



March 3, 2017

President Michael Kirst and Board Members
California State Board of Education
1430 N Street, Room #5111
Sacramento, CA 95814

Agenda Item #2: Developing an Integrated Accountability System

Dear President Kirst and Board Members:

After over two years of discussion, with the first version of the LCFF rubric nearly ready to be released, we continue to oppose the exclusion of an indicator of academic outcomes for the nearly two million students in high school in California in a prominent, easily distinguish manner for all stakeholders.

As a lead state in the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC), which measures grade level academic expectations of the state's adopted academic standards aligned to the Common Core, it is particularly puzzling that California would not include an academic indicator based on the results of SBAC as part of high school accountability. The Common Core standards initiative advises, "*According to the best available evidence, the mastery of each standard is essential for success in college, career, and life in today's global economy.*"

If California has truly embraced the Common Core and spent billions already in its implementation and assessment of results, why is the Superintendent working so hard to prevent the data from being easily accessible and in fact hiding the data on California's 11th grade students' trajectory of success or failure in preparation for college, career, and life in today's global economy from California's parents, community members, taxpayers and legislators? Burying it in the detailed report is tantamount to intentionally hiding the data.

Californians concerned about equity of opportunity for all students in public schools have waited long enough on learning about basic academic progress of high schools in the state's accountability system. If continuous improvement for all students is the new mantra to be taken seriously, then California cannot continue to hide the academic results of millions of students for a quarter of their time in school. We urge the Board to add to the next iteration of the LCFF rubric a high school academic indicator that is based on the results of SBAC in math and English language arts, as it has for grades 3-8.

If you any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me directly.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Lucia".

Bill Lucia
President, EdVoice

cc: Karen Stapf Walters, Executive Director, California State Board of Education
Judy Cias, Chief Counsel, California State Board of Education
David Sapp, Deputy Policy Director and Assistant Legal Counsel