



BELLFLOWER UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Standard of Excellence; Nothing Less

16703 South Clark Avenue • Bellflower, California 90706

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BOARD OF EDUCATION

December 16, 2015

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

Tom Torlakson
State Superintendent of Public Instruction
California Department of Education
1430 N Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Bellflower and Lynwood Unified School District JPA/ROP

Dear Dr. Kirst and Mr. Torlakson:

The Governing Boards for Bellflower and Lynwood Unified School Districts have unanimously approved a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) to provide services to students following a Regional Occupation Program (ROP) delivery model. Bellflower is the management authority for the JPA named California Advancing Pathways for Students (CalAPS).

The Districts' Boards of Education have voted to create a jointly run program that will allow students to take additional career technical courses. CalAPS will focus on supporting and expanding career courses for each district that present the greatest opportunities in the local job market for students. The establishment of CalAPS will enable both districts to achieve savings in providing those services since they will not be duplicated thereby freeing up funding for more modernized facilities and training programs within each district.

Career and Technical Education (CTE) is a focus area for districts within California. Additional funding has been provided in the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) for districts to support CTE thus doing away with the state's previous funding model. With the dissolution of the Los Angeles County Office of Education ROP program, the two districts have come together to continue to provide students with CTE courses.

CalAPS is not requesting additional funding, nor does it infringe upon any current programs. Education Code section 52301, subdivision (a) (1) requires "consent" from the County Superintendent and from the State Board to

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maintain the ROP for the purpose of providing CTE education. CalAPS is therefore requesting consent from the State Board to operate as a JPA/ROP. Since the statute does not require approval by the State Board or County Superintendent all that is required is "consent" for the Districts to do what their Boards have already approved.

Enclosed is a copy of the JPA agreement that has been approved by the Governing Boards in public action. We have already submitted the request for consent to the Los Angeles County Superintendent but have not yet received a response.

Please notify me when this consent can be placed before the Board so District officials can attend the meeting to answer any questions Board members may have regarding the ROP. Thank you for your cooperation and please call me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Brian Jacobs", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Brian Jacobs, Ed.D.
Superintendent