

Assembly California Legislature

March 6, 2014

Dr. Michael Kirst, State Board President
State Board of Education
1430 N Street, Room 5111
Sacramento, CA 95814.

Dear President Kirst:

The State Legislature created the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) to give California a framework for reducing historic inequities among our extremely diverse population. As the State Board of Education finalizes the permanent LCFF regulations, we urge the Board to act in order to preserve the Legislature's intent in creating this law.


In order for the LCFF to serve as a tool for upward mobility, as intended, it must close California's persistent student achievement gap for English language learners, foster care students, and low-income students. Therefore, the funding generated by concentrations of these high needs students under the LCFF must be spent to improve the education that these students receive.

For these reasons, we urge the Board to enact permanent spending regulations for the LCFF that include:

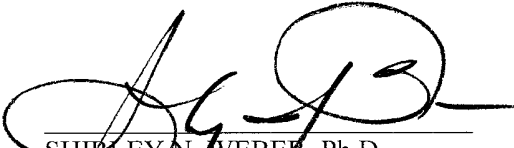
- A requirement on school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools to show how supplemental and concentration funds principally serve high-need students and are effective in meeting the local education agency's goals for these students in state priority areas; and
- A requirement that the Local Control Accountability Plan templates include transparent and standard data and expenditure reporting, strong school site council engagement, and alignment between state priorities, goals, and specific expenditures at the district and school level.

We made a promise to help underserved students when creating the LCFF. It cannot be reduced to lip service as billions of new education dollars are spent under the biggest change to education funding in decades. Since the LCFF is paid for with state funds and the state interest in education finance has been articulated with great specificity, our recommendations will strike the necessary balance sought by the Board while navigating the complexity of its charge.

Thank you for your consideration of our views.

Sincerely,


PHILIP Y. TING
Assemblymember, 19th District



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