



# Alameda County Office of Education

L. Karen Monroe  
Superintendent

July 23, 2015

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Ms. Jacqueline Fuller  
Director, Google.org  
Google Impact Challenge  
1600 Amphitheater Parkway  
Mountain View, CA 94043

Ms. Fuller,

The Alameda County Office of Education (ACOE) is proud to partner in CAAASA's coalition-based project "Kinder-Right: Getting the Right Start in School" to address the attendance crisis in California schools.

As shown in California Attorney General Kamala Harris' 2014 report, "In School + On Track," over twenty percent (20.72%) of elementary school students in Alameda County were truant during the 2012-2013 school year (<http://oag.ca.gov/truancy/2014>). Nearly forty percent (39.4%) of truant students in Alameda County are African American and over thirty-seven percent (37.3%) are Latino or Hispanic ([www.kidsdata.org](http://www.kidsdata.org)).

Kinder-Right can establish a process to reduce these numbers, both during the life of this funding opportunity and through the lives of our participating students. Kinder-Right will also provide research data that will provide CAAASA, ACOE & the Napa County Office of Education (NCOE) with information on how to scale these efforts across the State.

This 3-year project will provide an effective early learning intervention, professional development and the latest attendance toolkits from the Attorney General's staff that will engage parents as partners in their children's education. The strength of this project is that it will serve a select cohort of kindergarteners of approximately 1,000 students in Alameda and Napa counties and work with and track them through the end of 2<sup>nd</sup> grade.

Kinder-Right will generate data that will help further research on the issue of school attendance and improve policy development that will impact children for years to come. CAAASA will bring the resources of its Early Learning Task Force to bear in participating districts. ACOE will work with CAAASA, NCOE, and eighteen Alameda County school districts to disseminate the outcome results, adding to the body of knowledge of truancy reduction efforts.

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(510) 887-0152

[www.acoe.org](http://www.acoe.org)

July 23, 2015

Thank you for providing this funding opportunity. We are excited about improving the attendance and the educational outcomes of our youngest students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Karen Monroe', with a stylized flourish at the end.

L. Karen Monroe  
Alameda County Superintendent of Schools

LKM:CS:rg