

COMMISSION ON STATE MANDATES

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January 31, 2012

Ms. Andra Donovan
Legal Services Office
San Diego Unified School District
4100 Normal Street, Room 2148
San Diego, CA 92103

Mr. Art Palkowitz
Stutz Artiano Shinoff & Holtz
2488 Historic Decatur Road, Suite 200
San Diego, CA 92106

And Interested Parties and Affected State Agencies (See Mailing List)

Re: **Adopted Statement of Decision and Proposed Parameters and Guidelines**
Charter Schools IV, 03-TC-03
Education Code Sections 1628, 42100, 47602, 47604.3, 47604.4, 47605,
47605.1, 47605.6, 47605.8, 47611.5, 47612.1, 47613.1, 47626, 47652
Government Code Section 3540.1
Statutes 1999, Chapter 828, Statutes 2002, Chapter 1058
San Diego Unified School District, Claimant

Dear Ms. Donovan and Mr. Palkowitz:

On January 27, 2012, the Commission on State Mandates adopted the statement of decision for the above-entitled matter. State law provides that reimbursement, if any, is subject to Commission approval of parameters and guidelines for reimbursement of the mandated program, approval of a statewide cost estimate, a specific legislative appropriation for such purpose, a timely-filed claim for reimbursement, and subsequent review of the claim by the State Controller's Office.

Following is a description of the responsibilities of all parties and of the Commission during the parameters and guidelines phase.

- **Draft Parameters and Guidelines.** Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 2, section 1183.12, the Commission staff is expediting the parameters and guidelines process by enclosing draft parameters and guidelines to assist the claimant. The proposed reimbursable activities are limited to those approved in the statement of decision by the Commission.
- **Claimant's Review of Draft Parameters and Guidelines.** Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 2, sections 1183.12(b) and (c), the successful test claimant may file modifications and/or comments on the proposal with Commission staff by **March 1, 2012**. The claimant may also propose a reasonable reimbursement methodology pursuant to Government Code section 17518.5 and California Code of Regulations, title 2, section 1183.13.
- **State Agencies and Interested Parties Comments.** State agencies and interested parties may submit recommendations and comments on staff's draft proposal and the claimant's modifications and/or comments within 30 days of service. The claimant and other interested parties may submit written rebuttals. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 2, § 1183.11.)

- **Adoption of Parameters and Guidelines.** After review of the draft parameters and guidelines and all comments, Commission staff will recommend the adoption of an amended, modified, or supplemented version of staff's draft parameters and guidelines. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 2, § 1183.14.)

Reasonable Reimbursement Methodology and Statewide Estimate of Costs

- **Test Claimant and Department of Finance Submission of Letter of Intent.** Within 30 days of the Commission's adoption of a statement of decision on a test claim, the test claimant(s) and the Department of Finance may notify the executive director of the Commission in writing of their intent to follow the process described in Government Code sections 17557.1–17557.2 and section 1183.30 of the Commission's regulations to develop a *reasonable reimbursement methodology* and *statewide estimate of costs* for the initial claiming period and budget year for reimbursement of costs mandated by the state. The letter of intent shall include the date on which the test claimant and the Department of Finance will submit a plan to ensure that costs from a representative sample of eligible claimants are considered in the development of a reasonable reimbursement methodology.
- **Test Claimant and Department of Finance Submission of Draft Reasonable Reimbursement Methodology and Statewide Estimate of Costs.** Pursuant to the plan, the test claimant and the Department of Finance shall submit the *Draft Reasonable Reimbursement Methodology and Statewide Estimate of Costs* to the Commission. See Government Code section 17557.1 for guidance in preparing and filing a timely submission.
- **Review of Proposed Reasonable Reimbursement Methodology and Statewide Estimate of Costs.** Upon receipt of the jointly developed proposals, Commission staff shall notify all recipients that they shall have the opportunity to review and provide written comments or recommendations concerning the draft reasonable reimbursement methodology and proposed statewide estimate of costs within fifteen (15) days of service. The test claimant and Department of Finance may submit written rebuttals to Commission staff.
- **Adoption of Reasonable Reimbursement Methodology and Statewide Estimate of Costs.** At least ten days prior to the next hearing, Commission staff shall issue review comments and a staff recommendation on whether the Commission should approve the draft reasonable reimbursement methodology and adopt the proposed statewide estimate of costs pursuant to Government Code section 17557.2.

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You are advised that comments filed with the Commission are required to be simultaneously served on the other interested parties on the mailing list, and to be accompanied by a proof of service. However, this requirement may also be satisfied by electronically filing your documents. Please see <http://www.csm.ca.gov/dropbox.shtml> on the Commission's website for instructions on electronic filing. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 2, § 1181.2.) If you would like to request an extension of time to file comments, please refer to section 1183.01(c)(1) of the Commission's regulations.

Please contact Heidi Palchik at (916) 323-8128 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nancy Patton", written over a horizontal line.

Nancy Patton
Acting Executive Director