



Pacifica School District

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Preparing Students for an Evolving World

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MEMORANDUM

Office of the Superintendent

Meeting of

4/1/15

TO: Board of Trustees
FROM: Wendy S. Tukloff, Ed.D., Superintendent
SUBJECT: Adequate and Equitable State Funding for Education, Resolution No. 2015-04-01-C

Background

Beginning in 2014-15, California shifted to a new education funding formula called Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF), with the current plan to be fully funded by 2020-21 to the purchasing power of 2008-09 levels. Although this has created an opportunity to build programs to support student learning we are doing so cautiously and thoughtfully as a portion of these funds currently rely on Proposition 30 funds which is to begin sunseting in 2016 and the fiscal realities of the economy in this time of drought and other competing needs in the State.

In addition to the current areas of weakness in the LCFF funding, a disturbing trend has emerged. School districts are experiencing an erosion of the principles upon which LCFF was built. The promise of expanded local control is being pulled back through emerging cost pressures such as increases in California State Teachers' Retirement System (CalSTRS) and California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) and lack of support for school facilities.

It is critical that we inform our legislatures regarding the local impact of inadequate school funding. Areas of focus include:

- An adequate and equitable school finance model that includes an "aspirational" funding goal to ensure California's education system is competitive at the national level equivalent to the top 10 funded states in the nation.
- An adequate and equitable school finance system that maintains current purchasing power over time and provides new funding when new costs are imposed on school districts.
- An equitable school finance model that includes funding adjustments for those educational programs maintained outside of LCFF such as special education and home-to-school transportation.

The attached Resolution seeks support for adequate and equitable funding for public education and calls on the Governor and Legislature to provide an aspirational funding goal to provide a world-class public education system.