 California
Kim Belshé, Executive Director, First 5 Los Angeles County
MODERATOR: The Honorable Delaine Eastin,
Former California State Superintendent of Public Instruction
Conversation with Camille Maben and Kim Belshé
- 1:15 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. **Keynote Address**
States and Communities Together: Looking Back and Moving Forward
Karen Ponder, Early Childhood Consultant, Karen W. Ponder, Inc.;
former President, Smart Start and The North Carolina Partnership for Children, Inc.
- 2:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. **Break**
- 2:15 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. **County Panel Discussion**
Bringing Health Providers into ECE – First 5 Partnerships
MODERATOR: Moira Kenney, Executive Director, First 5 Association of California
Linda Burkholder, Director, Family Support Services,
Folsom Cordova Unified School District
Deborah Davis, Executive Director, Children’s Nurturing Project
Laurie Schoenberg, Administrator of Early Care and Education, First 5 Riverside County
Rachel Talamantez, Director, Developmental Behavioral Health,
First 5 Santa Clara County
Kate Varanelli, Dental Health Program Coordinator, Sacramento County
- One critical component of a high quality early learning environment is the assurance that children receive necessary supports and services that enable healthy development. While identification of developmental and health needs is critical, providing supports to children who have been identified requires a careful knitting together of early learning, public health, and mental health systems. First 5 investments in early learning include the promotion of systems-integrating approaches which link health, mental health, and oral health professionals to early learning settings. This panel will explore the challenges and opportunities for linking services and discuss ways these efforts can ensure optimal outcomes for children.

AGENDA

Day One: Wednesday, April 10, 2013 (continued)

PARTNERSHIPS FOR EARLY LEARNING: Many Voices – One Chorus

- 3:00 p.m. – 3:55 p.m. **Keynote Address**
Poverty and Brain Development Research and Interventions
Mariale Hardiman, Ed.D., Professor of Education; Clinical Director,
Neuro-Education Initiative, Johns Hopkins University School of Education
- 3:55 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. **Closing Remarks**
Camille Maben, Executive Director, First 5 California

4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Day One: Reception

Hosted by the Water Cooler and Advancement Project

WELCOME: Molly Munger, Co-Director, Advancement Project

REMARKS: The Honorable Joe Simitian, Supervisor, Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors

REMARKS AND INTRODUCTION OF NEW LEGISLATORS: Ted Lempert, President, Children Now

The Honorable Rocky Chávez, Assemblymember, California State Assembly

The Honorable Kevin Mullin, Assemblymember, California State Assembly



Day Two: Thursday, April 11, 2013

STRONGER TOGETHER: Moving Our Children Forward

- 7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. **Registration and Continental Breakfast**
- 8:30 a.m. – 8:40 a.m. **Welcome**
The Honorable Delaine Eastin, Former California State Superintendent of
Public Instruction
- 8:40 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. **Opening Remarks**
The Honorable Tom Torlakson, California State Superintendent of Public Instruction
- 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. **Keynote Address**
Preparing for California's New Generational Future
Dowell Myers, Ph.D., Professor, Price School of Public Policy,
University of Southern California
- 10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. **Break**



Day Two: Thursday, April 11, 2013 (continued)

STRONGER TOGETHER: Moving Our Children Forward

10:15 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

Making the Case for Birth to Third Grade

OPENING REMARKS: Deborah Phillips, Ph.D., President, Foundation for Child Development; Professor of Psychology and Associated Faculty, Public Policy Institute, Georgetown University

MODERATOR: Lisa Guernsey, Director, Early Education, New America Media Foundation

Maureen Diekmann, Executive Director, Early Childhood Education Division, Los Angeles Unified School District

Portia Kennel, Executive Director, Educare Learning Network, Ounce of Prevention Fund

Meera Mani, Ed.D., Director, Children, Families, and Communities Program, The David & Lucile Packard Foundation

Ralph Smith, Senior Vice President, The Annie E. Casey Foundation; Managing Director, The Campaign for Grade-Level Reading

A truly comprehensive, child-focused education system requires early learning leaders to move through age and grade silos. Panelists will discuss innovative policies and practices they have developed and supported to promote a seamless ladder for a child's progress through the education system, starting at birth. Panelists will address how early learning leaders can join or initiate collaborative strategies for aligning systems from birth to third grade in the midst of scarce resources.

11:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Lunch

12:15 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

The Post-Election Art of the Possible Conversation

MODERATOR: Kris Perry, Executive Director, First Five Years Fund

Helen Blank, Director of Child Care and Early Learning, National Women's Law Center

Erin Gabel, Director, Government Affairs Division, California Department of Education

Thomas Schultz, Program Director, Council of Chief State School Officers

In his first term, President Obama renewed Federal investment in high-quality early care and education, particularly through the Race to the Top: Early Learning Challenge fund, for which California was a recipient. After his re-election, President Obama's State of the Union Address re-ignited conversations and policy development at the national and state levels around investments in the earliest years. Panelists will discuss the opportunities available to build on the Obama Administration's second term and national policy and budget priorities. Panelists will also address the challenges that persist in Congress, how the Federal budget process can impact California's youngest learners, and how other states are gearing up for coming opportunities.

1:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.

