



Alameda County Office of Education

Sheila Jordan
Superintendent

R. Michael Lenahan
Associate Superintendent
Business Services

Rick Minnis
Chief Human Resources Officer

Bobbie Brooks
Assistant Superintendent
Educational Services

John Flores
Assistant Superintendent
Student Programs and Services

May 21, 2002

Honorable Wilma Chan, Member
Assembly Budget Subcommittee
State Capitol, Room 4098
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Assembly Member Chan:

Governor Davis, in his May Budget Revision, proposed the elimination of funding for the central administration of the California School Leadership Academy (CSLA). The budget item (6110-194-0001) is named the Administrator Training and Evaluation Program (not CSLA).

I urge you to take action to restore these funds. CSLA has played a key role in Alameda County helping us to prepare and support site and district administrators to be strong leaders who can direct substantive change efforts resulting in improved student achievement. The central staff of CSLA are key to this effort through the production of high quality, research based materials that specifically target improvement in our county's lowest performing schools. Without this service, our efforts to bring stability and a concentrated focus on improved academic performance will be diminished.

Beyond efforts within our county, CSLA central has provided statewide leadership by partnering with other professional organizations, higher education and the CDE to develop the California Professional Standards for Educational Leaders (CPSELs). These Standards for administrators, along with the companion document, Descriptions of Practice, provide a solid tool for administrator preparation, support and evaluation, by delineating a clear sequence for the development of strong school leadership.

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The work of CSLA central staff have kept the organization on the leading edge ready to respond to the evolving needs of schools in counties like ours. I strongly urge your action to preserve this critical service by restoring budget item 6110-194-0001 and continuing to fund the central administration of the California School Leadership Academy.

Sincerely,

Sheila Jordan,
Superintendent

SJ:BB:MM:tt

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