



# CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

## MAY 2004 AGENDA

<b>SUBJECT</b>  California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE), including, but not limited to, Program Update	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Action</b>
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Information</b>
	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Public Hearing</b>

### RECOMMENDATION

The following item is provided to the State Board of Education (SBE) for information and action as deemed necessary and appropriate.

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### SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION DISCUSSION AND ACTION

**Background:** CAHSEE was established as the first high school exit exam in California (Senate Bill (SB) 2, Statutes of 1999) and initially applied to students who would graduate in the 2003-2004 school year. In July 2003, SBE approved delaying the consequences until the 2005-2006 school year based on the AB 1609 Study Report and other available information. Further, SBE also directed the California Department of Education (CDE) to shorten the test from three to two days of administration without substantively changing the academic content standards assessed with the CAHSEE. The law requires that all grade 10 students take the CAHSEE. Additionally, the CAHSEE is being used as the high school test to measure adequate yearly progress for the federal law, *No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001*. The CAHSEE was administered on February 3-4, 2004, and March 16-17, 2004. An administration will be held on May 11-12, 2004, for any students who were absent in February or March.

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### SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

#### Update

**CAHSEE Testing in 2003-2004:** Students in the Class of 2006 took the CAHSEE for the first time as tenth graders on either February 3-4, 2004, or March 16-17, 2004. The English-language arts portion of the test is given on one day for approximately three hours and the mathematics portion of the test is given on the second day for approximately three hours. About 150,000 students in 220 school districts took the CAHSEE in February.

For March, 450 school districts ordered testing materials for about 330,000 eligible students. On May 11-12, 2004, any students who were absent in February or March will have a final opportunity to take the CAHSEE for the first time in grade 10. The May test

order is for 37,600 tests. This could include students testing only for mathematics, or only for English-language arts, or for both.

CAHSEE results are reported annually in October after all three test administrations have been analyzed. They are provided on the CDE Web site through DataQuest. The 2003-2004 results will be reported separately for February, March, and May 2004. The CAHSEE data will also be used for calculating Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) and Academic Performance Index (API).

**CAHSEE Test Contractor:** Educational Testing Service (ETS) is the successful bidder for the CAHSEE Administration 2004-2007 contract. CDE is working with ETS to finalize the contract. Harcourt Assessment and Pearson Educational Measurement also submitted proposals.

**SB 964 Study:** Proposals were due on March 19, 2004, from bidders interested in conducting the SB 964 Study. Two proposals were received by the deadline and they were reviewed on April 15, 2004. The Intent to Award will be posted on our CDE Web Site beginning Monday, April 19, 2004. SB 964 Study Report must recommend options for graduation requirements and assessments, if any, for students with an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or Section 504 Plan; identify provisions of state and federal law and regulations that are relevant to graduation requirements and assessments for students with an IEP or Section 504 Plan; and recommend steps, to the extent applicable, to bring California into compliance with state and federal law and regulations. SB 964 Study Report is due no later than May 1, 2005.

**CAHSEE Materials:** Released test questions for both mathematics and ELA were posted on the Internet in March 2004. These documents are a compilation of test questions released in 2001 and 2002, and newly released questions for 2003. All test questions are aligned to the revised test blueprints approved by SBE in July 2003.

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### **FISCAL ANALYSIS (AS APPROPRIATE)**

All items discussed in this program update are either currently funded under contracts with CDE or will be funded if the SB 964 Study Report proposal is reviewed and approved.

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### **ATTACHMENT**

None.