Break

AGENDA

Day Two: Thursday, April 11, 2013 (continued) STRONGER TOGETHER: Moving Our Children Forward

1:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. **Funding Our Priorities – The State of Early Investments in California**

OPENING REMARKS: Mapping the Loss of ECE In California
John Kim, Co-Director, Advancement Project

MODERATOR: Molly Munger, Co-Director Advancement Project
Catherine Atkin, President, Early Edge California (formerly Preschool California)
The Honorable Holly Mitchell, Assemblymember, California State Assembly
The Honorable Brian Nestande, Assemblymember, California State Assembly
Dean Vogel, President, California Teachers Association

Since the Great Recession began in 2008, California has cut more than \$1 billion from the annual early care and education budget, causing more than 111,000 of our most vulnerable children to lose critical early learning opportunities. We will highlight the impact of these dramatic cuts and the panel will discuss how we can reshape California's budget to better invest in our state's youngest children. Panelists will share their ideas for coalition-building and building the political will to move forward for our children.

3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

California Comprehensive Early Learning Plan (CCELP)

Presentation and facilitated discussion by the CCELP Planning Team (American Institutes for Research, EducationCounsel, Glen Price Group, Ounce of Prevention, and San Mateo County Office of Education) on behalf of the State Advisory Council on Early Learning and Care and the California Department of Education

Jeanie McLoughlin, Director, Early Learning Support Services, San Mateo County Office of Education

Glen Price, President, Glen Price Group

Elliot Regenstein, Senior Vice President, Advocacy and Policy, Ounce of Prevention Fund

CCELP proposes a design for a high-quality birth-to-five system in California that provides all children with the knowledge and skills they need to achieve long-term success. The CCELP identifies critical policy areas that stakeholders in the state of California should address, articulates a long-term vision that ties together the work in those areas, and provides a set of practical recommendations for the next five to ten years for achieving that vision. At the Water Cooler, the CCELP team will provide an overview of the plan and facilitate a highly participatory session designed to incorporate your feedback in the final stages of the plan's development. Come prepared to answer the question, "What's next?" and to make the CCELP vision a reality.

4:00 p.m.

Conference Adjourns

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Mariale Hardiman
Professor of Education;
Clinical Director,
Neuro-Education Initiative,
Johns Hopkins University
School of Education

Mariale Hardiman, Ed.D., is Professor of Education, Assistant Dean for Urban School Partnerships; and Director of the School of Education's Neuro-Education Initiative, a

cross-disciplinary program that brings to educators relevant research from the brain sciences to inform teaching and learning. Her research and publications focus on enhancing educational practices through techniques that foster innovation and creative problem-solving. Current research includes a randomized trial investigating the effects of arts integration on long-term retention of content and student engagement. She is also investigating how knowledge of neuro- and cognitive sciences effects teacher practice and teacher efficacy beliefs. Before joining Johns Hopkins in 2006, she served in the Baltimore City Public Schools for more than 30 years. As the principal of Roland Park Elementary/Middle School, she led the school to its designation as a Blue Ribbon School of Excellence. With the use of the *Brain-Targeted Teaching® Model* that she developed, the school was recognized nationally for innovative arts programming. Dr. Hardiman presents nationally and internationally on topics related to the intersection of research in the neuro- and cognitive sciences with effective teaching strategies, including meaningful integration of the arts.



Dowell Myers
Professor,
Price School of Public Policy,
University of Southern
California

Dowell Myers, Ph.D., is a Professor of Policy, Planning, and Demography in the Sol Price School of Public Policy at the University of Southern California, where he also directs the USC PopDynamics Research Group.

Professor Myers is an interdisciplinary scholar well known for his research on the interaction between demographics and many aspects of public policy. His work emphasizes the current generational transition underway between the aging baby boomers, who are beginning to retire, and a younger, more diverse generation that is now being educated to

replace them in the work force, among the taxpayers, and in the housing market. He has conducted extensive research on immigrant integration and advancement, publishing both in scientific journals, *Demography*, *Social Science and Medicine*, *International Migration Review*, and in the popular press, *New York Times*, *Sacramento Bee*, and others. He also is the author of the award-winning book *Immigrants and Boomers: Forging a New Social Contract for the Future of America*. He holds his Ph.D. from MIT with substantial work in demography at Harvard University, a Master of City Planning from the University of California, Berkeley, and a bachelor's degree in anthropology from Columbia University.



Karen Ponder
Early Childhood Consultant,
Karen W. Ponder, Inc.;
former President, Smart
Start and The North Carolina
Partnership for Children, Inc.

Karen Ponder is President of Ponder Early Childhood, Inc., and consults with national organizations including the BUILD Initiative and the Alliance for Early Success. Her work

focus is assisting states in developing comprehensive early childhood systems with state and local components. She is the former President of Smart Start, which she helped to create and implemented for almost 15 years. During her presidency, Smart Start's National Technical Assistance Center was created to support other states in developing comprehensive early childhood efforts. Ms. Ponder is currently a member of the Advisory Board of the McCormick-Tribune Center for Early Childhood Leadership, the Frank Porter Graham Executive Leadership Board and serves on the National Advisory Panel for the FirstSchool Initiative. She has formerly served on the Governing Boards of the United Way of North Carolina and the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). In addition, she is a recipient of the James and Carolyn Hunt Early Childhood Award for her leadership, commitment and actions on behalf of the young children of North Carolina. Governor Mike Easley conferred upon her the highest civilian honor in North Carolina. Upon her retirement from Smart Start, the Karen W. Ponder Leadership Award was created and is given annually to a community early childhood leader.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



Catherine Atkin

President, Early Edge California (formerly Preschool California)

Catherine Atkin is the President of Early Edge California (formerly Preschool California), a nonprofit organization working to ensure all children have the early experiences necessary to be successful learners by the end of third grade, setting them on a

path to college and career readiness. Ms. Atkin is an attorney with expertise in the area of early education and more than two decades of professional legislative and policy experience. Prior to joining Preschool California in 2004, she was the principal of a consulting firm specializing in early education research and analysis. From 1999-2002 she was a Directing Attorney at Public Counsel Law Center in Los Angeles where she was engaged in local and statewide legislation and litigation. Prior to her work in the early education field she was a public interest attorney and served as Minority Subcommittee Counsel for the Banking and Financial Services Committee of the United States House of Representatives where she focused on urban development and housing. She graduated from Stanford University and holds a law degree from Boalt Hall School of Law at UC Berkeley and master's degree in Urban Planning from UCLA.



