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Superintendent of Schools



**BEAR VALLEY SCHOOLS**  
Big Bear Elementary  
North Shore Elementary  
Baldwin Lane Elementary  
Fallsvale Elementary  
Big Bear Middle  
Big Bear High  
Chautauqua High

March, 2014

Dear Bear Valley Community Members:

This is the year of change for education! Our school district is transitioning to a different way of teaching and learning through our transition to the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). The CCSS are intended to better prepare our students for college and their careers. There will be less emphasis on testing and more emphasis on project based learning. Teaching strategies will change. Teachers will serve primarily as facilitators and create more opportunities for students to engage in activities that promote communication, collaboration, critical thinking, and creativity.

Our new funding model, the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF), is a different method to distribute funds based on grade levels and demographic data. Funding targets will be phased in over an estimated eight-year period allowing greater flexibility to use these funds to improve outcomes for students. Additional funds generated by English Learner, Low Income, and Foster Youth students will require us to increase or improve services for these students.

Our new Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) creates new accountability for how all students are served, and in particular, sub-groups such as English Learner, Low Income, and Foster Youth. Most importantly, the LCFF and LCAP are new transparent models that embrace the involvement of numerous stakeholders to provide a laser-like focus on students.

As we begin to develop our LCAP, we need your input in the following three areas: Conditions of Learning, Pupil Outcomes, and Engagement. This brief survey is intended to give you an opportunity to share your ideas and suggestions on priorities we should consider in our school district during the next three years.

I would like to thank you in advance for your participation in this upcoming survey which will be emailed to you on Thursday, March 20<sup>th</sup>. Please complete this brief online survey prior to March 25<sup>th</sup>. Results and updates will be posted on our district website in the LCAP section and on our district Facebook page.

Sincerely,

Kurt Madden  
Superintendent of Schools

The mission of the Bear Valley Unified School District is to educate, inspire, and prepare all students to be life-long learners and responsible global citizens.