

#### **Panelists**



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#### Objectives

Examine the **benefits** and **challenges** of expanding the enrollment in pathways to serve more students

Share potential solutions to address the challenges raised

Leave with a clarified understanding of the possibilities and opportunities





#### Who's in the room?

What do you hope to take away from this session?



## Components of Linked Learning

# A comprehensive four-year program of study integrating:



- A college-prep academic core emphasizing real world applications
- A technical core of three or more courses meeting industry standards; providing certification
- A systemic approach to work-based learning
- Student supports academic, social-emotional, college and career guidance, and transportation

### Linked Learning Delivery Models

Under the umbrella of the Linked Learning approach, there exist different delivery models:

- Career academies (CPA, NAF)
- Career-themed small schools
- Career-themed small learning communities (SLCs) in large comprehensive high schools
- Individualized pathways (e.g., Big Picture Schools)

### Common Pathway Features

- Utilize pathway student learning outcomes to guide and align assessment, curriculum, and instruction
- Blend academic and career-themed course content through rigorous and relevant standards-aligned projects
- Students learn in cohorts; teachers use common planning time
- Provide learning beyond the classroom and the school day
- Offer dual-enrollment with postsecondary institutions, as well as industry or state certifications



#### How We Know It's Working

## Students participating in Linked Learning pathways...



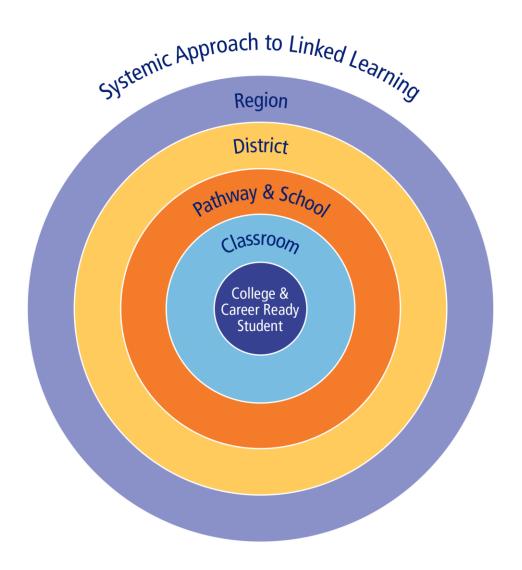
- Accrue more credits in 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade
- Are more likely to graduate; less likely to dropout
- Are more likely to be eligible for UC/CSU (57% vs 36%)
- Enroll and persist in postsecondary programs at higher rates (10+%)
- Earn as much as \$2,500 more annually in the eight years after high school graduation, equivalent to bump associated with an AA degree







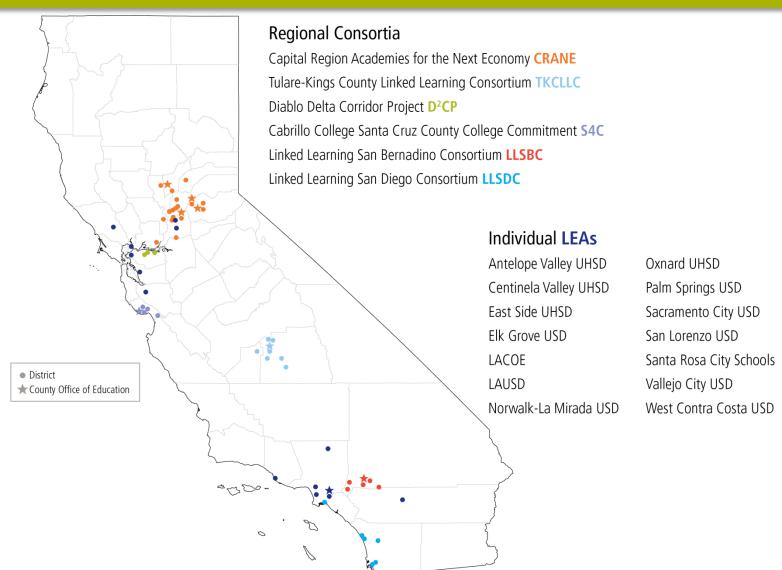
#### Systemic Approach to Linked Learning



# Districts participating in the California Linked Learning District Initiative



# AB 790 Linked Learning Pilot Program participants



#### Scenarios

Why do districts want to expand pathway options for more students?

**Antioch USD** 

Los Angeles USD

Montebello USD

Sacramento City USD



What are the benefits
(advantages, opportunities)
of expanding pathways to
serve more students?



#### Benefits / Advantages

- More students reap benefits
- Generate more ideas when problem solving
- Provide more students with a context for learning
- More appealing to employers for workforce prep
- More students have access to WBL and career/college prep activities
- More administrative support
- Students are more invested in school
- Master scheduling easier
- Teachers can dedicate all of their time to the academy
- Fewer preps for teachers
- Options for blocking students for extended periods of time
- Allowance for designated counselors



What are the challenges (disadvantages) of expanding pathways to serve more students?



#### Challenges / Disadvantages

- Scaling of WBL opportunities
- Maintaining the quality of student experience (e.g., WBL)
- Concerns about retention
- Meeting specialized needs of cohorts of students (e.g., SpEd, GATE)
- Teacher buy-in / commitment
- Bigger lift to build teacher capacity
- Attend to credentialing issues
- Changes can be more difficult
- Dissipated sense of community / potential to lose at-risk kids
- Difficult to monitor student needs and progress (lose kids through thru cracks)
- Increased administrative work to support large academies



#### Panel Responses

What are some potential solutions to the challenges raised?

What has worked in your district?



#### Wrapping Up

- Were your outcomes met?
- What will you bring back to your site or district?
- What questions do you still have?

Thank you for your ideas and active participation!

