



Los Angeles County Office of Education

Leading Educators ▪ Supporting Students ▪ Serving Communities

December 20, 2011

Arturo Delgado, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Los Angeles County
Board of Education

Douglas R. Boyd
President

Rudell S. Freer
Vice President

Katie Braude

Gabriella Holt

Maria Reza

Thomas A. Saenz

Rebecca J. Turrentine

Governor Jerry Brown
Office of the Governor
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support for the implementation of transitional kindergarten in California Schools

Dear Governor Brown:

Transitional kindergarten, which will be implemented in more than 700 school districts throughout California next fall, is a historic opportunity to lay the foundation for proficiency in the early elementary years.

As the Superintendent of Los Angeles County Office of Education, I know that transitional kindergarten is a winning solution for California. Research indicates that children who attend kindergarten readiness programs like transitional kindergarten are more likely to do well in school and attend college because these children are better prepared to succeed in kindergarten and beyond. Parents now have an additional option to ensure their children enter kindergarten with the maturity and skills they need to excel, and will benefit because children will be better prepared for success in and less likely to be placed in special education and retained in later grades. Finally, California's economy will be strengthened by a well-educated, globally competitive workforce.

The districts in the Los Angeles County have a lot of work ahead of them, and they are excited about this opportunity to focus on promising practices, strategies and resources so that they can implement transitional kindergarten in a high-quality and efficient way.

Thank you for your continued support of transitional kindergarten implementation efforts in local school districts across the state.

Sincerely,

Arturo Delgado, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

AD:YMB:JS:drh

c: Sue Burr, Executive Director, State Board of Education
Julie Henderson, Senior Advisor for Policy, Office of the Governor
Dr. Michael Kirst, President, State Board of Education