Expanding Learning Opportunities:
Why Advocacy is Everyone's Job

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Californians for Justice

Partnership for Children & Youth

Intro

Partnership for Children & Youth (PCY)

is an advocacy and capacity-building organization, championing high-quality learning opportunities for underserved youth in California, with an emphasis on after school, summer learning, and community schools.

www.saveafterschool.com

Intro

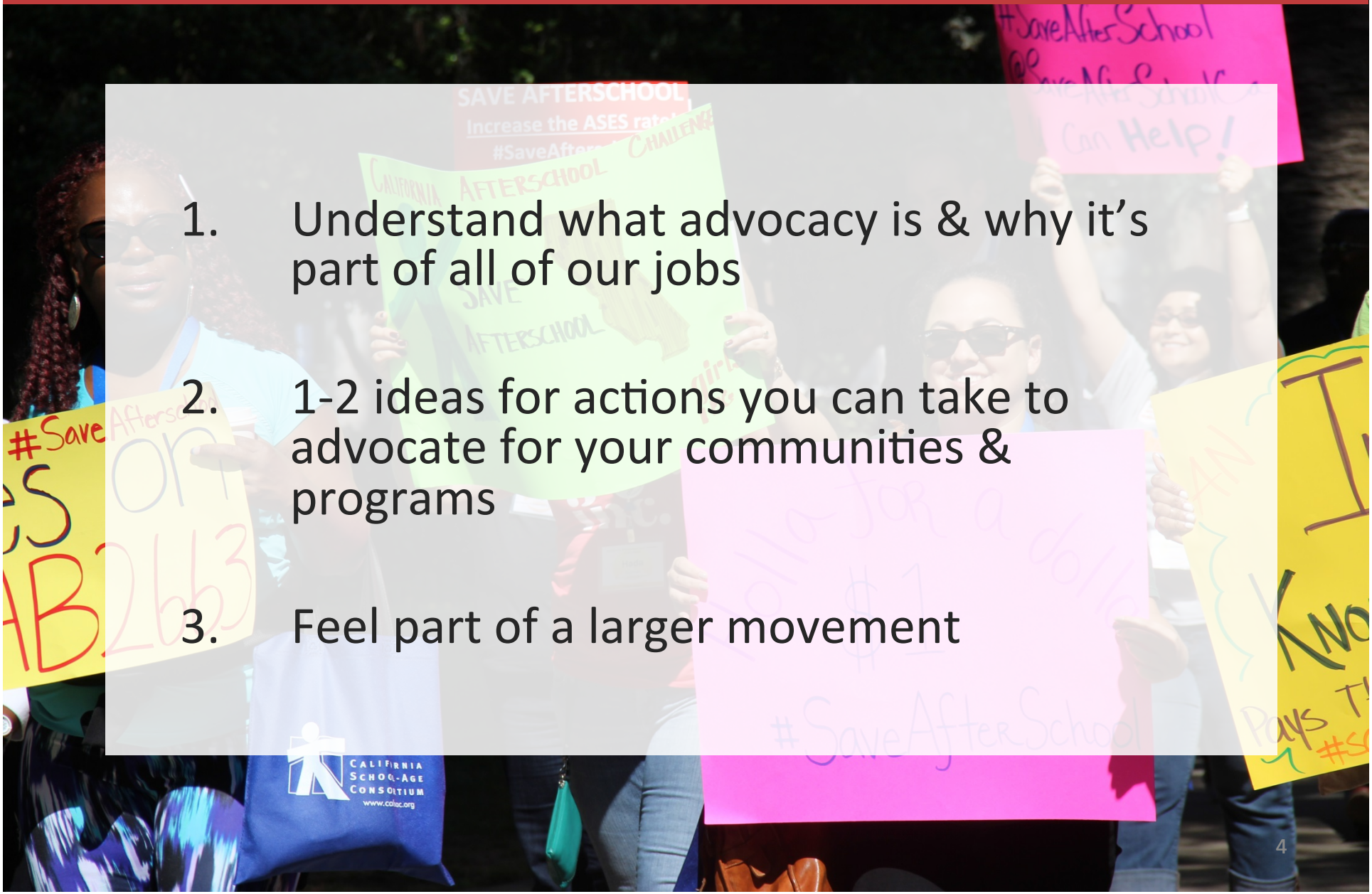
Californians for Justice (CFJ)

Californians for Justice is a statewide youth organizing organization in Oakland, San Jose and Long Beach. We develop young people of color to be the leaders we need to have the schools all of our communities deserve.