Helen Blank

Director of Child Care and Early Learning, National Women's Law Center

Helen Blank, Director of Child Care and Early Learning, works to expand support for positive early care and educational experiences that enable low-income women to work and children to get a strong start in life. She currently leads the

federal Child Care/Early Learning Coalition. Ms. Blank led a large-scale, successful effort to pass the first comprehensive federal child care legislation, the Child Care and Development Block Grant. She developed a guide for the implementation of the legislation that was used widely by state policy makers and child care leaders. Ms. Blank has worked for over two decades to ensure that the Head Start program was not only expanded to serve more children, but also maintained its focus on community-based, high-quality, comprehensive services to children. She has also authored major studies on federal and

state child care, early education, and pre-kindergarten policies including an annual National Women's Law Center report on state child care policies. She has a master's degree in Urban Planning from Hunter College of the City of New York and a bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan.



Kim Belshé

Executive Director, First 5 Los Angeles County

Kim Belshé became executive director of First 5 Los Angeles in November 2012. Prior to joining First 5 LA, she was senior policy advisor of PPIC and served as secretary of the California Health and Human Services Agency throughout Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's tenure. She

previously held a number of leadership positions in state government, including director of the Department of Health Services and deputy secretary of the then-Health and Welfare Agency under Governor Pete Wilson. She has also served in leadership positions in California philanthropy, including The James Irvine Foundation. She currently serves on the five-member board of the state's new Health Benefit Exchange, Covered California™. Ms. Belshé is a native of San Francisco and holds a master's degree in public policy from Princeton University and a bachelor's degree in government from Harvard College.



Linda Burkholder

Director, Family Support Services, Folsom Cordova Unified School District

Linda Burkholder is the Director of Family Support Services for Folsom Cordova Unified School District. She administers State and Federal Preschool Programs and the First 5 School Readiness grant for the District, as well as managing the District's Family

Resource Center and several national service AmeriCorps VISTA grants. Ms. Burkholder has more than thirty-five years of experience in nonprofit and public agency management, specializing in community development, organizational development, collaboration, and fund development. She has a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from the State University of New York at Oswego and specialized training in community development, resource development and nonprofit management.



The Honorable Rocky Chávez

Assemblymember, California State Assembly

Assemblymember Rocky Chávez began his public service career immediately after graduation from California State University, Chico when he joined the United States Marine Corps. Upon retiring from the Marine Corps, he continued his legacy

of public service by founding the School of Business and Technology, a charter high school in the Oceanside Unified School District. He served as the school's Director from 2002-2008. In November of 2002, he was elected to the Oceanside City Council. During his seven years of service he focused on economic development, public safety and quality of life issues. In 2009, he was appointed by then-Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger and made the journey to Sacramento to serve as Undersecretary of the California Department of Veterans Affairs. He later served as Acting Secretary. Mr. Chavez was elected on November 6, 2012, to represent the 76th Assembly District which includes Camp Pendleton, Carlsbad, Encinitas, Oceanside and Vista. He serves as Vice Chair of the Assembly Veterans Affairs Committee and Higher Education Committee. He is also a member of the Education, Budget, and Utilities and Commerce Committees. In February 2013, he was appointed to the California Task Force on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Education.



Deborah Davis

Executive Director, Children's Nurturing Project

Deborah Davis, RN, is the Co-founder and Executive Director of Children's Nurturing Project (CNP), a Solano County-based nonprofit agency serving high-risk infants, children and families. Ms. Davis also coordinates the newly formed First 5 Solano Collaborative, with

over 50 private and public partner agencies represented, all working toward a common goal of earlier identification of infants and children with special needs, and a more integrated and coordinated system of care across boundaries of program, discipline and funding. She developed the NorthBay maternal child home health program and Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) home-based follow up program, which provided home

support to parents of premature babies discharged prior to the "traditional" discharge standards. Furthering her personal vision for increased support for high risk families, Ms. Davis co-founded Children's Nurturing Project in 2001. CNP began by serving developmentally delayed infants through NorthBay Regional Center Early Start, and steadily grew over the years adding programs and services such as Welcome Baby home visiting, Nurturing Parenting Program parenting education for teen parents, Spanish-speaking parents, parents with special needs children, early childhood mental health services, the Partnership for Early Access for Kids (PEAK) initiative, and Solano County Baby Coach program.



Maureen Diekmann

Executive Director, Early Childhood Education Division, Los Angeles Unified School District

Maureen Diekmann has been an administrator in the Los Angeles Unified School District for almost thirty years. She was an elementary school principal for ten years and supervised elementary, middle and early

childhood education administrators as an instructional director for twelve years. She currently serves as the Executive Director of Early Childhood Education in one of the country's largest Early Education programs. She oversees 84 early education centers, 75 part day California State Preschool Programs in elementary schools, 304 School Readiness Language Development Programs, four CAL-Safe programs, and Transitional Kindergarten. Some 27,800 students are served in these pre-school programs district-wide. In her first year as Executive Director, Ms. Diekmann has focused on instructional improvement in all programs, with an emphasis on intentional adult/child interactions. In the community, she is a Past President of the Junior League of Los Angeles and a current member of the Board of Trustees at Immaculate Heart High School in Hollywood.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



The Honorable Delaine Eastin

Former California State Superintendent of Public Instruction

Delaine Eastin served as the California State Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI) for eight years from 1995 to 2003, the first and only woman in history elected to that position.

