

INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE
Los Angeles Unified School District



INFORMATIVE
January 20, 2006

TO: Members, Board of Education
Roy Romer

FROM: Bob Collins, Chief Instructional Officer
Secondary Instruction

Esther Wong, Assistant Superintendent
Planning, Assessment and Research

SUBJECT: CHAPMAN SETTLEMENT – STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

On January 19, 2006, the California Department of Education announced the Chapman settlement regarding the California High School Exit Examination and students with disabilities. The settlement called for a one-year delay for the students with disabilities who are seniors (class of 2006) and are on a “diploma track.” These students will be exempted from the CAHSEE for one year if the following conditions are met:

- Student has an IEP prior to July 1, 2005.
- Students has taken, and failed, CAHSEE at least two times after 10th grade year with modifications and/or accommodations (at least one test must be taken during the senior year).
- The student has completed all other state and local graduation requirements.
- The district must certify that it has provided remedial/supplemental instruction services in Math and English/language arts to the special education student.

The agreement also includes a provision requiring the State Board of Education to review any failure to grant a high school diploma by a school district. The school district will be required to submit documentation “of the failure to grant a high school diploma within 15 days of the determination that the student with the disability does not meet the criteria specified in the legislation.”

Senate Bill 517 (Romero) has been amended to reflect the terms of the settlement described above. It was adopted by the Assembly Appropriations Committee with the negotiated amendments that will be in print on January 20, 2006. The bill is expected to be on the Assembly Floor, on Monday, January 23. It will then be sent to the Senate Floor for concurrence and on to the Governor for his signature.

Students with disabilities who have taken the CAHSEE with modifications as prescribed by their IEP and received a passing score on one or both parts of CAHSEE and have received a passing score of 350 or higher are eligible for a separate CAHSEE waiver process. Please refer to REF-2109, Local Waiver Process for Students with Disabilities on CAHSEE, dated January 9, 2006.

c: Local District Superintendents
Executive Staff