

January 20, 2021 #EquityChat
Martha Kanter (@MARTHAKANTER),
Fmr Undersecretary for Department of Education,
CEO of College Promise (@College_Promise)

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Good fabulous evening and welcome to #EquityChat! We are excited to host @MARTHAKANTER @College_Promise CEO -@iamkeithcurry Welcome Martha!

[@MARTHAKANTER](#) Glad to be here. Ready to answer the tough questions!

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Q1. @MARTHAKANTER How are you feeling on this special day in history? #EquityChat @iamkeithcurry #InaugurationDay2021 @College_Promise

[@MARTHAKANTER](#) I loved his vision to “make America once again the leading force for good in the world.” His call for unity is a call to action for each of us, for all! @iamkeithcurry @SDMesaPrez @College_Promise #EquityChat

[@MARTHAKANTER](#) Inspired that President Biden called upon us to do our part to help unify our nation. He promised to be President for all Americans. @iamkeithcurry @SDMesaPrez @College_Promise #EquityChat

[@iamkeithcurry](#) Q2. @MARTHAKANTER. Please tell us three things about you that are not on your resume. @College_Promise #EquityChat @SDMesaPrez @iamkeithcurry

[@MARTHAKANTER](#) #1 I believe that everyone has the talent and potential to advance and thrive in our country and worldwide. @iamkeithcurry @SDMesaPrez @College_Promise #EquityChat

[@MARTHAKANTER](#) #2 I love thinking through unintended consequences before putting new policies and practices in place, or revising what we have because we can always improve upon the status quo. @iamkeithcurry @SDMesaPrez @College_Promise #EquityChat

[@MARTHAKANTER](#) #3 I am grateful for being a student of the art of bonsai. Caring and preserving nature is a respite for a tireless educator! @iamkeithcurry @SDMesaPrez @College_Promise #EquityChat

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Q3. @MARTHAKANTER Ed leaders in CA still remind us that you were the Chancellor of @deanza_college @foothillnews before serving as undersecty of ed. in the Obama Administration. Can you share with us some of your memories as an equity champion with @CalCommColleges? EquityChat

[@MARTHAKANTER](#) Increasing college and career opportunities for Dreamers, LBGTQ, women, students with disabilities, and students of color drove our equity-committed agenda each and every day. @iamkeithcurry @SDMesaPrez @College_Promise #EquityChat

[@MARTHAKANTER](#) I loved our equity surveys, giving our departments those results with facilitators to eliminate barriers faced by our students. @iamkeithcurry @SDMesaPrez @College_Promise #EquityChat

[@MARTHAKANTER](#) Tracking enrollment, persistence, and graduation rates of our students with disaggregated data was critically important. @iamkeithcurry @SDMesaPrez @College_Promise #EquityChat

[@MARTHAKANTER](#) At Foothill-De Anza, I was thrilled that we could give every student access to high-speed technology and distance learning on campus, knowing there was always so much more we could do – and there always will be! @iamkeithcurry @SDMesaPrez @College_Promise #EquityChat

[@johnvalencia](#) @MARTHAKANTER you are amaZing! Thank you for your student success leadership

[@iamkeithcurry](#) Q4. @MARTHAKANTER. Tell us about @College_Promise , and your work as the CEO of the @College_Promise? @College_Promise #EquityChat @SDMesaPrez @iamkeithcurry

[@MARTHAKANTER](#) Over the past five years, we now have 330 cities and towns in 47 states that give College Promise scholarships for tuition and fees to eligible hardworking students. But it's not enough! They need more support!
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[@MARTHAKANTER](#) Today, 30 states have enacted College Promise programs for their residents. It's now time for a federal-state partnership to make the College Promise universally available because / [@iamkeithcurry](#) [@SDMesaPrez](#) [@College_Promise](#) #EquityChat

[@MARTHAKANTER](#) We know – confirmed by so many scholars from across the country - that earning college certificates and degrees are the gateway to the middle class, economic mobility, civic health, and community prosperity.
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[@SDMesaPrez](#) Q5. [@MARTHAKANTER](#) Reflecting on the nation's capital's violent events on January 6, 2021, what advice/guidance would you share with educational leaders? [@iamkeithcurry](#) #EquityChat

[@MARTHAKANTER](#) Ask the speech communications, psychology, and sociology professors to design the college and community wide dialogues. We are our own greatest resource. [@iamkeithcurry](#) [@SDMesaPrez](#) [@College_Promise](#) #EquityChat

[@ahandsintheair](#) Excellent idea! [@LShimazaki](#)

[@MARTHAKANTER](#) It's critical for everyone on campus – students, faculty, staff, administrators, and trustees to listen, lead, and welcome public dialogue and debate that is civil and respectful. [@iamkeithcurry](#) [@SDMesaPrez](#) [@College_Promise](#) #EquityChat

[@MARTHAKANTER](#) In bringing people to the table, we can discuss the most pressing issues we face as a community and as a nation: systemic racism, climate change, economic insecurity, unemployment, and poverty, to name a few.
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[@iamkeithcurry](#) Q6. [@MARTHAKANTER](#). What three recommendations would be provided to the Biden Administration about the challenges higher education institutions are faced with at this time? [@College_Promise](#) #EquityChat
[@SDMesaPrez](#) [@iamkeithcurry](#)

