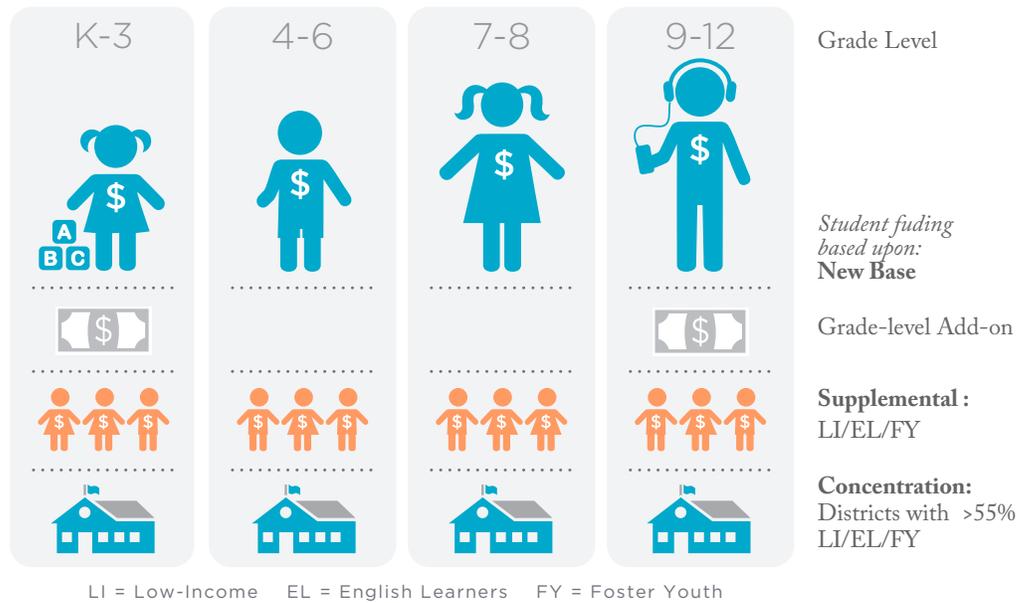


Leveraging the Local Control Funding Formula for Science Education

What is the Local Control Funding Formula

It's how California as a state funds education. It consolidates state funds into three main areas: Base, Supplemental and Concentration. Base funding is provided for every student, Supplemental and Concentration funding is allocated to meet the additional needs of targeted sub-groups.



Why the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF)

In addition to providing equitable resources allocation, the LCFF was created to provide districts with greater local control to make decisions that improve outcomes within **eight state priorities**:

Conditions for Learning



Basic

Access to quality teachers, instruction, materials and facilities



Standards

Adherence to state approved standards



Course Access

Availability of courses to promote a broad course of study

Pupil Outcomes



Achievement

High performance on standardized tests and evidence of college and career readiness



Local Outcomes

Allows for districts to identify more locally targeted outcomes

Engagement



Parent Involvement

Engage parents and families in decision making and increase participation in programs



Pupil Engagement

Attendance, chronic absenteeism, graduation and dropout rates



School Climate

Suspension/expulsion rates, sense of safety and school connectedness

What is the Local Control and Accountability Plan?

The Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) is the document that tells us what the district plan is to improve these outcomes. It must describe:

- Community engagement efforts and the impact on the decision-making
- The Goals that the district has identified to focus its efforts
- The Measures it will use to track its progress
- What Actions and Services it will be implementing to achieve its goals
- What levels and sources of funding it will use to fund the stated actions and services, including federal or grant funds
- What targeted services/supports the district is implementing to serve its targeted populations

The Opportunities to Engage

The LCFF requires that districts engage their community in the development of the LCAP. There are three formal vehicles for doing this, and promoting California's version of the Next Generation Science Standards (CA-NGSS) goals therein:

- District hosted community dialogues/meetings
- **The District Advisory Committee (DAC) and the District English Learner Advisory Committee (DELAC)**
- Opportunity to provide public comment during board meetings

CA-NGSS Language within the LCAP

Within the LCAP there are several opportunities to include CA-NGSS aligned language:

As a need within the Community Input and Impact

With the requirement for districts to host Community Meetings/Dialogues as part of their LCAP development process, there is an opportunity to participate and lift up specific local needs as they pertain to science education. There is evidence of many districts including prominent "themes" that were raised during these meetings within their LCAP.

As its own explicit goal

The goals cited in the LCAP are intended to identify the focus that the district will have in improving outcomes for kids. They can and should be "big picture" through intentional statements that help frame the conversation around the types of services and supports that will be leveraged to successfully achieve this goal (e.g. expanding science instruction in all elementary schools). In most instances, specific interventions should not be lifted up as goals.

As an explicit metric

Another way to have CA-NGSS present in the LCAP is to have it included as a metric that the district is using to track its progress towards achieving an identified goal.

- Try to lift up a data source that is currently available
- Find a data set that can serve as a proxy for your broader issue focus

As an explicit action/service with a direct allocation

The Actions section of the LCAP is the ideal location to have CA-NGSS implementation represented as specific investments. The key is to show intentionality. Actions:

- Need to be succinct but specific (e.g. invest in facilities to offer lab science)
- Ideally target efforts (schools, specific populations, etc)
- References all available funding/partnerships

Other indirect opportunities

Additional ways to include CA-NGSS-based goals within the LCAP:

- Having your DAC or DELAC submit a question asking the district how it is integrating CA-NGSS within the district's instructional strategy. The superintendent must make their written response public, which would put the district on record regarding CA-NGSS
- Using the public comment period during board meetings to submit recommendations

If you have any questions,
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