

Schools & Communities First

From Ben Grieff, the Campaign Director of the Schools and Communities First Initiative, on 9 Feb 2019:

The California Teachers Association and SEIU California voted unanimously to endorse the Schools and Communities First initiative. These two labor unions are the largest in California and represent more than one million workers. Having them get behind this initiative nearly two years before it will appear on the ballot is an exciting development. This extraordinary show of support speaks to the historic nature of our campaign and shows that we are gaining momentum!

These endorsements come at a time when teachers from Oakland to Los Angeles are shining a spotlight on how drastically underfunded our public schools are. These teachers are helping to raise awareness about how Prop. 13's corporate loophole has robbed our schools and public services of over \$100 billion in the last 40 years. Because of their efforts, the media has taken notice. Dozens of news outlets from across the state and even the New York Times and UK Guardian have written stories in the last month about how Prop. 13 has decimated public education funding in California. Most importantly, these stories mention our ballot measure as a solution to the funding crises facing school districts across the state.