

May 10, 2021

The Honorable Toni Atkins
Senate President pro Tempore
Chair, Senate Rules Committee
State Capitol Room 400
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: Dr. Cynthia Glover Woods
Appointment to State Board of Education
Senate Rules Hearing May 19, 2021**

Dear Senator Atkins:

The California County Superintendents Educational Services Association (CCSESA) is pleased to submit this letter of support for the appointment of Dr. Cynthia Glover Woods to the State Board of Education. CCSESA advocates on behalf of K-12 and early childhood education at state and federal levels, and in partnership with state agencies. Our membership consists of the 58 county superintendents statewide, who represent over 1,000 school districts and the 6 million students that attend our public schools.

Dr. Cynthia Glover Woods is the Chief Academic Officer at the Riverside County Office of Education where she leads the county office's Educational Services division with a focus on supporting equitable learning environments and increasing student academic achievement and post-secondary readiness. She facilitates the provision of services to school districts and charter schools in the areas of curriculum, data and assessment, educational technology, and teacher and administrator credentialing. She has truly touched every level of K-12 education having worked as an instructional assistant, teacher, curriculum specialist, principal, professional development coordinator, curriculum director, and assistant superintendent of instructional services. This variety of experience lends an incredibly powerful and knowledgeable voice to the issues presented to the State Board of Education, coming from someone who is truly on the frontlines serving students.

Dr. Glover Woods currently serves as the State Board Member Liaison to the Screening Committee for the State Board of Education, and the Instructional Quality Commission (IQC) in two subject matter areas: Ethnic Studies and World Languages. Most recently, the IQC was successful in passing an Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum which provides guidance to assist local high schools in developing ethnic studies courses, classes that researchers say can improve graduation and college-going rates among all students—and especially teens of color. The vote makes California the first state in the nation to offer a statewide ethnic studies model for educators and is viewed as an important step toward confronting and ultimately transforming racism in our society and in our state.

For the above reasons, CCSESA strongly supports the appointment of Dr. Cynthia Glover Woods to the State Board of Education.

Sincerely,



L.K. Monroe
Alameda County Superintendent of Schools
President, CCSESA