As an elected constitutional

officer, Delaine managed more than 40% of the California budget and oversaw the education of 6.1 million children. Superintendent Eastin championed state standards and assessments aligned to standards, reduced class size in kindergarten through third grade, a strengthening of arts education and hands-on science, including gardens in school. As SPI, she fought to rebuild California school libraries and to wire schools for technology. Ms. Eastin has been an advocate for substantial increases in school construction funding, improved school nutrition, universal preschool, full-day mandatory kindergarten, better career and technical education and greater civic engagement of students. She advocated a longer school year and more safety nets for children who fall behind. She was the honorary co-chair of Proposition 10 which created First 5 Commissions in every county to improve child development opportunities for children from birth to age 5. She served as a Regent to the University of California and a Trustee to California State University. Prior to serving as SPI, Ms. Eastin served eight years in the California State Assembly where she chaired several committees, including the Education Committee. After retiring as SPI, she was the first Executive Director of the National Institute for School Leadership in Washington, D.C. and then a Distinguished Visiting Professor of Educational Leadership at Mills College in Oakland. She now does speaking and consulting. She is an avid reader, gardener, cook, traveler and advocate for children. She serves on a number of boards that support the education, health, nutrition and civic engagement of children from preschool to college. An elementary school in Union City is named after her. She has received numerous other awards and state and national recognition for her contributions to children. Ms. Eastin holds a bachelor's degree from the University of California, Davis and a master's degree from the University of California, Santa Barbara.

Erin Gabel

Director, Government Affairs Division, California Department of Education

Erin Gabel is the Director of the Government Affairs Division for California State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Tom Torlakson, and the California Department of Education. She is responsible for the Superintendent's and the Department's involvement in state and federal budget and legislative processes. Prior to joining Tom Torlakson at the Department, Ms. Gabel was then-Assemblymember Torlakson's Legislative Director, consulting on education and health policy, and general legislation. Before working at the state Capitol, she served as a District Representative for then-Senator Torlakson in Contra Costa, and as Deputy Chief of Staff to Contra Costa County Supervisor John Gioia. Ms. Gabel was one of the founding staff members of the Partnership for Children and Youth, as their first Children Nutrition Project Director, and now serves on their Board of Directors. In addition, she also served as the first coordinator of the California Task Force on Youth and Workplace Wellness, an initiative of the California State Legislature to address the childhood obesity epidemic. Ms. Gabel is a graduate of the University of California, Berkeley and proud mother of one three-year old son, who personalizes the importance of early learning and the future of public education.



Lisa Guernsey

Director, Early Education, New America Media Foundation

Lisa Guernsey is Director of the New America Foundation's Early Education Initiative. She focuses on elevating dialogue about early childhood education, in part by editing the Early Ed Watch blog, and spotlighting new approaches for helping disadvantaged

children succeed. A journalist by training, she has been a technology and education writer at *The New York Times* and *The Chronicle of Higher Education* and has contributed to several national publications, including *Newsweek*, *Time*, *The Washington Post*, and *USA TODAY*. Ms. Guernsey's most recent book is *Screen Time: How Electronic Media – From Baby Videos to Educational Software – Affects Your Young Child* (Basic Books, 2012). She won a 2012 gold Eddie magazine award for a School Library Journal article on e-books, was a 2005 journalism fellow in the child and family policy program at the University of Maryland, and has served on several national advisory committees on early education. She holds a master's degree in English/American Studies and a bachelor's degree in English from the University of Virginia.



Portia Kennel

Executive Director, Educare Learning Network, Ounce of Prevention Fund

For over 25 years, Portia Kennel has developed, implemented and scaled effective early childhood education and family support programs. In 2000, with the Ounce of Prevention Fund, she created the first Educare School to serve children from ages birth

to five who were at risk of school failure. She is currently serving as the Executive Director of the Educare Learning Network and the Senior Vice President of program innovation at the Ounce. She has led the national expansion of Educare, and driven innovation in programs, training and research at both the Ounce and in the broader early childhood field. Ms. Kennel holds a master's degree in Social Work from the University of Illinois, is a ZERO TO THREE fellow and former Head Start Director, and has served on a variety of state committees and task forces.



Moira Kenney

Executive Director, First 5 Association of California

Moira Kenney is the Executive Director of the First 5 Association of California, the membership organization for the 58 county commissions funded by Proposition 10 to support improved services for children 0-5 and their families. In her role

as the Executive Director, she leads the Association's efforts to provide a visible statewide presence of the First 5 movement, supports effective stewardship of the Proposition 10 resources, and represents the county commissions in statewide policy and advocacy efforts. Previously, she served for four years as the Executive Director of First 5 San Francisco, where she was instrumental in launching the city's Preschool For All program and in growing the Commission within the county's system of care. Prior to her work with First 5, Ms. Kenney was the Research Director at the Institute for Urban and Regional Development at the University of California, Berkeley, where she oversaw a number of innovative university-community partnerships. Her background is in public policy and community development, and she has a Ph.D. and master's degree in Urban Planning from UCLA and a bachelor's degree from Harvard University.