Californians for Justice

www.caljustice.org

Goals



1. Understand what advocacy is & why it's part of all of our jobs

2. 1-2 ideas for actions you can take to advocate for your communities & programs

3. Feel part of a larger movement

Why does advocacy matter?

Why does advocacy matter?

Build Relationships Not Walls In Our Schools

Californians for Justice

Why does advocacy matter?

Advocacy increases access to **caring adults** and **safe spaces** in and out of school that are necessary to support student success.

Survey results

74%
had to reduce enrichment activities

64%
have reduced staff hours

86% find it more difficult to attract and retain high-quality staff

Teacher shortage

1 out of 3
students cannot identify a single caring adult

75% of districts reported a shortage of teachers in the 2016-2017 school year.

Teacher turnover is **50%** higher in high-poverty than in low-poverty schools.

What is advocacy?

YTH:
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ticians.
Advocacy is fo olicy
experts and e ed officials.

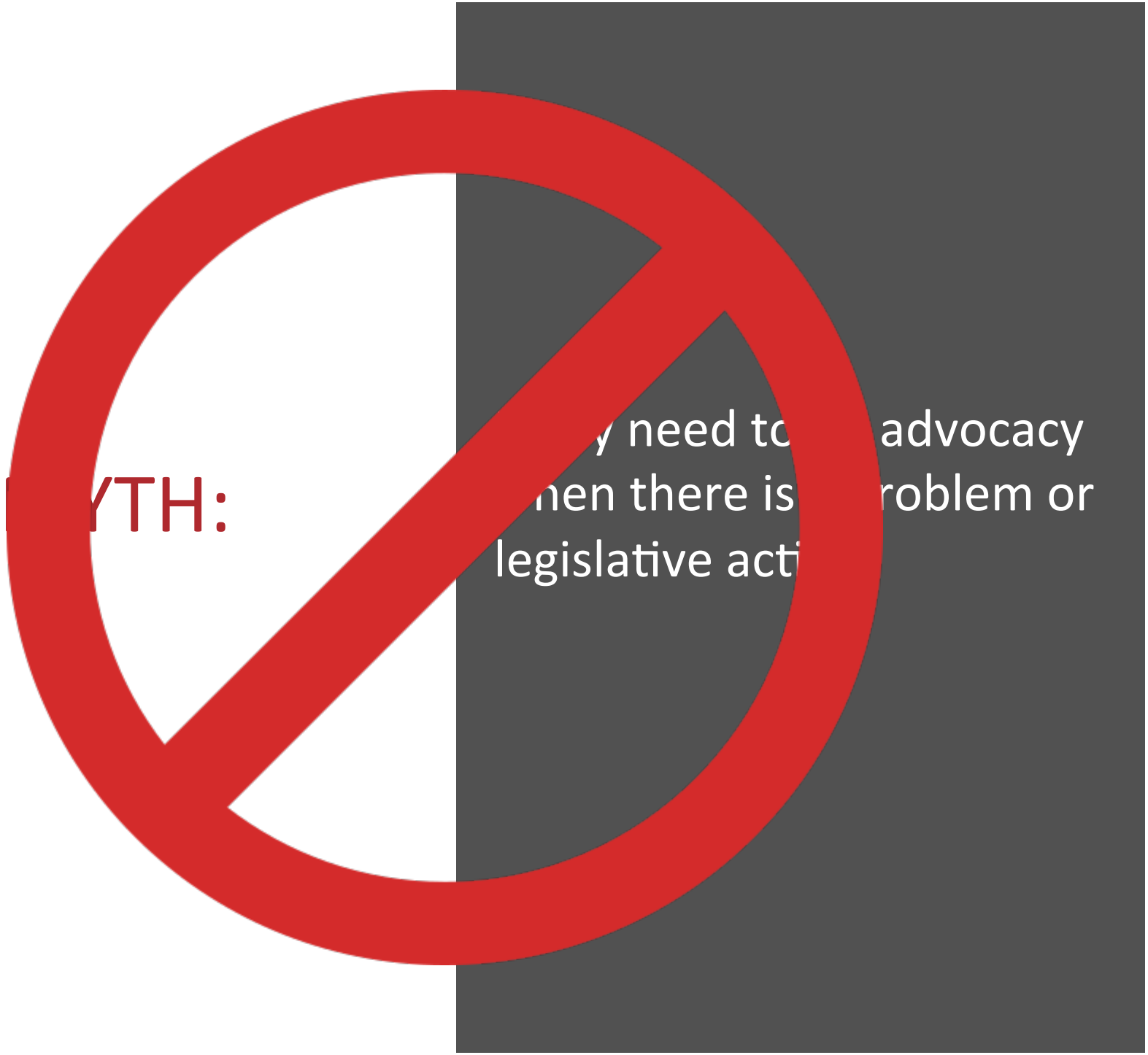
You are an advocate

Advocacy is about education

You are an advocate

You are the expert about your program/school

- Your stories make a difference
- Leave the policy to the public officials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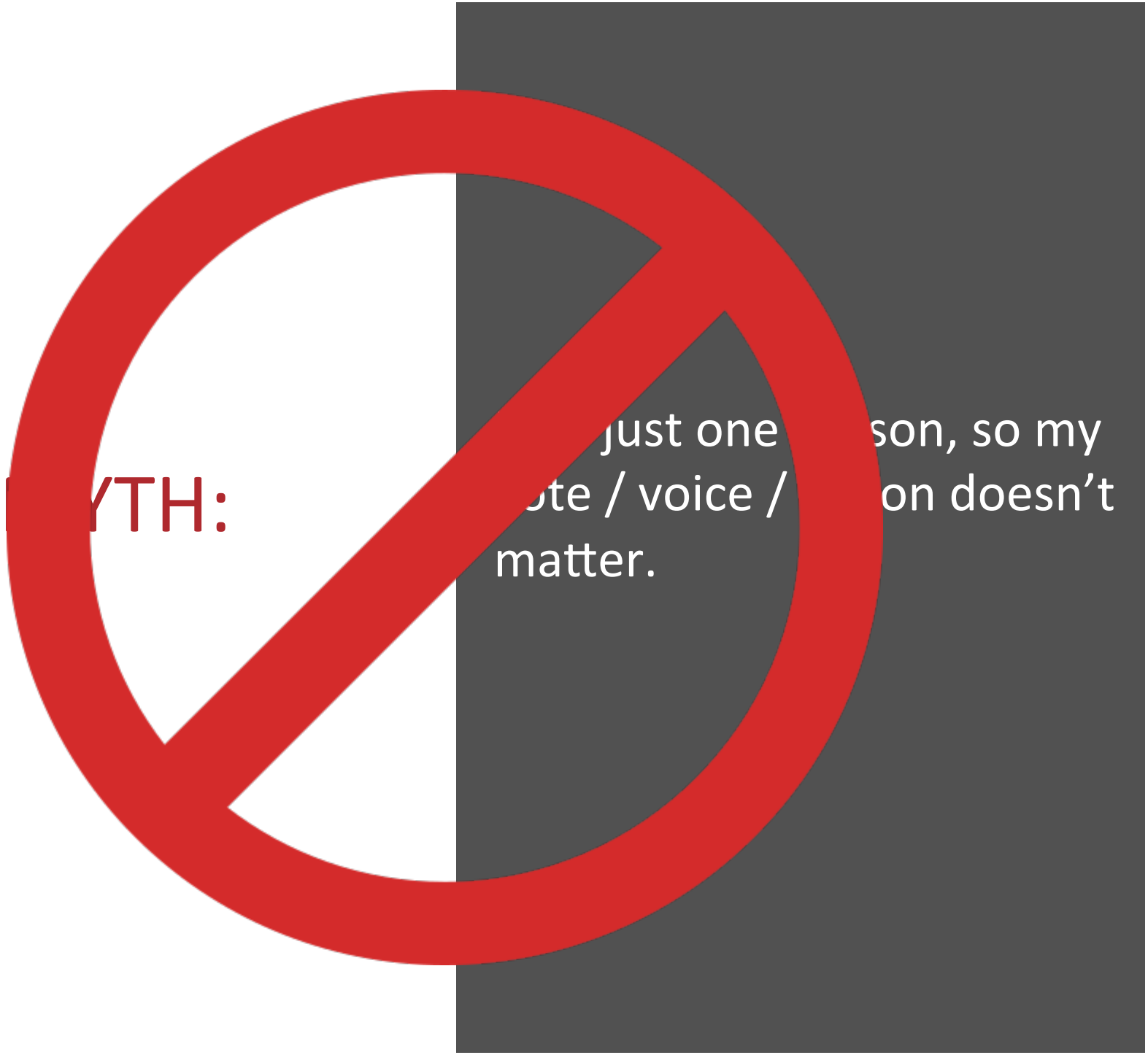
Awareness is key

Keep decision-makers informed through good times and bad.

