



California County Superintendents Educational Services Association

1121 L Street, Suite 510, Sacramento, CA 95814 ■ P 916.446.3095 ■ F 916.448.7801 ■ www.ccsesa.org

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January 6, 2022

Dr. Linda Darling-Hammond

President, California State Board of Education

California State Board of Education

1430 N Street, Room 5111

Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Agenda Item 04. IDEA State Annual Performance Report, 2021–22.

Dear President Darling-Hammond and Members,

The California County Superintendents Educational Services Association (CCSESA) applauds the state's continued efforts and focus on increasing access, inclusion, and positive outcomes for students with disabilities in California.

Item 4 of the SBE Agenda seeking approval of the State's Annual Performance Report highlights the need to continue and strengthen efforts towards increased access to general education for students with disabilities beginning in preschool, improved performance in reading and math, and more students with disabilities graduating with a high school diploma.

Through the regional roles county offices of education play in supporting districts and students, and as anchors within the California System of Support, we stand ready to play a more significant role in statewide efforts to improve outcomes for students with disabilities.

Collectively, county offices of education can support and cultivate more inclusive environments where every student feels a deep sense of belonging within their school community and is provided all of the support and services they need to achieve their greatness, regardless of where they reside in the state.

We recognize that today's item is a status report that will be submitted to the U.S. Department of Education. Still, we see this as a reminder to do better and to remain steadfast in our pursuit of equity and improved outcomes for all students.

Sincerely,

Derick Lennox

Senior Director, Governmental Relations and Legal Affairs

California County Superintendents Educational Services Association

cc: Honorable Tony Thurmond, State Superintendent of Public Instruction
Members, California State Board of Education