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**Road Map for Education in California: Gubernatorial Candidate John Chiang Releases First Phase of Policy Platform**

**Los Angeles, CA** -- Gubernatorial candidate John Chiang announced his vision and policy platform for education, if elected Governor. As a son of immigrant parents who came to this country because of its world class education, Chiang will make education his top policy and investment priority. Outlined in his Road Map for Education in California include strengthening the foundation of quality, universal public education.

Chiang's extensive education platform addresses many critical issues that California's education system faces today. For instance, Chiang intends on leveling the playing field for all students by making SAT/ACT preparation to all public high schools as an elective class.

Shattering the political ceiling that subsequently occurred after the voters approved Proposition 98 is also included in his plan. While Prop. 98 intended to create a "floor" for education spending, it has resulted in a grossly under-invested public education system in California. If governor, Chiang would reinforce the voters' wise decision to lower the vote for local school construction funding from two-thirds to 55 percent by empowering communities to raise funds for their school budgets.

Students and teachers alike are at the top of his educational platform, as Chiang addresses teacher shortage -- especially in the areas of STEM, special education, and ESL. California has experienced an unprecedented 75% decline in enrollment in teacher preparation programs. Solutions to these issues include student loan forgiveness, helping employees earn bachelor and teaching degrees, and offering residency and mentoring programs that improve teaching performance and increase retention rates.

One of the most prominent highlights of Chiang's education platform is his call to provide two free years of community college where we ensure students are on the right path through participation and graduation.

"The American Dream begins and ends with our ability to access education," stated Chiang. "Today, millions of students are losing out on that dream due to the financial burdens of student debt. Cities and states across the nation are finding ways to provide two free years of community college. California needs to find a way to get to that place."

Visit <https://johnchiang.com/meet-john/road-map-for-educationca/> to learn more about Chiang's Educational Road Map for California. Chiang will continue his year-long road trip tomorrow and will be receiving three key endorsements from diverse leaders in the San Gabriel Valley.

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