It’s about building relationships.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Small actions add up

450 people signed letter to the Governor

Over 2,400 people signed our petition

10,000 Postcards

"After school helped me break my long-term depression and become more productive and active. I have more self-esteem and confidence now."

Monrovia site visit

Youth testify at hearing

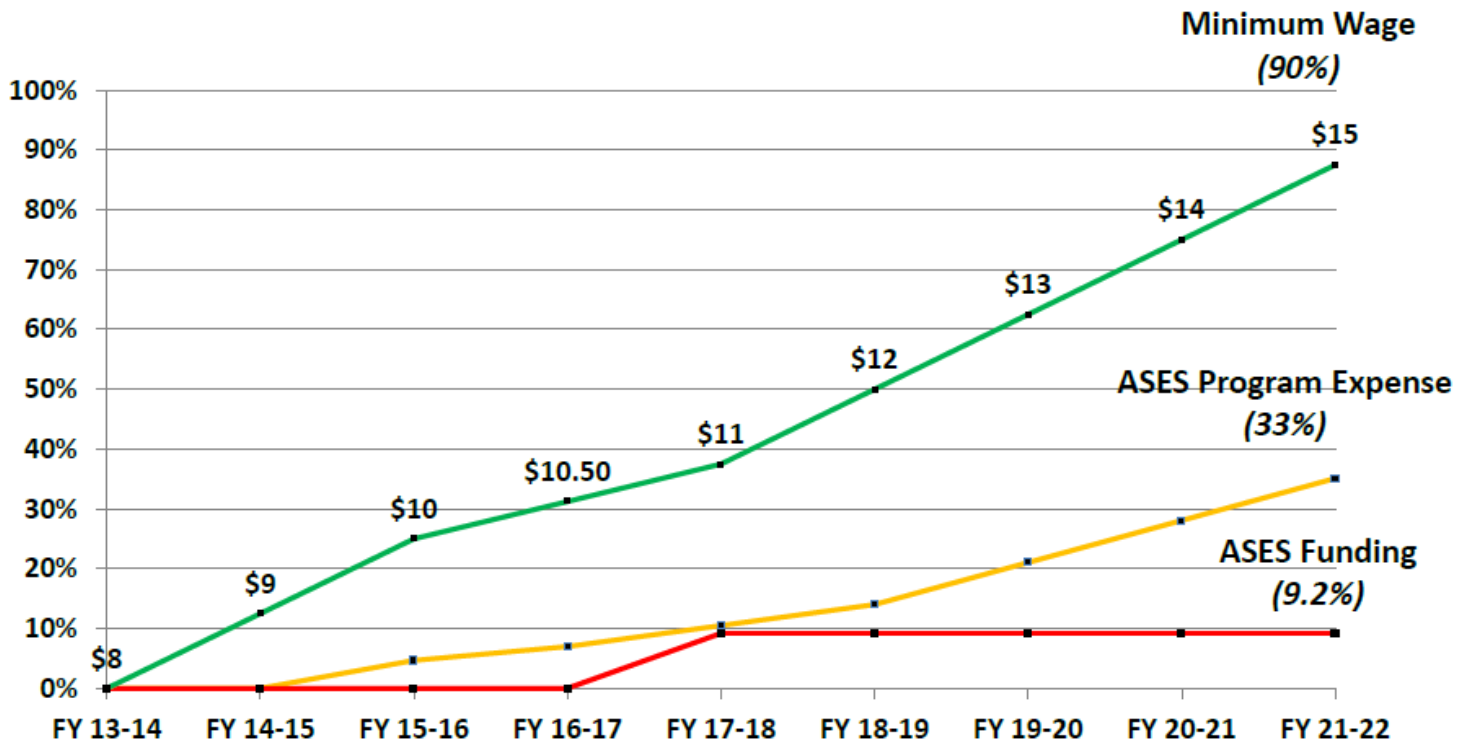
Student Voice Campaign

- Mobilized dozens of youth to Sacramento
- Powerful actions with powerful visuals
- Power youth testimony