[@MARTHAKANTER](#) #2 Do all you can to eliminate federal student debt. Students have so many burdens - financial being among the top three they face. Interest rates must be totally redesigned too! It's not right! [@iamkeithcurry](#) [@SDMesaPrez](#) [@College_Promise](#) #EquityChat

[@ahandsintheair](#) I'd like this 1,000 times if I could! ❤️

[@MARTHAKANTER](#) #1 Do all you can for America and the world to end Covid-19 so we can safely open our community colleges, universities, and K-12 schools. Follow the science! Get our students back![@iamkeithcurry](#) [@SDMesaPrez](#) [@College_Promise](#) #EquityChat

[@MARTHAKANTER](#) #3 Do all you can to fund a federal-state partnership to keep college affordable for all. The College Promise builds aspirations, goals, hard work, and better outcomes. We need millions more well-prepared graduates!
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[@SDMesaPrez](#) Q7. [@MARTHAKANTER](#) What gives you hope? #EquityChat [@iamkeithcurry](#) [@College_Promise](#)

[@MARTHAKANTER](#) Knowing that we have the courage and strength to push through barriers and overcome odds that often seem insurmountable. We can. We will. We must! We sure did today as a nation! [@iamkeithcurry](#) [@SDMesaPrez](#) [@College_Promise](#) #EquityChat

[@ahandsintheair](#) Yes we did and Yes, you have! I have long admired and been inspired by your vision, tenacity and unapologetic, laser like advocacy for and focus on enacting policies that matter to #realstudents!
#equitymatters

[@MARTHAKANTER](#) Today is a confirmation of the power of the people- that democracy works - and that gives me hope!

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[@MARTHAKANTER](#) We just witnessed the peaceful transition of power with a new President and Vice President now confirmed. [@iamkeithcurry](#) [@SDMesaPrez](#) [@College_Promise](#) #EquityChat

[@iamkeithcurry](#) Q8. [@MARTHAKANTER](#). What are you reading? And what book(s) would you recommend we consider reading? [@College_Promise](#) #EquityChat [@SDMesaPrez](#) [@iamkeithcurry](#)

[@MARTHAKANTER](#) For Equity 101, read: Why are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria? By Beverly Tatum and Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens [@iamkeithcurry](#) [@SDMesaPrez](#) [@College_Promise](#) #EquityChat

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Two faves of mine [@MARTHAKANTER](#)

[@MARTHAKANTER](#) Enjoy three of my favorites to deepen understanding of history, culture, growth, and identity, read: Beloved by Toni Morrison, Becoming by Michelle Obama, Better by Atul Gawande, and A Long, Bright Future by Laura Carstensen [@iamkeithcurry](#) [@SDMesaPrez](#) [@College_Promise](#) #EquityChat

[@SDMesaPrez](#) ok-serious toll on my book budget [@MARTHAKANTER](#) !

[@ahandsintheair](#) I read this comment out of order, but now I totally get it! My Audible wishlist is loving these new additions. I'll unpack them one credit at a time! 😊

[@MARTHAKANTER](#) Think Outside the Building: How Advanced Leaders Can Change the World One Smart Innovation at a Time by Rosabeth Moss Kanter (no relation) It's the College Promise theory of change for making good on education!

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[@MARTHAKANTER](#) Of course for documenting College Promise outcomes from UPenn: Improving Research-Based Knowledge of College Promise Programs by Laura W. Perna and Edward J. Smith [@iamkeithcurry](#) [@SDMesaPrez](#)

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[@MARTHAKANTER](#) For the climb out of poverty and social-emotional barriers to confront, read The Short and Tragic Life of Robert Peace: A Brilliant Young Man Who Left Newark for the Ivy League by Jeff Hobbs [@iamkeithcurry](#) [@SDMesaPrez](#)

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[@MARTHAKANTER](#) The Real American Dream: A Meditation on Hope by Andrew Delbanco; The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek by Kim Michele Richardson [@iamkeithcurry](#) [@SDMesaPrez](#) [@College_Promise](#)

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[@MARTHAKANTER](#) To really understand the challenges of economic mobility, read Working to Learn: Disrupting the Divide Between College and Career Pathways for Young People by Noel S. Anderson and Lisette Nieves [@iamkeithcurry](#)

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[@ModestaGarciaSE](#) Francisco Jiménez: The Circuit, Reaching Out, Breaking Through, Taking Hold. Hopeful story of a farmworker from childhood, K-12, to an Ivy League PhD. [@fjimenezauthor](#) [@DoctorQMd](#) [@jdelreal](#) [@CQuintanaDC](#)

[@JohnTrasvina](#) [@DrRichReddick](#) [@brother_white](#) [@KrissicaHarper](#) Developing book savings account NOW! 🔥🔥

[@SDMesaPrez](#) TY [@MARTHAKANTER](#) for spending #Inauguration2021 with us on #EquityChat tonight! We look forward to working together to expand [@College_Promise](#) We miss you in CA! Next week we are hosting [@LizNavarette](#) , VC, Finance & Facilities Planning [@CalCommColleges](#) ! [@iamkeithcurry](#)

[@MARTHAKANTER](#) Thanks so much for having me on #EquityAvengers. We have so much more to do for our students! The sun never sets in a democracy - it only goes to sleep to rise in the morning! 😎

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Amen