



CALIFORNIA'S  
COALITION  
*for* ADEQUATE  
SCHOOL HOUSING<sup>SM</sup>

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916/441-3300

December 13, 2016

**Facilitator**

California Energy Efficiency Coordinating Committee  
111 Sutter Street, 21<sup>st</sup> Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94104

Dear Facilitator:

The Coalition for Adequate School Housing (CASH) was formed in 1978 to promote, develop, and support state and local funding for K-12 construction. We'd like to thank the CAEECC for giving us this opportunity to give voice to the concerns of over 90% of the students in the State of California, in the future expenditure of potentially billions of dollars in Public Goods Charges statewide, over the next funding period, 2017-2025.

We strongly urge the California Energy Efficiency Coordinating Committee (CAEECC) to consider a K-12 energy efficiency in schools program, or a Statewide Public Schools Partnership similar to the one for UC/CSU in the upcoming business/investment plans for Program Administrators (PA)/Investor Owned Utilities (IOU) per the Electric Program Investment Charge (EPIC).

There are roughly 1,000 school districts in California: rural, urban, and suburban, each with their own configuration, community, and climate zone. These school sites are located in every neighborhood, yet K-12 schools as a building sector have seen very little investment from the Local Government Program/Public Sector funding, and, more specifically, within the "non-resource" or "Workforce Education and Training" category.

We believe there is an opportunity to invest in two areas of great impact for California's K-12 students:

- 1.) implementation of energy efficiency in existing K-12 facilities to greatly assist school districts in driving to Zero Net Energy (ZNE) goals by 2030; and
- 2.) the opportunity to implement actual "workforce" (not K-12 students) "training" – both in building technical capacity within existing facilities operations/ energy management staff, such as through the Building Operator Certification (BOC), or other training programs, and training of our future workforce in energy management, environmental controls, advanced lighting, renewable energy systems, and commissioning, through community colleges or trade programs.



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Specifically, we would respectfully request that you consider a proposal to provide EPIC funding to schools to continue the work schools have started with Proposition 39, or to potentially create a new Statewide K-12 Public Schools Partnership in each of the PA Business/Investment Plans. This funding would be used to make schools more energy efficient and pay for deep energy retrofits in the over 700,000,000 square feet of building portfolio, (the largest single Public Sector aggregate of greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction potential in the State) with arguably, the most distributed community support for investment of these public dollars.

We are reaching out to individual school districts and other statewide education associations, along with State agencies such as the Division of the State Architect, the California Department of Education and the State Allocation Board, and believe they will be forwarding their own letters in support of this effort shortly.

Our goal is to build on the good work we have started in measuring baseline energy use and benchmarking at schools throughout the state under Proposition 39. We have scratched the surface with energy efficiency and renewable projects through the funding made available from the Clean Energy Jobs Fund - a school energy funding program that is slated to end in mid-2018. This program has gone a long way to collect data and to identify projects that could get schools closer to ZNE - but schools need an ongoing source of funding to really move toward the deeper retrofits and renewable installations that would help them meet that goal.

We look forward to working together, through CAEECC, and with our other State partner organizations, to meaningfully include K-12 schools so they may capture maximum energy efficiency, meet PA and state ZNE and GHG reduction goals, and create highly visible centers of resilience in our local school communities.

We would like to thank the CAEECC for giving us this opportunity to give voice to the concerns of over 1000 public school districts in the State of California, in the future expenditure of potentially billions of dollars in Public Goods Charges statewide, over the next funding period, 2017-2025.

If you have any questions please contact Anna Ferrera (916.441.3300 | [aferrera@m-w-h.com](mailto:aferrera@m-w-h.com)).

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jenny Hannah, Chair