In October 2019, Stephen Propheter was selected by State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond to serve as the Director of the Early Education Division (EED) at the California Department of Education (CDE). The EED provides leadership and support to California’s early education community, providers, and contractors. As the EED Director, Stephen oversees investments for universal prekindergarten programs including California State Preschool and Transitional Kindergarten. He is responsible for providing oversight and leadership to approximately 700 early education contractors as well as updating the Preschool Learning Foundations and Framework, as well as work to update the Desired Results Developmental Profile for UPK. Prior to joining EED, Stephen worked in fiscal policy for ELC and nutrition programs in the CDE’s Fiscal and Administrative Services Division and operated a family child care home with his wife.