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# Assembly California Legislature



**ROB BONTA**

ASSEMBLYMEMBER, EIGHTEENTH DISTRICT

COMMITTEES  
CHAIR, PUBLIC EMPLOYEES,  
RETIREMENT AND SOCIAL SECURITY  
BANKING AND FINANCE  
ELECTIONS AND REDISTRICTING  
HEALTH  
TRANSPORTATION

SELECT COMMITTEE  
CHAIR, GUN VIOLENCE IN THE EAST BAY

May 2, 2014

Dr. David Marken, Ed.D., Superintendent  
Hon. Nancy Thomas, President, Board of Education  
Newark Unified School District  
5715 Musick Avenue  
Newark, CA 94560

Dear Dr. Marken and Board President Thomas:

As representatives of the communities of Alameda, Berkeley, San Leandro, and San Lorenzo, we write to strongly encourage the Newark Unified School District (NUSD) to reconsider its decision to retain State funds for the Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment (BTSA) program rather than distribute the funds among the five member districts of the East Bay BTSA Induction Consortium (EBBIC) as originally agreed upon.

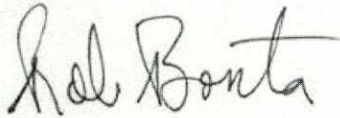
The purpose of the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) was to allow for more discretion of education funding at the local level however, NUSD has abused this discretion by refusing to pass State BTSA funds to the other four member districts in the EBBIC. The NUSD's unwillingness to adhere to the EBBIC's agreement and retain 100% of the BTSA funds is unacceptable. According to the California Department of Education, LCFF does not equalize BTSA funds amongst the EBBIC districts, and none of the BTSA funds are included in any other EBBIC District's LCFF revenues.

Unless this decision is reversed, the remaining EBBIC school districts will be forced to decimate their BTSA programs or, at best, pull funds from other vital educational programs to make up for the loss of hundreds of thousands of dollars NUSD is unjustly retaining.

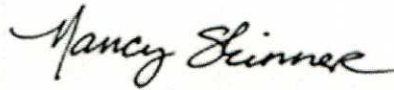
We are concerned that this decision negatively impacts the constituents we serve. As such, we intend on staying involved and achieving an equitable outcome.

As we consider our next actions, we respectfully request that you reconsider your decision. All students within the EBBIC member districts must receive their fair allocation of funds. We urge NUSD to act as the fiscal agent of the EBBIC's BTSA funding not as its sole beneficiary.


Sincerely,



Rob Bonta  
Assemblymember  
18th District



Nancy Skinner  
Assemblymember  
15th District



Bill Quirk  
Assemblymember  
20th District

cc: Hon. Bob Wieckowski, Assemblymember 25th District  
Hon. Joan Buchanan, Chair, Assembly Education Committee  
Supt. Kirsten Vital, Alameda Unified School District  
Supt. Donald Evans, Berkeley Unified School District  
Supt. Mike McLaughlin, San Leandro Unified School District  
Supt. Fred Brill, San Lorenzo Unified School District  
Audrey Hyman, President, Alameda Education Association