



CALIFORNIA  
DEPARTMENT OF  
EDUCATION

**TOM TORLAKSON**

STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

April 29, 2016

Pedro F. Cevallos, Ed.D.  
College Bridge  
15902 Halliburton Rd., Suite 243  
Hacienda Heights, CA 91745

Dear Dr. Cevallos:

I am pleased to write this letter in support of College Bridge's Los Angeles Bridge Program. The strategic partnership you have developed with the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) and the California State University, Los Angeles (CSULA), is instrumental in helping under-served students graduate from high school college-ready. Programs like Los Angeles Bridge bring together school districts, institutions of higher education, and nonprofit organizations to provide meaningful learning experiences that engage students and prepare them for college and careers.

As State Superintendent of Public Instruction, I am working to make college more affordable and accessible for California students. By helping 76 percent of your students earn college credit for free while still in high school, the Los Angeles Bridge Program has been critical to expediting students' path to earning a degree and lowering their post-secondary expenses.

I am equally excited about the professional development your program has created helping our schools transition to the California State Standards. These represent a practical way to prepare children for the challenges of a constantly changing world and learn the real-world skills they need to succeed.

I look forward to the continued success of the LAUSD students in your program as they move onto college. Similarly, I am interested in learning the best practices from the Los Angeles Bridge Program that could be shared with other school districts and CSUs across our great state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tom Torlakson".

Tom Torlakson  
State Superintendent of Public Instruction