

Siskiyou County Office of Education Expanded Learning Program January 2024 Update

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FROM THE DIRECTOR

Wishing you all a Joyous New Year!

As we step into 2024, we have exciting events lined up, starting with the 2nd annual Mid-Year Refresher on January 16. We are eager to have you join us for this enlightening session, beginning with a delicious Casa Ramos Taco Bar for lunch at 2 pm. Click this link to [register](#) and access the [flyer here!](#)

As we usher in January, here's a fascinating factoid to pique your interest: the month is named after Janus, the Roman god of doorways and beginnings. Janus is often portrayed with two faces—one looking towards the past and the other to the future. This dual-faced representation symbolizes the transition from the old year to the new, reminding us of the opportunities for growth and new beginnings.

Looking forward, we will schedule meetings with you throughout January to collaboratively delve into Continuous Improvement Plans. Your insights and contributions are invaluable as we strive for excellence in all expanded learning programs throughout Siskiyou County.

Mark your calendars for this upcoming [Expanded Learning Activity!](#)

- March 2024 the 2nd Annual Creative Writing Contest! Detailed participation information will be sent via email to you soon!

Here's to a fantastic start to the new year, filled with learning, growth, and success!
Much appreciation, Kelly Smith



CQI: An Overview and Evolution

CQI in Expanded Learning is an ongoing process intended to improve outcomes for participating children and youth. When introduced in 2014, the CQI process had 3 defined steps—Assess, Plan, and Improve. After several years of CQI implementation, CAN's CQI Guidebook Workgroup highlighted the importance of adding preparation and reflection to the cycle, and clarifying the "improve" part of the cycle.

The following sections describe the five stages and approaches to the CQI process outlined in the CQI Guidebook.

What It Was



How It Has Grown



Prepare to Engage

- Start to Build a Culture of Improvement
- Establish Your Quality Improvement Team
- Consider Your Capacity for CQI
- Plan an Attainable CQI Strategy

Assess Program Quality

- Choose Guiding Questions
- Choose Methods and Tools
- Collect High Quality Data
- Analyze and Share Findings

Plan to Implement

- Review Data Collaboratively
- Create an Improvement Plan

Implement Planned Improvements

- Build a Shared Understanding of the Improvement Plan
- Provide Staff the Necessary Supports to Implement Improvements
- Implement the Improvement Plan

Reflect on the CQI Cycle

- Reflect on Process and Impact
- Consider Your Capacity for CQI, Again
- Institutionalize Improvements

What CQI Is: Guiding Principles of CQI

- **Ongoing:** CQI is an iterative process consisting of cycles that each occur within a defined timeline. The repeated nature of the CQI cycles help to build a culture of learning over time.
- **Supportive:** Learning occurs through both our successes and our failures in each CQI cycle. During a CQI cycle, it is important to build a culture of openness, trust, and transparency so that people can share their challenges and learn from them.
- **Intentional:** CQI requires a systematic process, at both the organization and program level, to collect data in order to understand strengths and areas for growth. The process must be methodical and data driven by using multiple data sources and analysis methods so that improvement goals and plans are grounded in a holistic understanding of program quality.
- **Collaborative:** CQI is a team-based activity that needs to be responsive and equitable. Programs seek out and use input and expertise from all levels of program staff and collaborators including youth, families, and school and community partners. CQI is led by a group of people with diverse experiences and identities and places a priority on creating a deeper understanding, building buy-in, and involving those with direct experience with the organizational issues or implementation challenges that it aims to improve.
- **Individualized:** CQI requires a tailored approach, rather than a one-size-fits-all approach. Each organization and each program site have unique contexts, strengths, and needs. Additionally, organizations are composed of individuals. In order to be effective, the CQI cycle, at both the program and organizational level, needs to meet people where they are and help them grow their capacity to improve program quality over time. In this way, your CQI plan will be authentic to your organization's needs, capacity, and resources.

What CQI Is Not:

- An evaluation... although it does have evaluation elements
- A punitive process
- A one size fits all plan that you never revisit

ELO-P NEWS

Program Plan

Have you completed your program plan?

Local educational agencies must operate the Expanded Learning Opportunities Program pursuant to the requirements in California *Education Code* Section 46120, including the development of a program plan. The program plan needs to be approved by the Local Educational Agency's (LEA) Governing Board in a public meeting and **posted on the LEA's website**.

[Program Plan Guide](#)(PDF)

Questions about the program plan should be directed to the Expanded Learning Division at ExpandedLearning@cde.ca.gov or you can reach out to myself kelly.smith@siskiyoucoe.net.

ELO-P Office Hours

The California Afterschool Network (CAN) in partnership with the CA Dept. of Education (CDE) Expanded Learning Division (EXLD), and other members of the System of Support for Expanded Learning are hosting

ELO-P Office Hours!

The first approximately 30 minutes will be set aside to provide the latest updates.

The remaining time will be used for Q&A and for sharing promising practices.

On select Fridays from 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM:

Click on a date below to register to participate in the ELO-P Office Hours, registering for each date is required.

[January 12, 2024](#)

[January 26, 2024](#)

[February 9, 2024](#)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Siskiyou SAFE Refresh- January 16, 2024

SCOE - Expanded Learning will be hosting a mid-year SAFE refresher! This will be a time for all SAFE site staff to come together and collaborate to finish the rest of the program year strong. The Expanded Learning Academy out of Sacramento, will be presenting a high energy and interactive training session on Tuesday, January 16, 2024. Don't forget to bring your appetite for the Casa Ramos Taco Bar for lunch!

Monthly SAFE Site Coordinator Community of Practice (CoP)

Join us for interactive hands-on experiences at the Site Coordinator Community of Practice each month. The CoP will get together one time per month via Zoom. During this meeting you will have the opportunity to gain new strategies to implement immediately into your program. Join us on January 24, 2024 via Zoom, here is the link Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81086039610>

Meeting ID: 810 8603 9610

One tap mobile

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FISCAL NEWS

Grant Award Notification (GAN)

We have not received the GAN for SAFE funding as of yet. As soon as the CDE releases the GAN's we will communicate this to you. Once we receive the GAN's and the signed letter is returned to CDE the first 65% of the grant will be released and we will be able to make reimbursements to you for FY 2023-2024.

Until then I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone for continuing the timely expenditure reporting. We have a stack ready to be reimbursed as soon as we receive the funding.

EXPANDED LEARNING AROUND THE COUNTY

December brought a range of exciting activities, including the Hour of Code, where participants delved into stimulating programming exercises. **The Good Rural** generously provided bikes, offering a valuable resource for those who have connected with them. For those who haven't, it's worth exploring their offerings, as they provide a variety of beneficial resources for different sites.

In the realm of nutrition, students created fun and healthy themed snacks, promoting well-being and encouraging nutritious eating habits. Adapting to the changing winter weather, activities indoors included movement games to stay active and when available taking advantage of breaks in the weather to engage in outdoor activities.