John Kim

Co-Director, Advancement Project

John Kim is Advancement Project's Managing Co-Director. Since 1997, he has fought to uplift the voices of marginalized communities throughout California. By building new tools, coalitions, and institutional capacity, his commitment is to ensure that the experience

of low-income people and communities of color can no longer be ignored. Mr. Kim started his community-building work as a cultural artist, activist and youth organizer in the Bay Area. Over the years, he has developed advocacy and research initiatives on issues ranging from community health, redistricting, community engagement, education, and public finance. Many of these initiatives, under his direction, have resulted in the reallocation of tens of millions of public and private dollars to the most underserved neighborhoods and have made the needs of marginalized communities a priority. As Managing Co-Director of Advancement Project, he has been the driving force in expanding the California office's organizational development, staffing, fundraising efforts, and budget. His work in the Bay Area was recognized by KQED Channel 9 as the 2001 Local Hero of the Year Award and by then-Oakland Mayor Jerry Brown with the proclamation of a "John K. Kim Day." In 2011, he accepted the Unsung Heroes Award from the California Community Foundation, given for "outstanding excellence in community engagement." He concluded a term as a member of the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners for the City of Los Angeles in 2011. And in 2011-12, he completed the prestigious Rockwood national year-long fellowship.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



Ted Lempert **President, Children Now**

Ted Lempert is the President of Children Now, a national research and advocacy organization based in Oakland, California. He is also a Lecturer in the Political Science Department at UC Berkeley. Previously, he was the founding CEO and Co-founder of EdVoice, a California grassroots

organization advocating for education reform and support for public education. Mr. Lempert was a California State Assemblymember representing San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties from 1996 to 2000 and 1988 to 1992. He served as chair of the Assembly Higher Education Committee and the Select Committees on Education Technology and Coastal Protection, and co-chair of the Joint Committee to Develop a Master Plan for Education. He also served on the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors, where he was President of the Board in 1995. He was the founder of the County's Youth Commission and chaired the Task Force on Violence Against Women. Prior to holding public office, he was special counsel and an associate for the law firm of Sheppard, Mullin, Richter and Hampton in San Francisco. Mr. Lempert received the "Al Rodda Lifetime Service Award" from the California School Boards Association; was named "Legislator of the Year" by numerous leading education groups, including the National Association of Educational Service Agencies, the California Association of School Administrators, California Community College Faculty and the UC and CSU Students Associations. He graduated from Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs and earned his law degree from Stanford University.



Camille Maben **Executive Director,** **First 5 California**

In December 2012, Camille Maben began serving in her current role as Executive Director of First 5 California. In that role, she is responsible for staffing the California Children and Families Commission, in addition to directing the work of the agency and its staff. Through

her leadership, First 5 California is implementing several evidence-based and results-driven Signature Programs targeted

to children, parents, and teachers that focus on quality. Prior to her appointment at First 5 California, Ms. Maben served as the Division Director of the Child Development Division at the California Department of Education (CDE). Part of her responsibilities in that role included providing leadership and oversight to over 700 early care and education contractors with a \$1.7 billion dollar budget. She most recently served as co-chair of the State Advisory Council on Early Learning and Care, and also helped win and implement the \$52.6 million federal Race-to-the-Top Early Learning Challenge Grant. In earlier work at CDE, she served as Division Director of the School and District Accountability Division. Her division included the No Child Left Behind Office, oversight of the Categorical Program Monitoring process, the Title I Policy and Partnerships Unit, and the English Learner Accountability Unit. She served as the Superintendent's representative to the California Interscholastic Federation. Camille also served as senior advisor to former State Superintendent Delaine Eastin and has worked as a consultant to the Assembly Education Committee. Ms. Maben currently serves as a school board member for the Rocklin Unified School District. She has served on the Rocklin Board for over 20 years.



Meera Mani **Director,** **Children, Families, and** **Communities Program,** **The David & Lucile Packard** **Foundation**

Meera Mani, Ed.D., is Director of the Children, Families, and Communities (CFC) Program at the David & Lucile Packard Foundation. She joined the Foundation in February 2009 as

program officer, and in 2010 assumed responsibility for leading the preschool, after-school and summer enrichment subprogram in CFC. Previously, Dr. Mani served as research director for Preschool California, where she monitored and advised national and state research and evaluation efforts, provided expertise and strategic support to ensure effective policy development, field operations, communications and messaging. Before working for Preschool California, she served as the President of The Clayton Foundation in Denver, Colorado. Under her direction, the foundation focused on operating high-quality programs for children from birth to five-years-old and on providing education and professional development opportunities for the early childhood education workforce. Her leadership was also instrumental in developing initiatives, organizations and government programs focused on building a comprehensive system of high-quality early care and education in Colorado.

Between 1999-2001, she led and managed the day-to-day operations of Educare Colorado, now known as Qualistar Early Learning, a statewide initiative dedicated to improving children's early learning experiences through the implementation of a quality rating and improvement system. Dr. Mani has a master's degree in Child Development from M.S. University in India and a doctor of education in Educational Leadership and Administration from Boston University.



Jeanie McLoughlin
Director, Early Learning Support Services, San Mateo County Office of Education

Jeanie McLoughlin is the Director of Early Learning Support Services at the San Mateo Office of Education and a part of the amazing CCELP team. Actively working in the field of early care and education in San Mateo County for over 25 years, she has

coordinated numerous multi-partner collaborations to improve early childhood education access and quality including Preschool for All and the Early Childhood Quality Improvement Project. She has been the local child care planning council coordinator, a child care resource and referral counselor, and a teacher and director of a private child care center serving children from 0–5. In March 2004, Ms. McLoughlin was inducted by the Commission on the Status of Women into the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame. She has an A.S. degree in Early Childhood Education and a bachelor's degree in Human Services, Administration.



