



To: California Youth Empowerment Commission and Community Stakeholders

From: Thomisha Wallace, Youth Empowerment Commission Executive Director

Re: Executive Director Report to the Commission- March 21, 2026

Programming Updates

Commission Meetings:

- Notable change: Voices for Change Forum in Sacramento on April 30th.

Meeting Date(s)	Meeting	Location
April 13	YEC Digital Youth Summit in Partnership with <i>Possibility Lab</i>	Online
April 30	Voices for Change Forum in Partnership with <i>Reaching At Promise Students Association</i>	Sacramento
May 29-30 *Annual Report Due May 30	Voices for Change Forum Commission Meeting	Oakland
July 24 -25	Voices for Change Forum Commission Meeting	Salinas
September 18-19	Voices for Change Forum Commission Meeting	TBD
November 13-14	Voices for Change Forum Commission Meeting	TBD



Youth Commissioner Forum Co-Hosted with Possibility Lab:

- YEC commissioners and the Possibility Lab have created an invitation video that will be sent out to youth commissioners across the state next week. The video captured the save the date information that's listed below:



SAVE THE DATE

Statewide Youth Commissioner Forum (Online)

Monday, April 13 | 5:30–7:30 PM

[Register here](#)

- This year's forum is **titled *How Youth Commissioners Can Build a Voice-to-Policy Pipeline*** because you've got things to say, and the world needs to hear them.

Sessions will cover:

- Building real relationships with officials to get things done
- Reaching and engaging underrepresented youth
- Nailing the 2-minute public comment

Between sessions, there will be live music and poetry breaks to keep the energy up and the inspiration flowing.

Staffing Updates

- The Commission is currently in the Interview process for a Commission Operations Manager.

Commissioner Updates

New Appointments:

- YEC Executive Director is collaborating with the Governor's Appointments office fill the commission seat for the Orange County and Northern San Joaquin Region, as well as the seats of Commissioners who are aging and terming out this summer.
 - The application for YEC seats is now live on the Commission's [website](#). The application is always live, so there is no deadline for applying.



- Article 3 of AB 46 articulates that “One Member of the Senate appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules, one Member of the Assembly appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly, the Governor, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and the Secretary of California Health and Human Services shall serve as nonvoting members of the commission”. In response, the following individuals have been appointed to the commission:
 - **Assemblymember Alex Lee**
 - **Senator Sabrina Cervantes**
 - **Brian Kaplun, Deputy Secretary for California Health and Human Services**
 - The Superintendent of Public Instruction is in the process of appointing a member.
 - Nonvoting members will serve as bridges to expand access, context, and influence for youth commissioners, they will not direct outcomes or set priorities. They will influence the commission's work in the following areas:
 - Understanding how state systems work in practice
 - Navigating implementation realities (budget, authority, timelines)
 - Building credible relationships across government
 - Translating commission insights into actionable implementation pathways