



**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT
OF EDUCATION**

TONY THURMOND
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

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September 9, 2020

E. Toby Boyd
President, California Teachers Association
1705 Murchison Drive
Burlingame, CA 94010

Dear President Boyd:

Our teachers have confronted every challenge posed during this pandemic with a perseverance and dedication that continues to inspire. We also recognize that many educators across California are struggling to navigate one of the most stressful and demanding back-to-school periods in memory.

To assist schools with meeting new statutory requirements for tracking student daily participation and engagement, the California Department of Education (CDE) created a template form intended to be an optional resource for school leaders. Though the template is not mandated, numerous districts have adopted it, and in recent days many of your members have voiced concerns regarding the form's functionality and the time required to complete it each day.

My team at the CDE is reaching out to let you know that we hear our teachers' feedback, and we believe this matter presents an opportunity to collaborate on improvements. In the coming days I would like to convene a working group consisting of employee organization leadership, CDE team members, and school and district administrators to explore and craft solutions that best meet the needs of our educators.

We look forward to working together to improve resources that support educator success. Thank you for your partnership and for all you do on behalf of California's students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tony Thurmond".

Tony Thurmond
State Superintendent of Public Instruction