



Catalyst to College Program Launches – January, 2017

ALearn celebrated the launch of its Catalyst to College program on Thursday, January 19th at Yerba Buena High School in the East Side Union High School District. Catalyst to College, a college access and peer support program, is funded through a generous \$500,000 grant from the David and Lucile Packard Foundation.

A special thank you goes to our speakers for their insights and support. Here are their perspectives:

East Side Union High School District Superintendent, Chris Funk:

“Partnering with nonprofits, particularly with ALearn, who have the same vision that we have, the alignment is so perfect – it’s a glove on the hand. It is a no-brainer for us to continue to partner with Kathryn and ALearn and particularly Catalyst to College. The more you can work with and lean on your peers, those who have already walked the path - it makes it that much easier to get to college and to see your vision and get there.”

ALearn Advisor and David & Lucile Packard Foundation Trustee, Ned Barnholt:

“Dealing with this opportunity gap - the fact that there are a number of people in our community who don’t have the opportunity to go to college at the same rate as others - is a really important issue. The fact that ALearn and all of you here are dealing with it is very exciting, and I’m proud to be part of it.”

Yerba Buena High School Principal, Tom Huynh:

“Having partners like ALearn and Catalyst to College is critical because at Yerba Buena High School, for the past 7 years and through our partnership, we have raised and elevated our expectations of our students. We want them to go to college. We expect them to take AP classes to be better prepared for college.”

Watch El Observador’s interview with Linda Prieto, VP of Programs:

English <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adltRsU7W8c&t=1s>

Spanish <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bfj56ib5Jsc&spfreload=5>

Learn more about Catalyst to College:

<http://alearn.org/?programs/catalyst-to-college.html>

Read El Observador’s article on page 4 of their January 27th, 2017 issue:

https://issuu.com/hilbertmorales/docs/012717_17web?e=3976739/43603127