

July 7, 2023

Dr. Linda Darling-Hammond, President California State Board of Education 1430 N Street, Suite 5111 Sacramento, CA 95814 Via Email Only: sbe@cde.ca.gov

RE: Item 11: Adoption of the 2023 Mathematics Framework for California Public Schools, Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve.

Dear President Darling-Hammond and State Board Members:

I am writing in support of the draft 2023 Mathematics Framework and urge your adoption of this draft with one small, yet critical edit described below. The California STEM Network is a project of Children Now that brings together stakeholders from grades TK–12, higher education, business, industry, government, science and technology, community-based organizations, and philanthropy to identify, scale and sustain effective STEM teaching and learning. Through policy, advocacy, communications and outreach, we strive to ensure that all students, but especially those who have historically been under-served and under-represented in STEM disciplines, have access to the highest-quality STEM education possible. High-quality, equitable math instruction is critical to providing students with the foundational knowledge and skills they need to succeed in future STEM-related careers.

I recommend the State Board of Education incorporate the following edit as a part of approving the draft framework.

Chapter 13, Line 257

 Instructional materials, as defined in EC Section 60010(h), must be aligned to the CA CCSSM Content Standards and SMPs, adopted by the SBE in August 2010 and modified in January 2013, and the California English Language Development Standards, adopted by the SBE in November 2012.

While the framework provides robust support for linguistically diverse learners and incorporated the English Language Development (ELD) standards into other chapters of the Framework, including alignment to the ELD standards as part of category 1 (Mathematics Content/Alignment with the Standards) is critical and ensures core instructional materials are aligned with the ELD standards. Instructional materials are a critical component, second only to the teacher in any classroom. Therefore, we urge the SBE to add alignment to the ELD standards as a feature in category 1.

I applaud the edits incorporated into this final draft of the 2023 Mathematics Framework and thank the CDE staff and writers for maintaining the commitment to equitable math for all of California's diverse learners, multiple and flexible pathways, the importance of growth mindset, universal design for learning, and inclusion of pathways for students wishing to pursue STEM beyond high school.

Sincerely,

Jessica L. Sawko Statewide Director



cc: Brooks Allen, Executive Director, State Board of Education (SBE)
Jessica Holmes, Chief Deputy Executive Director, SBE
Sara Pietrowski, Policy Director, SBE
Tony Thurmond, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, CA Dept. of Education (CDE)
Mike Torres, Executive Director, Instructional Quality Commission