Looking ahead

State policy

Annual Percentage Growth in Minimum Wage and ASES Program Personnel Expenses

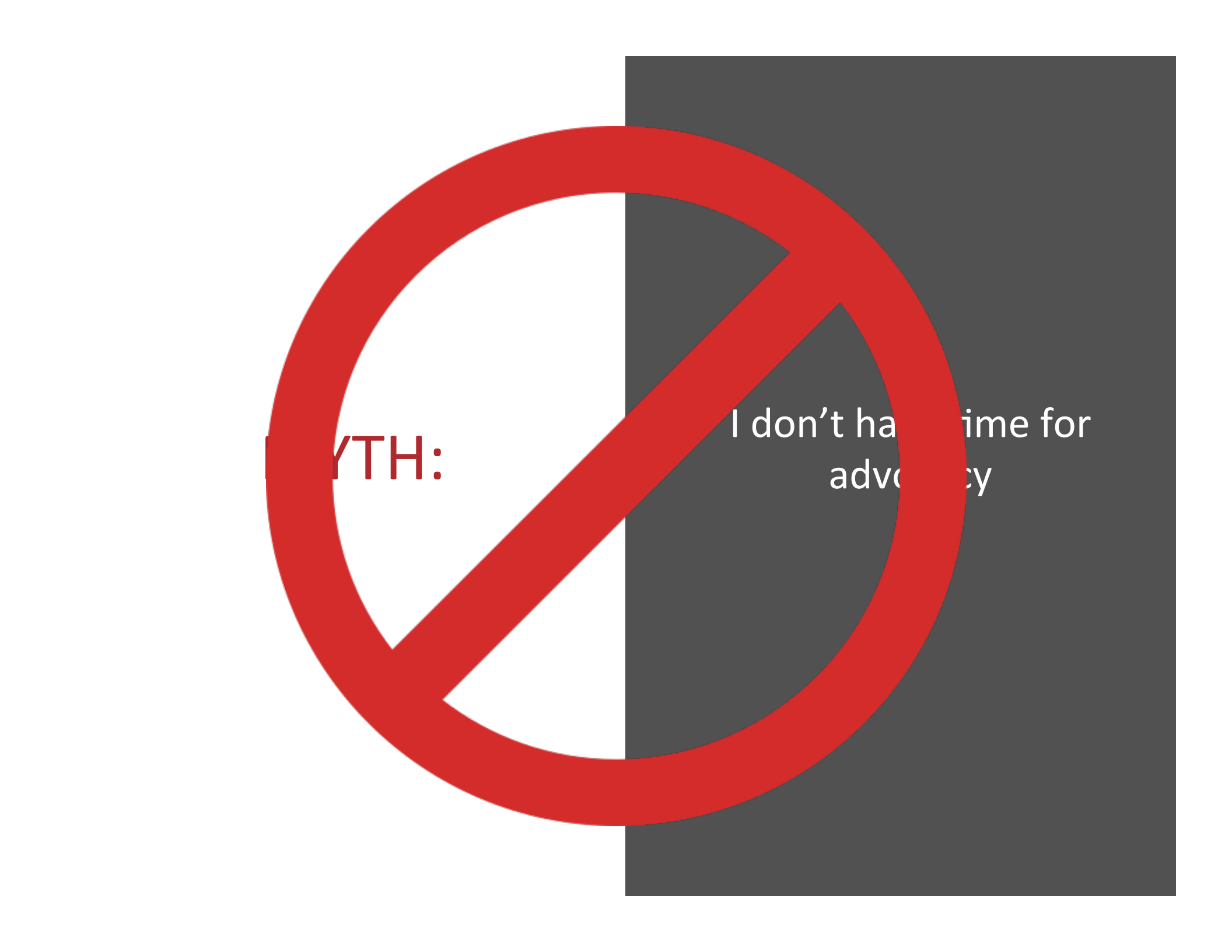


ASES Funds Projected Flat at $122K through 2022

State policy

- ASES Rate Campaign
- 2018 Elections
- Prop 64 – Marijuana tax revenue

Local policy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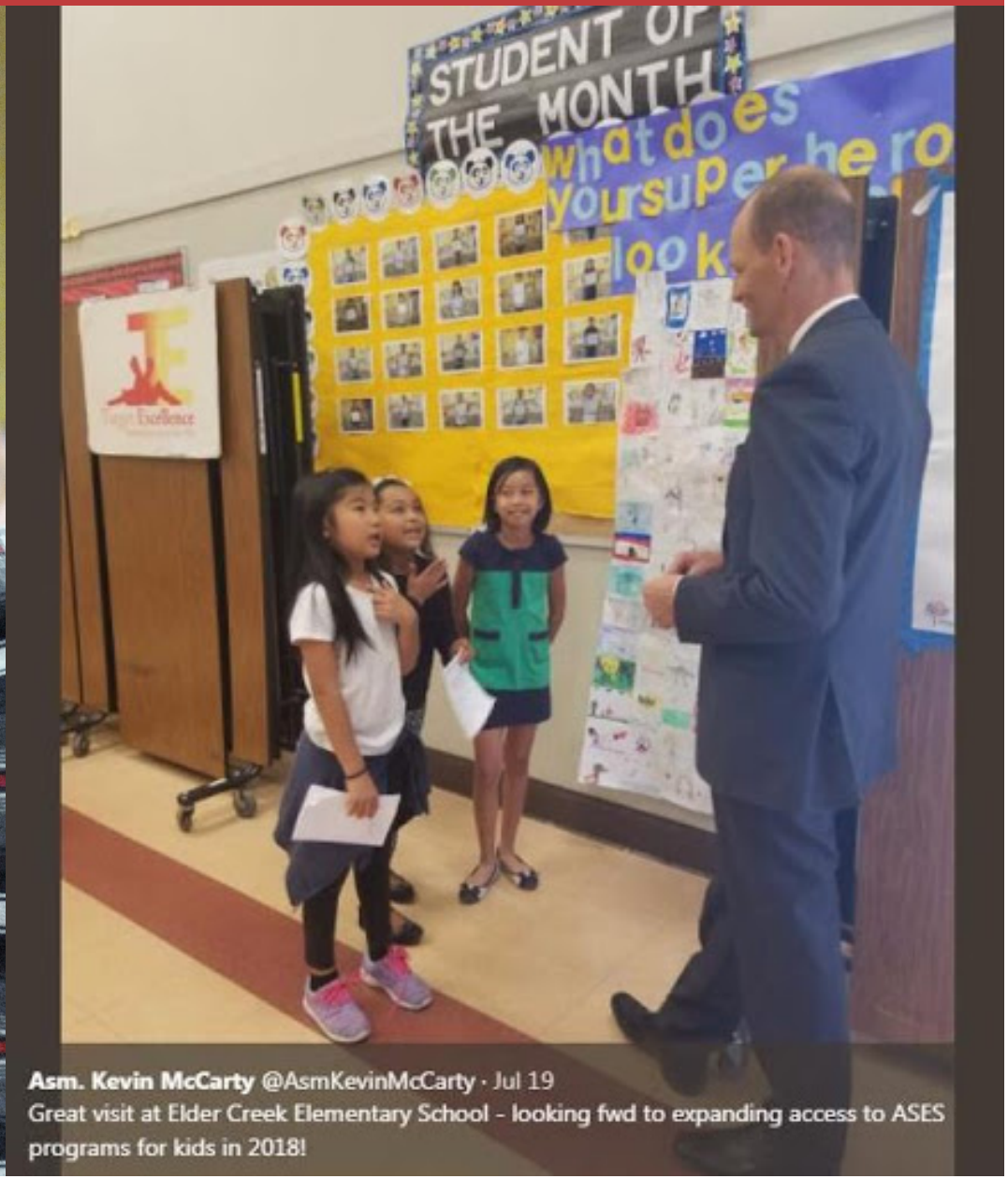
Share your story & engage public officials



Build youth and community voice

1. Identify student and community leaders and build their knowledge and expertise

2. Build their leadership to share their story with public officials

3. Have students and community members lead and engage the broader community on key issues

Get involved big & small

Promote youth voice

Testify at a hearing

Host a site visit

Make a phone call

Sign a petition

Attend the Afterschool & Summer Challenge in Sacramento

It can be fun!

Stay in the know - resources & tools

saveafterschool.com

caljustice.org

What's next?

1) Introduce yourself to someone you don't know.

2) Share 1 thing you can do today or in the next few months to advocate for your kids, staff and program.

THANK YOU!

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