The Honorable Holly Mitchell
Assemblymember, California State Assembly

Assemblymember Holly J. Mitchell was first elected in 2010 to represent the 47th (now 54th) Assembly District in Los Angeles, which includes the Crenshaw District, Culver City, Westwood/UCLA, Cheviot Hills, Mar Vista, Holmby Hills, the Fairfax District,

Ladera Heights and parts of South Los Angeles. She chairs the Assembly's Budget Sub-committee on Health and Human Services and is a member of the Committees on Budget, Health, Insurance and Public Safety. She also chairs the Select Committee on Foster Youth and California's Legislative Black Caucus (CLBC), and is a member of the Women's Legislative

Caucus. As the Chief Executive Officer of Crystal Stairs for seven years prior to taking public office, she championed statewide family-focused policymaking, while assuring access to quality affordable child care for 25,000 children and meeting a monthly payroll for hundreds of employees. As a policy analyst for the California Senate's Health and Human Services Committee, she sought fiscally sound ways to expand health care and other vital services. As the legislative advocate of the Western Center for Law and Poverty she helped develop the groundbreaking Healthy Families program, later serving as Executive Director of the Black Women's Health Project in Los Angeles. Ms. Mitchell's commitment to community service and social justice began in elementary school when she volunteered in a congressional campaign that eventually led to student activism and a Coro Fellowship in Public Affairs, following her undergraduate studies at the University of California at Riverside.



The Honorable Kevin Mullin
Assemblymember, California State Assembly

For years, Assemblymember Kevin Mullin has been a vocal advocate for progressive child care policies at the local, regional, and now state level. Serving as project manager for the Child Care Coordinating Council of San Mateo County,

he collaborated on the council's Local Investment in Child Care (LINCC or "Link") project. In this capacity, he worked with local governments and child care providers to encourage the siting of child care facilities, as well as advocate for local government adoption of child care elements in land use plans so future child care needs could be appropriately planned for. He also served as a board member of the Child Development Policy Institute (CDPI), working with child care advocates from across the state. Before being elected to the State Assembly, Kevin Mullin served on the South San Francisco City Council, as Mayor and on the Metropolitan Transportation Committee. His citywide record of leadership in sustainable planning, fiscal responsibility, and economic development translates to a larger scale in his new position as State Assemblymember with the continued belief that there is no economic development without high quality early childhood education programs to protect and educate the children of California's growing and diverse population.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



Molly Munger
Co-Director,
Advancement Project

Molly Munger is a Co-founder and Director of the Advancement Project, a public policy change organization rooted in the civil rights movement. Founded in 1999, Advancement Project engineers large-scale systems change to remedy inequality, expand

opportunity and open paths to upward mobility. She brings an extensive background of legal expertise to the Advancement Project, including twenty years as a federal prosecutor and business litigator. In recent years, she has become deeply involved in efforts to improve and expand early childhood education in California. Her work was critical to the development of thousands of preschool spaces that serve low income children in Los Angeles County, and California's Preschool Challenge, her report on statewide preschool space shortfalls, spurred the creation of the Speaker's Task Force on School Facilities. Ms. Munger is a graduate of Radcliffe College and Harvard Law School. She currently serves on the Board of Directors of the James Irvine Foundation and UNITE-LA. She is a former commissioner on the First 5 California Commission and former board member at Children Now, Occidental College and the Westridge School for Girls.



The Honorable
Brian Nestande
Assemblymember,
California State Assembly

Assemblymember Brian Nestande was elected to the State Assembly in 2008 and re-elected by the voters of the 64th District in 2010. He currently serves as the Vice-Chair of the Assembly Governmental Organization Committee and

sits on the Assembly committees on Revenue and Taxation, Utilities and Commerce, Health, and Budget. Prior to being elected to the California State Assembly, Mr. Nestande built a government affairs consulting business where he represented a variety of clients working on issues involving alternative energy, health care, telecommunications as well as on other projects and issues in Riverside County. His legislative focus is bringing transparency and accountability to the state budget

by eliminating the use of gimmicks. He strongly advocates for the use of general acceptable accounting standards in the budget. In addition, he is also pursuing legislation to ease the regulatory burden on businesses.



Kris Perry
Executive Director,
First Five Years Fund

Kris Perry, Executive Director of the First Five Years Fund, understands that America's future lies in the health and well-being of the country's youngest children. She has dedicated her career to bringing resources and support to parents, caregivers, and early

learning workforce professionals to ensure children grow up healthy and ready to succeed in school and in life. Most recently, she served as Executive Director of First 5 California, fostering their emergence as one of the most well-known and respected advocates for early childhood development on the state and national levels. Prior to that, she served as Executive Director of First 5 San Mateo County, where she implemented cutting-edge programs and led community design groups to develop countywide initiatives, including preschool for all and universal health care. Her dedication to children and their families began at the Alameda County Social Services Agency where she worked for more than 12 years in various capacities, including child abuse investigator, family preservation case manager, and program manager. Such visionary leadership has garnered her past statewide appointments, including Co-chair of the California State Early Learning Advisory Council, which was established to position the state for millions of dollars in federal funding for early childhood education. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of California, Santa Cruz, and a Masters in Social Work from San Francisco State University. She also completed the Stanford Graduate School of Business Executive Program for Nonprofit Leaders. In addition, she is a licensed clinical social worker and a board-certified diplomat who holds a postgraduate certificate as a service integration specialist.



