

Cradle-to-Career Community Engagement Advisory Board

Staff Report

Date Report Issued: October 1, 2026
Attention: Members of Community Engagement Advisory Board
Subject: **2026 Community Engagement Advisory Board Proposal Process (Agenda Item Seven)**
Staff Contact: Marykate Cruz Jones, Chief of Strategic Initiatives and Partnerships

At this meeting, the Community Engagement Advisory Board (CEAB) will receive a high-level overview of the 2026 Advisory Board proposal process, including presentation and deliberation of member proposals.

Requested Action:

This is an informational item. To prepare for this meeting, the Office of California Cradle-to-Career Data System (Office) asked CEAB members to:

- ❖ Review and reflect on the two CEAB member proposals; and
- ❖ Review and complete the Member Proposal Workbook (Workbook).

Background:

The CEAB can address a significant gap via the proposal process by recommending:

- ❖ Feedback loops with data users;
- ❖ Evidence-based decision-making and analytical capacity; or
- ❖ Equitable access to actionable information.

Attachment B maps the 2026 CEAB proposal process timeline and key dates.

2026 CEAB Member Proposals:

The Office received two member proposals, saved in the [proposal repository](#):

- ❖ [Data for Decisions: Communities of Practice](#) - submitted by Members Takagi and Jones

- ❖ [Student Data Tools Training and Feedback Program](#) - submitted by Member Johnson

Expectations for Member Preparation and Deliberation:

The 2026 CEAB proposal process will continue at the October 14, 2026 meeting. Members will hear a 10-minute presentation on each proposal¹, followed by public comment, and member deliberation. Member feedback during deliberation will help inform the draft CEAB proposal report (report).

To help members prepare, the Office provided:

- ❖ Proposal [Rubric](#): Outlines the criteria for a strong recommendation.
- ❖ Workbook (Attachment A): Provides a comparison of the proposals and a reflection chart to help members consider the proposals overall.

Before the meeting, members should reflect on the following questions and use them to guide their responses in the Workbook:

- ❖ How does each proposal fit into the [work plan](#)?
- ❖ How does each proposal fit into the [strategic plan](#)?
- ❖ How does each proposal fit into California Cradle-to-Career Data System's (C2C) [mission, vision, and authority](#)?
- ❖ What is the potential impact and benefit of each proposal?

Next Steps in the Process:

Attachment B highlights the next steps in the proposal process following the Fall CEAB meeting and leading up to the Spring meeting, including the light-touch feasibility studies and development of the draft report². If the Office does not receive two volunteers to draft the report by Friday, November 13, 2026, the report will not be presented at the April CEAB meeting, nor the May Governing Board meeting.

¹ It is at the discretion of the presenting members as to whether there will be time for member comments; no presentation shall exceed ten minutes.

² Examples of past reports can be found in the [proposal repository](#) under related materials.



Member Proposal Workbook

Community Engagement Advisory Board (CEAB) Meeting

Wednesday, October 14, 2026

Overview

The Member Proposal Workbook (Workbook) is designed to help members organize their thoughts and reflect on key questions in order to actively engage in discussion during the meeting. The Workbook is structured into two sections:

1. **Dynamic Comparison Chart:** a high-level summary of each proposal, written by the proposal authors, to help members compare key themes and ideas.
2. **Big Picture Reflection Chart:** uses yes-or-no questions to capture members' perspectives on proposals overall.

Instructions

Before the CEAB meeting, members are expected to:

1. Review both proposals and the **Dynamic Comparison Chart**; and
2. Fill out the **Big Picture Reflection Chart**.

During the CEAB meeting, members are expected to share their reflections from the Workbook during member deliberation. This Workbook is for members' notes only and will not be shared publicly.

Dynamic Comparison Chart

	Data for Decisions: Communities of Practice	Student Data Tools Training and Feedback
What does this proposal address?	This proposal addresses the gap between making C2C data available and ensuring that students, practitioners, and community organizations have the knowledge, tools, and support to meaningfully apply it to their lives, personally and professionally. A community of practice framework would allow C2C to approach this work as a collaborative learning model rather than a one-directional dissemination effort.	This proposal addresses strengthening engagement with students in a way that is authentic, thoughtful, and seeds long term connection between students and C2C.
Who benefits from this proposal?	Practitioners, educators, and community organizations that work closely with students and families would benefit by building data literacy and sharing strategies for integrating C2C data into their support efforts, in turn helping students access clearer information to guide their educational and career decisions.	This proposal is mutually beneficial for students and C2C by establishing a clear and consistent feedback loop.
Why does this proposal matter?	This proposal matters because data access alone does not guarantee data use. A Community of Practice framework would shift C2C's approach toward building a collaborative network of practitioners, students, and organizations that can learn together and help translate data into meaningful action. By engaging those closest to students, C2C can ensure its tools are accessible and responsive to the challenges key stakeholders encounter in using data.	This proposal matters because students are key stakeholders in C2C; they not only represent the data and utilize the tools platformed by C2C, but they are future data users in other capacities as they graduate and move into other roles following being a student.
How does this proposal provide actionable information?	The proposal would intentionally embed C2C into existing student touch points, contextualize data through student voice, and strengthen feedback loops, specifically with practitioners, to make C2C data more accessible, relevant, and actionable for the communities it serves.	This proposal provides actionable information by offering a process to deepen student engagement that could be built into current programs and is aligned with the mission and strategic plan goals.

Big Picture Reflection Chart

Fill out the chart below, addressing the questions in the left column.

	Data for Decisions: Communities of Practice	Student Data Tools Training and Feedback Program
Does this proposal fit into the Work Plan ?		
Does this proposal fit into the Strategic Plan ?		
Does this proposal fit into C2C's mission, vision, and authority ?		
Does this proposal have a clear impact and benefit?		

2026 Community Engagement Advisory Board (CEAB) Proposal Process Milestones

Date	Milestone
May 1, 2026 ✓	The public submits proposal forms. - The Office received two CEAB proposals .
July 15, 2026 ✓	Opportunity for CEAB members to publicly discuss proposal ideas and proposals received from the public.
August 19, 2026 ✓	CEAB members had the option to: - Submit their own proposal form; - Submit a joint proposal form with no more than five CEAB members; - Sponsor a proposal form submitted by members of the public; or - Further refine a proposal form submitted by member(s) of the public or a CEAB member from a previous year.
October 14, 2026 ⌚	CEAB members will present proposals and members will discuss which are most promising for advancing C2C's ability to provide actionable information.
Fall 2026 - Spring 2027	Office of Cradle-to-Career Data (Office) will conduct light-touch feasibility studies of CEAB member proposals and two CEAB members will work with the Governing Board Liaison to create the draft proposal report.
April 17, 2027	CEAB members will discuss the draft proposal report.
May 26, 2027	The CEAB proposal report will be presented to the Governing Board.