



July 3, 2024

Dear Senator Newman,

On behalf of KABOOM! and the Eat. Learn. Play. Foundation we write to express our support for the California Education Bond bill which will provide \$8.5 billion to support the renovation and construction of improved K-12 school facilities for children throughout the state. Providing the right type of learning environment is just as important as the materials presented if we want our children to develop a love of learning and lifelong habits that will lead to better health, economic, and social outcomes. From learning to appreciate a love of outdoor play to having healthy meal options during the school day, every feature of a school's physical structure contributes to the positive, wholistic environment we want our children to spend time in.

That is why this bond bill is critically important. It will provide districts throughout the state with the resources needed to enhance their buildings' learning infrastructure. COVID alerted us to the inadequacy of many of our state's school buildings. As we continue to confront other challenges around climate change, expanded curriculums, and students who rely on schools for a greater number of services it is imperative that those buildings have the physical capacity to meet those needs. Even in these constrained fiscal circumstances, you are demonstrating that California recognizes the long-term benefits of investing in every aspect of its children's education.

Thank you for your leadership on this issue. From fighting to get recess access for every student to ensuring that California's schools are providing world-class services, you have been a champion on the issues that matter most to us. We hope that the example you are setting will enable more children to have access to the resources and services that will support their educational attainment and more comprehensive development into healthy and happy adults.

If there is anything KABOOM! or Eat. Learn. Play. can do to support your efforts to invest in schools, please let us know. We would welcome a visit from you at one of our upcoming schoolyard playground builds so that you witness the transformative effect a newly renovated play area can have on a child's health, educational, and social outlook.

Sincerely,

Lysa Ratliff  
CEO, KABOOM!

Chris Helfrich  
CEO, Eat. Learn. Play. Foundation