Deborah Phillips

President, Foundation for Child Development; Professor of Psychology and Associated Faculty, Public Policy Institute, Georgetown University

Deborah Phillips, Ph.D., is President of the Foundation for Child Development and on leave as Professor of Psychology and Associated Faculty in the Public Policy Institute at Georgetown

University. She was the first Executive Director of the Board on Children, Youth, and Families of the National Research Council and the Institute of Medicine and served as Study Director for the Board's report: *From Neurons to Neighborhoods: The Science of Early Child Development*. Her research focuses on the developmental effects of early childhood programs for both typically developing children and those with special needs, including research on child care, Head Start, and pre-Kindergarten programs. Dr. Phillips has served on numerous task forces and advisory groups that address child and family policy issues, including the Task Force on Meeting the Needs of Young Children of the Carnegie Corporation of New York, the National Scientific Council on the Developing Child, the Head Start FACES Redesign Expert Panel, and the Secretary's (US DHHS) Committee on the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Evaluation. Dr. Phillips is a Fellow of the American Psychological Association, the Eastern Psychological Association, and the American Psychological Society. In 2011, she received the Distinguished Contributions to Education in Child Development Award from the Society for Research in Child Development.



Glen Price

President, Glen Price Group

Glen Price brings over 35 years of experience working with public and nonprofit organizations to define and obtain the results they seek. As President of the Glen Price Group (GPG), he has led efforts to raise over \$1 billion for the capital, programmatic, and operational needs of diverse organizations and campaigns.

Highlights of GPG's extensive work include providing strategic planning, facilitation, research, writing, and logistical support to State Superintendent Tom Torlakson's 55-member Transition Advisory Team (TAT) in the development of a new mission for the California Department of Education and the publication of

the "Blueprint for Great Schools"; a state multi-agency team in planning and developing California's successful proposal submission to the Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge grant; and the State Superintendent's "Educator Excellence Task Force" in the development and publication of the task force's final report "Greatness by Design."



Elliot Regenstein

Senior Vice President, Advocacy and Policy, Ounce of Prevention Fund

Elliot Regenstein leads the Ounce of Prevention Fund's national policy consultation practice and coordinates its overall state and national policy efforts. He was previously a partner of EducationCounsel^{LLC}, providing legal, policy, strategic planning

and advocacy services to governments, foundations and nonprofit organizations across the country and at the federal level. Mr. Regenstein co-chaired the Illinois Early Learning Council from 2004 until April 2009 and currently serves as a member of the Council's Executive Committee, co-chairing its Data, Research and Evaluation Committee. He holds a law degree from the University of Michigan Law School and a bachelor's degree in history from Columbia University. He joined the Ounce in 2012.



Laurie Schoenberg

Administrator of Early Care and Education, First 5 Riverside County

Laurie Schoenberg has been the Administrator of Early Care and Education for First 5 Riverside since 2007. Prior to accepting this position, she worked as an Infant Mental Health Therapist for UC Davis Children's Pediatric Hospital. Ms. Schoenberg

has over twenty five years of experience providing early childhood services to children and families. Over the years, she has worked as a Parent Educator, Early Care & Education Center Teacher, Director, and Child Development Professor. She holds a Master of Science degree in Early Childhood Education and Master of Arts degree in Counseling Psychology and is a Licensed Psychotherapist.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



Thomas Schultz **Program Director,** **Council of Chief State School** **Officers**

Tom Schultz is Program Director for Early Childhood Initiatives at the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) in Washington, D.C., where he works with states to improve learning opportunities and outcomes for young children.

Prior to joining the Council, Dr. Schultz was Director of the National Early Childhood Accountability Task Force at the Pew Charitable Trusts and co-author of *Taking Stock: Assessing and Improving Early Childhood Learning and Program Quality*. From 1995-2005, he served as a Senior Manager in the Head Start Bureau, where he led the development of initiatives in the areas of child assessment, program evaluation, professional development and collaboration with other early care and education programs. He served as a member of the Secretary's Advisory Committee on Head Start Research and Evaluation, the Secretary's Advisory Committee on Head Start Quality and Expansion and the Editorial Board of the *Early Childhood Research Quarterly*. He is a graduate of Oberlin College and the Harvard Graduate School of Education.



The Honorable **Joe Simitian** **Supervisor, Santa Clara** **County Board of Supervisors**

Joe Simitian was elected to the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors in 2012, after serving 12 years in the California Legislature. From 2004 until 2012, he represented the 11th State Senate District, which includes 931,349 residents spread

throughout San Mateo, Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties. From 2000 until 2004, he represented the 21st State Assembly District. Mr. Simitian previously served on the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors from 1997 until 2000, following stints as Mayor of Palo Alto and President of the Palo Alto School Board. He has also served as an election observer/supervisor in El Salvador and Bosnia, and participated in refugee relief and resettlement efforts in Albania and Kosovo. During his tenure in the State Senate, he authored legislation on energy, water, environment, education, privacy, elder protection, and highway safety. Senator Simitian and his work have been noted

or quoted in publications as diverse as the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, the *Wall Street Journal*, the *Financial Times*, the *Economist*, *Consumer Reports*, the *Atlantic Monthly*, *Condé Nast's Traveler*, *Mother Jones*, *People Magazine*, and *Scientific American Magazine*, which named him one of the "Scientific American 50" Leaders in Technology in 2003. Mr. Simitian received his Bachelor of Arts degree, with academic honors, from The Colorado College. He also holds a Master of Arts degree in International Policy Studies from Stanford University, a Master in City Planning degree from the University of California at Berkeley, and a Juris Doctor law degree from the University of California at Berkeley (Boalt Hall). He has worked as an attorney, businessman and city planner. He is a member of the California State Bar and the American Planning Association, and holds an AICP certification from the American Institute of Certified Planners.



