

*The  
Education  
Coalition*

Working together to support and  
improve California's public schools

**Association of California School  
Administrators (ACSA)**  
*representing more than 16,000 school  
administrators*

**California Association Of School  
Business Officials (CASBO)**  
*representing more than 4,000 school finance  
and administrative managers*

**California County  
Superintendents Educational  
Services Association (CCSESA)**  
*representing all 58 county superintendents  
throughout California*

**California Federation of  
Teachers (CFT-AFL-CIO)**  
*representing nearly 90,000 education  
employees*

**California School Boards  
Association (CSBA)**  
*representing nearly 1,000 K-12 school districts  
and county offices of education throughout  
California*

**California School Employees  
Association (CSEA)**  
*representing more than 230,000 classified  
school employees*

**California State PTA**  
*representing more than one million parents,  
teachers, and students in California*

**California Teachers Association  
(CTA)**  
*representing over 325,000 educators*

**Service Employees International  
Union (SEIU)**  
*representing more than 50,000 school  
employees in California*

**Legislative Consultant:  
Peter Birdsall  
916.719.1315**

March 22, 2010

Dr. Joseph C. Conaty, Director  
Academic Improvement and Teacher Quality Programs  
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Room 3E314  
Washington, D.C. 20202

Dear Dr. Conaty:

We have received a copy of the response by the California Governor's Office to your inquiry dated March 4, 2010, concerning California's maintenance-of-effort (MOE) certification for the purposes of State Fiscal Stabilization Funds. We want to express our appreciation to you for following-up on the concerns that we had expressed earlier with regard to the MOE issue.

We are dismayed that, in their response, the Governor's Office claims that our organization and other concerned groups and individuals "continue to misinform" federal representatives and constituents. Some of California's fiscal problems result from the Administration's continued use of funding and accounting gimmicks to make it look like budget problems are resolved. There is a real and disturbing parallel between the use of gimmicks to "solve" the budget and the use of gimmicks to "protect" education funding.

The reality is that the Governor has proposed \$2.4 billion (\$400 per pupil) in cuts to California K-12 education for 2010-11. This proposal has resulted in lay-off notices being sent to more than 25,000 teachers, 1,000 administrators, and 10,000 classified employees (such as custodians, bus drivers, and maintenance workers).

The reality also is that these cuts have been proposed despite the Governor's budget proposal projecting that state revenues will increase in 2010-11 and despite recent cash receipts showing state revenues running ahead of projections for the current year.

We urge you to hold the state accountable for a "maintenance of effort" that has meaning for school children, and is not just an exercise in accounting maneuvers.

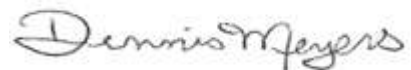
Please contact us if we can provide additional information.

Sincerely,



---

Adonai Mack, ACSA



---

Dennis Meyers, CASBO



---

Mike Ricketts, CCSESA



---

Jeff Freitas, CFT



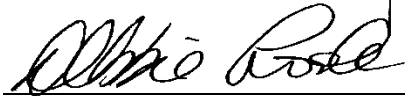
---

Debra Brown, CSBA



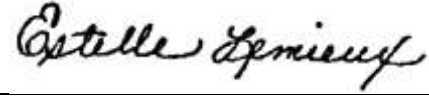
---

Steve Henderson, CSEA



---

Debbie Look, PTA



---

Estelle Lemieux, CTA



---

Michelle Castro, SEIU

cc: Dr. Thelma Meléndez de Santa Ana, Assistant U.S. Secretary of Education  
Anthony Miller, Deputy U.S. Secretary of Education  
Roberto J. Rodríguez, Special Assistant to the President for Education  
Herb K. Schultz, Senior Advisor to the Governor and Director, California Recovery Task Force  
Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger