

CALIFORNIA SUBJECT MATTER PROJECT

Schools, Teachers, and Students

"Wearing protective gloves, boots and a face mask, Severs walked to her old classroom, and when she saw what remained, she started crying. 'I had 1,000 personal books on cases over there,' said Severs. 'Now look what is left of them.'"

"...150 teachers countywide lost their homes in the fires.... Many already have returned to their schools, hoping to provide some routine for their students and help them cope with the trauma while dealing with their own losses."

"An estimated 4,600 homes were destroyed by the Tubbs Fire in and around Santa Rosa alone, and another 10,000 residential properties were damaged countywide."

Undocumented Families

"...a lot of the issues that we are facing right now are issues that we have had for a long time: access to good education, access to mental health, access to adequate housing, access to a living wage. These are all the issues that we've had to deal with, but situations like this fire just makes it even harder for the undocumented community."

"Already facing lost wages because of evacuation, many were dealt an added blow when they discovered that they were no longer employed."

Foster and Homeless Youth

"Prior to the fires, Mendocino County had identified 817 homeless students. 'Unfortunately, we're anticipating an additional 150 or more children to add to that list.'" Mendocino County Office of Education

Environmental and Health Concerns

"...nearly all of the county's schools experienced some degree of smoke damage. Nearly 100 have been cleaned and reopened, but many of the remainder – those located in the burn zones – require more extensive remediation to be safe for students, teachers and staff."

Napa Valley Unified School District Fire Recovery Resources webpage includes: Wildfire Smoke and Face Masks, Tips for Survivors of a Disaster, Tips for Talking With and Helping Children and Youth Cope After a Natural Disaster

TEACHERS HELPING TEACHERS

Rebuild, Restore, Reinvigorate

Directors and teacher leaders of the California Subject Matter Project (CSMP) invite you to join us and lock arms with our colleagues in Sonoma, Napa, and Mendocino counties who were displaced or affected by the wildfires. The needs of these communities are great, and although many organizations have stepped up to support, we decided there were CSMP ways that we as teachers could help our fellow teachers and their students.

Contributing books, instructional resources, and gift cards to address the following needs:

1. Helping to rebuild classroom, school, and professional libraries

- What books do your students recommend for classroom libraries, book clubs, read-alouds, or mentor texts?

Consider making this a class giving-project. In addition to selecting and helping to purchase books, students can write letters to teachers and students about why they picked the book(s) they did.

Very special request: Teachers in dual immersion and bilingual classes have a need for books and resources in Spanish or Spanish/English, and there is an urgent request for books or resources that address trauma, fear, and resilience.

- What books—fiction, nonfiction, graphic novels, and more—are must-haves for a school library?
- What professional books are must-haves for:
 - ▶ teaching students of your grade level span K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12
 - ▶ teaching specific disciplines and implementing California Standards
 - ▶ supporting English learners, students with disabilities, or other special needs populations
 - ▶ supporting students through trauma; fostering resilience

2. Helping to replace resources and instructional supplies:

- mathematics manipulatives
- supplies for Makerspaces or STEM classes
- art supplies

How will CSMP use your contributions to help our colleagues restore, reinvigorate, recharge?

Your contributions—books, resources, supplies, gift cards—will be distributed at a CSMP Professional Support and Resource Fair at Sonoma State University.

Teachers who were affected by the fires, as well as teachers who are supporting students whose families have been affected, will be invited to a special event designed just for them. In addition to selecting books and resources for their students, schools, and colleagues, CSMP will offer workshops focused on ways to engage their students in:

- Learning in and across disciplines that fosters resilience (including for dual immersion and bilingual students)
- Inquiring into environmental hazards and health issues as a first step to helping their communities rebuild
- Reclaiming a sense of place and community
- Understanding the changing and challenging relationships between people and their natural world

By January 19 send contributions to California Writing Project, 4525 Tolman Hall, Berkeley CA 94720.

Let us know what you're planning here:
<https://goo.gl/forms/QQocJyVCCfnVDsig2>

Email us at cwp@berkeley.edu if you have any questions.