Ralph Smith **Senior Vice President,** **The Annie E. Casey** **Foundation; Managing** **Director, The Campaign for** **Grade-Level Reading**

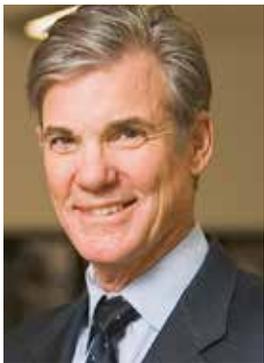
Ralph R. Smith, Senior Vice President of The Annie E. Casey Foundation, is Managing Director of The Campaign for Grade-Level Reading, a nationwide effort to reverse the

unacceptably high rates of low-income children in the United States not reading proficiently by the end of 3rd grade. He was a member of the Law Faculty at the University of Pennsylvania for two decades, teaching Corporations and Securities Law and Education Law and Policy. During those two decades, he also served as Special Counsel, Chief of Staff, Chief Operating Officer and Transition Director for the Philadelphia School District and as Senior Advisor to Philadelphia's Mayor. Mr. Smith led the School District teams that designed and implemented the district's landmark Voluntary Desegregation Plan, negotiated some of the nation's first education reform driven teacher contracts, and developed Children Achieving – a district-wide blueprint supported by the Annenberg Challenge.



Rachel Talamantez
Director, Developmental Behavioral Health, First 5 Santa Clara County

Rachel Talamantez, MA, LMFT, is the Director of Developmental Behavioral Health of First 5 Santa Clara County. Since 2000, she has been in the field of Infant-Family Early Childhood Mental Health and engaged in a diverse range of activities in the field including, teaching, direct clinical services, clinical supervision and program development across the spectrum of promotion, prevention and intervention for children birth to five and their families. She is endorsed in California as an Infant, Family and Early Childhood Mental Health Specialist and a Reflective Practice Facilitator Mentor. She holds a Master of Arts degree in Counseling Psychology and is a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist. At First 5 Santa Clara County, Ms. Talamantez works closely with county departments, collaborations and organizations on programs and services aimed to ensure the developmental and behavioral health needs of children. Children 0 to 5 are a priority in all sectors of the community including education, health, child welfare and behavioral health.



The Honorable Tom Torlakson
California State Superintendent of Public Instruction

Tom Torlakson was elected to a four-year term as California's 27th State Superintendent of Public Instruction on November 2, 2010. As chief of California's public school system and leader of the California Department of Education, Superintendent Torlakson applies his experience as a science teacher, high school coach, and state policymaker to fight for our students and improve our state's public education system. His journey has led him from the classrooms of Contra Costa County's Mount Diablo Unified School District (where he remains a teacher-on-leave), to the Antioch City Council, Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors, and the California State Senate and State Assembly. During his tenure in the California State Legislature, Mr. Torlakson acted to protect education funding, improve student nutrition and physical education, and ensure school safety. He also championed legislation to increase funding for textbooks,

computers, and other instructional materials and efforts to close the digital divide, eliminate the achievement gap, and reduce the dropout rate. In 1998, Mr. Torlakson authored legislation leading to the development of the largest system of after school programs in the nation. In 2006, he authored the bill that led to a 300 percent expansion in these programs—so they now reach 4,000 schools around the state. He authored the Quality Education Improvement Act (SB 1133) in 2006, which dedicates nearly \$3 billion to our lowest performing schools. As the chair and founder of the California Task Force on Youth and Workplace Wellness, Mr. Torlakson has been a leader on banning junk food from our schools, providing healthier school meals, promoting student health and fitness, and combating diabetes and obesity among our children. He earned a bachelor's degree in history, a Life Secondary Teaching Credential, and a master's degree in education from the University of California, Berkeley.



Kate Varanelli
Dental Health Program Coordinator, Sacramento County

Kate Varanelli is the Dental Health Program Coordinator for the County of Sacramento's Dental Health Program - "Smile Keepers". Ms. Varanelli administers preventive dental services to State, Head Start and children center preschools through funding provided by First 5 Sacramento. She has experience in public, private and commercial dentistry and received a Master of Science degree in Dental Public Health and Dental Care Management from Boston University.



Dean Vogel
President, California Teachers Association

Dean E. Vogel is President of the 320,000 member California Teachers Association. Drawing on his 39 years as an educator and award-winning counselor, he has insights into many levels of public education gleaned from his rich experience as a public school teacher and counselor at the elementary and higher education levels. He has taught all elementary grades, including kindergarten, and has trained counselors and student teachers. Since 1990, Mr. Vogel has been an elementary school counselor

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

in the Vacaville Unified School District in Solano County. As a master counselor for university field study students, he trained many pupils who went on to become school counselors. He helped to develop a unique community counseling center that was housed on the campus of a Vacaville elementary school, where it served students and the public. Mr. Vogel also taught extended education courses at three California State University campuses in Sacramento, Sonoma, and Hayward, and at the University of California at Davis. His counseling work was preceded by a teaching career of some 18 years in Vacaville, where he was named a local teacher of the year and was one of the first mentor teachers in Vacaville Unified. Mr. Vogel holds a bachelor's degree in social sciences from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, and received his elementary teaching credential from the University of California, Davis. At California State University, Sacramento, he earned a master's degree in Education/group Dynamics and a pupil personnel services credential.



SPONSORS



The Water Cooler wishes to thank our sponsors!

The Water Cooler is a collaborative effort by Advancement Project, the California Community Foundation, Children Now, Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, First 5 California, Preschool California, ZERO TO THREE, and many other organizations to advance early care and learning for California's children ages 0-5. Water Cooler efforts aim to bring the needs of California's youngest children into the larger education conversation.

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