



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

August 31, 2017

The Honorable Betsy DeVos  
Secretary, U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue SW  
Washington, DC 20202

Dear Secretary DeVos:

In 2013, California enacted a local funding and accountability system for our K-12 schools, known as the Local Control Funding Formula.

This approach eliminated layers of red tape and bureaucracy, and increased funding to school districts teaching students from low-income families. Our program shifts decision-making from the state to local school districts.

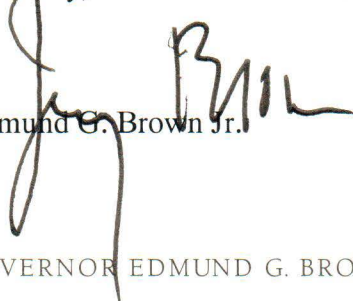
We also overhauled the method we use to hold schools accountable. When fully funded, the program will provide an extra \$10.1 billion annually to better support low-income students, English language learners and foster youth.

California's new accountability system uses multiple data points to identify inequities. It will give parents, students and teachers the information they need to ensure all students get the instruction they need.

California will use the Every Student Succeeds Act to create an integrated federal, state and local accountability system. In our state plan, we address the federal requirements in a manner that is most consistent with state law. California's plan was developed with input from thousands of Californians.

Changing an education system that for 40 years was driven by top-down prescriptive mandates will take time and dedication. It is vitally important work. I hope we can work together.

Sincerely,

  
Edmund G. Brown Jr.