CCEE and CDE Update

DATE: November 8, 2021 SUBJECT: High-Quality Online Instructional Materials

The TK-12 Education Omnibus Budget Trailer Bill included funding to support high-quality online instructional materials. Below is the trailer bill section that was introduced as Section 144 in Assembly Bill 130 that was subsequently revised in Section 41, Assembly Bill 167. This technical clean-up amendment extended the timeline to designate a county office of education from October 15, 2021, to December 15, 2021. The updated section in Assembly Bill 167 went into effect on September 23, 2021.

High-Quality Online Instructional Materials

SEC. 41. Section 144 of Chapter 44 of the Statutes of 2021 is amended to read:

SEC. 144. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all the following:

(1) Educators and pupils need access to high-quality online instructional materials to help reduce costs, provide equitable opportunities for pupils, and provide opportunities for the sharing of best practices and collaboration among staff.

(2) The statewide system of support established pursuant to Section 52059.5 of the Education Code should include resources to help identify high-quality online instructional materials, such as free open-source materials and platforms, and provide a repository for local educational agencies and educators.

(b) On or before December 15, 2021, the State Department of Education and the California Collaborative for Educational Excellence, with approval from the executive director of the State Board of Education, shall designate a county office of education to identify and curate a repository of high-quality open educational resources for use by local educational agencies as part of the statewide system of support pursuant to Article 4.5 (commencing with Section 52059.5) of Chapter 6.1 of Part 28 of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Education Code. The designated county office of education shall do all of the following:

(1) Develop a transparent process for vetting materials to ensure quality and alignment with state academic standards, which may include, but not be limited to, the creation of standardized rubrics for review of materials.

(2) Curate easy-to-use resources for local educational agencies and educators.

(3) Develop and maintain a repository of identified materials for use by local educational agencies and educators.

(4) Provide guidance and resources for local educational agencies and educators regarding implementation and use of open educational resources, including professional learning opportunities and opportunities for collaboration among peers.

(5) Report data to the California Collaborative for Educational Excellence to allow for an evaluation of the activities performed in increasing access and use of open educational resources by local educational agencies and educators.

(c) The sum of fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000) is hereby appropriated from the General Fund to the Superintendent of Public Instruction for purposes of subdivision (b). This funding shall be available for encumbrance until June 30, 2024.

(d) On or before October 1, 2024, the California Collaborative for Educational Excellence, in consultation with the State Department of Education, shall evaluate and make recommendations to the Department of Finance, the executive director of the State Board of Education, and the appropriate fiscal and policy committees of the Legislature regarding the effectiveness of the online repository and resources developed pursuant to subdivision (b). The California Collaborative for Educational Excellence may enter into a contract with a nonprofit entity to conduct the evaluation and may withhold no more than 3 percent of the amount allocated pursuant to this section for this purpose.

(e) For purposes of making the computations required by Section 8 of Article XVI of the California Constitution, the funds appropriated by subdivision (c) shall be deemed to be "General Fund revenues appropriated for school districts," as defined in subdivision (c) of Section 41202 of the Education Code, for the 2019–20 fiscal year, and included within the "total allocations to school districts and community college districts from General Fund proceeds of taxes appropriated pursuant to Article XIII B," as defined in subdivision (e) of Section 41202 of the Education Code, for the 2019–20 fiscal year.