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Students and Families in Stockton Unified School District Learn the Importance of the 2020 Census

Stockton Unified announces a partnership with California Complete Count-Census 2020 Office and the use of California Census Schools-Based Outreach tool *Count Me In, Students Count* to help students Kindergarten through twelfth grade learn about the importance of census participation. Participating schools will use the occasion of the decennial census to encourage students to share information about participating in the census with their parents or guardians.

"We are excited to bring the program to Stockton Unified students," stated John E. Deasy, Superintendent. "Educators are vital to ensuring an accurate count, and therefore a successful 2020 Census. There are more than \$675 billion allocated in federal funding and awarded based on census counts. These funds affect not only education, but also where new businesses are developed, school locations, and housing for the elderly. California schools receive over \$7 billion to support programs such as after school, school nutrition, and special education."

"California is determined to achieve a complete census count, where every Californian is counted. We've started early and are committing more resources than any other state to a robust outreach and engagement effort to reach all Californians," said Ditas Katague, Director California Complete Count – Census 2020.

The state has worked with California's teachers to develop curriculum made for and by California teachers. "*The Count Me In* program offers an easy way to share census information with kids and parents," said Shelley Spessard, Director of Marketing Communications, Family Engagement, and Education. "We are thrilled students and families in Stockton Unified School District are learning the importance of the census and playing an active role in their community."