



Bay Area Parent Leadership Action Network (PLAN)

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PLAN Platform, 2006

In the winter of 2006, PLAN collected more than 200 surveys from Bay Area parents to identify priorities for the 2006-07 state budget. On March 18, parents and advocates came together to recommend actions to Bay Area legislators. The following are parent priorities and recommendations.

ISSUE: Child Care

Parents' Top Priority:

"Make child care subsidies available to more working families."

Recommendation:

Update to the income eligibility level for child care to current levels (75% of the State Median Income)

ISSUE: Economic Justice

Parents' Top Priority:

"Increase support for families on CalWORKs who are working or going to school."

Recommendations:

1. Vote against the \$114 million cut to supportive services that Governor Schwarzenegger proposed
2. Reinstate the Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for CalWORKs families.

ISSUE: Education Equity

Parents' Top Priority:

"Increase public funding for K-12 schools; Raise per-pupil spending."

Recommendation: Support legislation to increase per pupil spending in California from 43rd in the nation to among the top 10 by increasing taxes on individuals earning more than \$200,000 and ensuring corporations pay their fair share of taxes.

ISSUE: Parent Representation

Parents' Top Priorities:

1. "Provide training for parents serving on school site councils"
2. "Formal parent representation on local school boards"

Recommendations:

1. Legislative members should host/sponsor a Town Hall Forum on the State Budget in underrepresented areas to solicit parents' input on budget priorities
2. Evaluate Implementation of Item #5 in State Board of Education Policy 89-01 to foster parent involvement in schools.