

State of California

Department of Education

INFORMATION MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 23, 2004

TO: MEMBERS, STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

FROM: Sue Stickel, Deputy Superintendent
Curriculum and Instruction Branch

SUBJECT: Persistently Dangerous Schools Data Collection

Title IX of the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001* requires each state to establish a method for identifying schools that are “persistently dangerous.” State Board of Education policy, as established in May 2002, defines a “persistently dangerous school” as one in which more than one percent of the student body is expelled for any of nine serious offenses, each year for three consecutive years. The California Department of Education (CDE) collects data for the possible designation of a school as “persistently dangerous” through the *Consolidated Application, Part I*.

Although all data is not in for 2003-04, CDE staff has confirmed that no school that was “at risk” in the last two years met the criteria for the third year (2003-04), so no school will be designated as persistently dangerous for 2004-05.

As was true a year ago, more than 20 schools exceeded the one percent threshold in at least one of the past three years. Staff will send a technical assistance packet on improving school safety to those schools possibly “at risk” of becoming a persistently dangerous school. Staff will also offer these schools consultations with school safety experts.