



Case Study:  
**Advancing An  
 Agenda**

To drive systemic change in K-12 public schools (non -charter) nationwide, the Partnership for Los Angeles Schools (“Partnership”) hosted a Bloomberg Live event, “Rebuilding Public Education,” at Bloomberg headquarters in New York City in March 2019. During the event and a subsequent on-air TV interview, Partnership co-founder Melanie Lundquist spoke with Romaine Bostick of Bloomberg News about the Partnership’s transformative efforts. Below are excerpts from her interviews, highlighting the Partnership’s three core principles: “The partnership is based on three principles... capacity, scalability and sustainability.”

***“The partnership is based on three principles... capacity, scalability and sustainability.”*** ([Link](#))

## I. Capacity

*“In order to change a system, you absolutely have to work inside the system.”* ([Link](#))

*“The Partnership is based on great leaders, which are principals and we scour the country for them. Great teachers, which means coaching and professional development and resources from the community for them.”* ([Link](#))

## II. Scalability

*“It was always my dream that this become a national model of transformation. And we’re doing it for \$675 per student per year, which is pretty amazing.”* ([Link](#))

*“Once you’ve been in business for 12 years, it’s easier for people to say, ‘Well they are having success, maybe we should look at this.’”* ([Link](#))

*“We have been contacted by about 12 school districts from outside California for the purpose of using our model and we are now putting together a playbook.”* ([Link](#))

## III. Sustainability

*“You can’t change the system unless you work in the system. We look at the obstacles that we come up against and we find solutions for those obstacles. On occasion, we find a solution that is really, really good, but it’s too expensive. We have to make this sustainable so that other districts around this nation can use this model.”* ([Link](#))

*“We are doing this for an additional \$675 per student per year, which is very, very low for a turnaround organization.”* ([Link](#))

“ At the Partnership, Melanie and Richard have created one of the largest in-district public school transformation organizations in the country. I was so impressed by the results of their work when I visited Santee High School in Los Angeles. Their program has become a scalable and sustainable model for schools nationally.

– US House Majority Leader  
 Steny Hoyer

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