

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER
State Allocation Board Meeting, May 21, 1997

EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To present the issue of Education Technology (ET) apportionments for certain County programs.

DESCRIPTION

At the September 25, 1996, meeting, the State Allocation Board (SAB) allocated \$45.5 million to three counties, for the purpose of providing enhanced education technology capabilities to school districts in these counties. The funds were to be disbursed through each County Office. The specifics of each county's proposal was to be submitted to the Office of Public School Construction (OPSC) for review and conformance to the general guidelines established by the SAB. The three counties for which allocations were made were California County Superintendents Educational Services Association (Kern County) [\$10 million], Riverside [\$10.5 million] and San Bernardino [\$25 million].

The Kern proposal was intended to provide some ET services for several other counties to their respective school district offices, with no modifications actually intended at the school level. The Riverside and San Bernardino programs included some services within the schools and/or district offices themselves. The counties have said they would not fund any services that might be considered a duplication.

Since the January 1997 SAB meeting, there has been a total of \$8.7 million apportioned for ET for projects in San Bernardino and Riverside counties; however, at the direction of the SAB, these funds have not been released.

RECOMMENDATION

Provide that the funds for ET currently being withheld from districts in the counties noted above be released.

BOARD ACTION

In considering this Item, the Board approved the OPSC's recommendation. The Board also directed the OPSC and the SAB Implementation Committee to review the Education Technology Program and consider the allocation of funds based on other criteria such as ADA. The existing "educational technology" allowances for new construction and modernization projects shall not be affected by this review at this time.