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June 11, 2015

Mr. Ramon Cortines
Superintendent of Schools
Los Angeles Unified School District
333 S. Beaudry Avenue, 24th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Re: Graduation and Completion Data Report

Dear Mr. Cortines:

I would like to thank you for your support in addressing the issues raised in my April 22, 2015, Disengagement Alert letter, regarding graduation and completion data. I also appreciate the May 22, 2015 Status Update provided to me which was prepared by the MiSiS team. The MiSiS team has done a remarkable job at identifying a plan with objectives to improve how data will be captured, maintained and reported. Further, initial actions have been taken to include more safeguards within MiSiS to ensure that data are entered more accurately, as well as developing tools for monitoring completion data. While the impact of these efforts will not be known until Fall 2015, it should have a positive impact on improving the quality of data and minimizing errors which should benefit all students.

The remaining critical concern is the lack of ownership that will provide the necessary districtwide leadership to coordinate these efforts across departments and allocate the necessary resources. The Status Update identifies the Office of Data and Accountability as responsible for collecting and reporting year-end data to the state and providing official statistics of the District. While the designated owner may be different, I anticipate that they will bring a sense of urgency, have the authority to mandate compliance and be accountable for fixing these longstanding problems.

Attached is our most recent report on the Graduation and Completion data for the 2013-2014 school year. While improvements are noted with the accuracy of the data, it is my expectation that the District identifies and addresses data inconsistencies for the 2014-2015 school year over the summer.

Please feel free to contact my office if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Rostetter".

David Rostetter, Ed.D.

C: Robert Myers, Catherine Blakemore, Sharyn Howell, Deneen Evans Cox
Brigitte Ammons, Veronica Smith