



Dear Colleague,

CAAASA is a non-profit organization whose mission is to address critical issues in education as they relate to African Americans in California. The organization's primary purpose is to impact educational outcomes for K-16 African American students and their families.

A focus for this year is to work closely with the California State Department of Education in closing the achievement gap. We will also work with African American administrators by providing training, mentoring and support for those members who are aspiring to become superintendents and/or advancing in other administrative careers.

CAAASA is spearheading an initiative with the California Legislative Black Caucus to hold legislative hearings on the education of African American students in California. CAAASA is also partnering with other education organizations to align common goals and interests in an effort to create a unified voice to address the inequities in education for African-American students. Additional CAAASA activities include the following:

- Annual Education Retreat: CAAASA collaborates with Los Angeles County Alliance of Black School Educators (LACABSE) and other partnering organizations to organize a retreat for all stakeholders to meet to discuss, strategize and recommend programs to address the needs of low performing African-American students.
- Annual Education Round-up: This event galvanizes superintendents, administrators, parents, educators, legislators, civil rights leaders, elected officials, and other community members to identify and address key state-wide education initiatives and / or concerns that impact African-American students.
- CAAASA Annual Conference: This conference focuses on critical issues in educational policy, sharing of ideas and experiences, and provides opportunities that will facilitate the implementation of strategies to empower African-American students to matriculate through their educational experiences.

- See website (caaasa.org) for additional CAAASA sponsored activities and events.

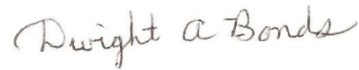
As membership chair, I am excited about CAAASA's directional path of partnership efforts and program initiatives and we need your help in supporting this growth. Your support will also ensure our success in achieving the mission and goals of this needed organization. We invite you to join by paying your local dues and marking your calendar with your plans to attend scheduled meetings and events.

CAAASA and ACSA have established a partnership for success. To register as a new or renewing member, please visit the website at caaasa.org to complete an application online. For further questions or information, do not hesitate to contact Dwight Bonds at dwrightbonds@caaasa.org or (818) 217-6310.

Sincerely,



George McKenna
Membership Chair
CAAASA



Dwight Bonds
Executive Director
CAAASA