

**LONG BEACH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**SERVING LONG BEACH, LAKEWOOD, SIGNAL HILL AND AVALON**

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT  
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March 25, 2009

The Honorable Julia Brownley  
 Chair, Assembly Education Committee  
 State Capitol, Room 2163  
 Sacramento, CA 95814

MAR 25 2009

**RE: Support for AB 351 (Salas) Physical Education**

Dear Assembly Member Brownley:

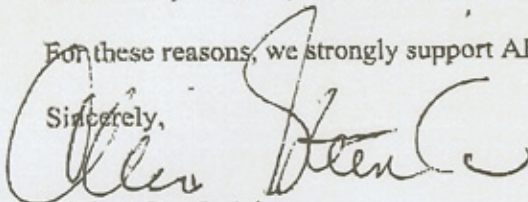
On behalf of the Long Beach Unified School District, we are writing to express support for AB 351 (Salas), which would allow students more opportunities to meet the state's physical education requirement by clarifying that student participation in the California Cadet Corp, cheer or dance team, color guard or drill team, Junior Reserve Officer Training Corp, and marching band may count toward the exemption from physical education courses.

The Long Beach Unified School District has earned a reputation as one of America's finest school systems, winning many awards as a national model of excellence. The school district was named the 2003-04 national winner of the Broad Prize for Urban Education, recognizing America's best urban school system for increasing student achievement. The district strives to encourage student participation in physical fitness activities and emphasizes the importance of these programs in preparing students for life.

We believe AB 351 will provide Long Beach students the flexibility they need to take desired courses that support the entrance requirements for higher education, such as additional AP classes and validates the physical nature of the interscholastic activities noted above. We believe this bill is consistent with the District's strategic plan and mission and the concept is supported by our Community Advisory Committee and the Superintendent's Parent Forum.

For these reasons, we strongly support AB 351.

Sincerely,



Christopher Steinhauser  
 Superintendent

MAR 25 2009

cc: Members, Assembly Education Committee  
 Assembly Member Mary Salas  
 Gerry Shelton, Chief Consultant, Assembly Education Committee  
 Chelsea Kelley, Consultant, Assembly Education Committee  
 Robert Becker, Policy Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus  
 Long Beach Legislative Delegation