



## SUMMER MATTERS

### **GIVE SOMETHING BACK OFFICE SUPPLIES ANNOUNCED AS INAUGURAL BUSINESS PARTNER FOR STATEWIDE “SUMMER MATTERS” CAMPAIGN FOR HIGH QUALITY SUMMER LEARNING**

*Company’s Support Reflects California Business Leaders’ Growing Momentum for Investing in High Quality Summer Learning Opportunities that Combat “Summer Learning Loss” and Strengthen Students’ Success*

**Oakland, CA – June 12, 2013** – The [Summer Matters campaign](#) today announced that Bay Area-based Give Something Back Office Supplies has joined the statewide “Summer Matters” campaign for high quality summer learning as its Inaugural Business Partner.

Chaired by State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson, Summer Matters’ coalition of business leaders, school superintendents, policymakers, mayors, school board members, funders, educators, students and parents are working collaboratively to combat “summer learning loss” and expand access to high quality summer learning opportunities for all California students.

A vast body of research shows that a lack of summer learning and enrichment opportunities leads to “summer learning loss” – a loss in students’ academic skills and knowledge during the summer months that sets students behind academically and leads to increased drop-out rates and unhealthy weight gain.

Findings in a new California study – [Summer Matters: How Summer Learning Strengthens Students’ Success](#) – show that students taking part in high quality summer learning programs substantially increased their academic and social skills, and improved their work habits and confidence in their abilities as learners.

“Give Something Back is proud to serve as Summer Matters’ Inaugural Business Partner and supporter of expanding access to high quality summer learning for all California students,” said Give Something Back CEO Sean Marx. “As a California employer that is engaged in supporting vital education initiatives, we know that learning happens year-round and that high quality summer learning programs play an essential role in strengthening students’ academic success and overall health and well-being.”

“Leading California businesses like Give Something Back are investing in summer learning because they know it delivers a substantial return on investment,” said Summer Matters’ Co-Chair Jennifer Peck, who is spearheading the campaign’s statewide coalition to promote high quality summer learning in California. “Summer learning is essential to K – 12 students’ success and research shows that summertime learning uniquely enables students to gain and maintain knowledge and skills that matter for school and life.”

As Summer Matters' Inaugural Business Partner, Give Something Back's activities include playing a key role in Reading Rocks! Summer Learning Day at the California State Capitol – a literacy-themed summer learning celebration that will draw more than 400 students, educators, legislators and civic leaders to the state capitol for a media and VIP event.

A statewide coalition of school districts, educators, school boards, education leaders, mayors, legislators, nonprofits, funders, civic leaders and parents, the Summer Matters campaign is the first-ever statewide campaign focused on creating and expanding access to summer learning opportunities for all California students.

More about Give Something Back is at [www.givesomethingback.com](http://www.givesomethingback.com) and more about Summer Matters is at: [www.summermatters2you.net](http://www.summermatters2you.net)

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**ABOUT GIVE SOMETHING BACK** ([www.givesomethingback.com](http://www.givesomethingback.com))

Give Something Back Office Supplies is the largest independent office supplier in California. They sell name brand office supplies and equipment at competitive prices and donate their profits to nonprofits in the community. Their slogan is "Where Value meets Values". Give Something Back is a certified "B Corp" member, created to use the power of business to solve social and environmental problems, and is one of only 67 companies in the world to be designated by B Corporation as a "Best for the World" company.

**ABOUT SUMMER MATTERS** ([www.summermatters2you.net](http://www.summermatters2you.net))

Summer Matters is the first-ever statewide campaign focused on creating and expanding access to summer learning opportunities for all California students. A diverse coalition of education leaders, elected officials, parents, and business, civic and philanthropic leaders, the Summer Matters campaign is raising public awareness about the devastating effects of summer learning loss and the beneficial impact of summer learning programs. Summer Matters is also working to increase the number of students served by summer learning programs and providing thought leadership, expertise and hands-on support to help schools, cities and community-based organizations deliver high quality summer learning programs that are changing students' lives. Learn more about Summer Matters at [www.summermatters2you.net](http://www.summermatters2you.net).

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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