

## *Renewed Resolution, 2008-09*

### **Principles**

*We believe that:*

- All students can achieve and should have access to standards-based instruction presented by highly qualified teachers.
- Advancing the academic achievement of all students is a priority that can be accomplished while accelerating the achievement of English Learners.
- Parents are vital participants in the education of their children.
- The community has an important partnership role to play in the education of all its children.
- Success in closing the achievement gap can be achieved only through a concerted effort.

### **Acknowledgement**

*We acknowledge that:*

- To close the achievement gap, we must work together, share “best practices,” and hold ourselves accountable to a sustained commitment.

### **Research<sup>1</sup>**

*Research and experience indicates that, in order to close the achievement gap for English Learners, a variety of actions must occur. Schools, families and communities must work together to:*

- Establish English Learner instruction as a priority and maintain a commitment to curricular improvement through ongoing staff development and teacher recruitment.
- Provide access to a balanced curriculum that engages English Learners in a variety of meaningful activities that develop basic *and* higher-order skills.
- Provide language development experiences that include systemic, explicit and direct instruction in both language structure and academic content.
- Provide multiple opportunities for students to practice and extend newly learned concepts through reading, writing, listening and speaking activities.
- Adhere to a regular mechanism for monitoring English Learner progress and conveying that information to teachers, students and parents.

---

<sup>1</sup> American Institutes for Research (AIR) and WestEd. (July, 2003). Effects of the Implementation of Proposition 227 on the Education of English Learners, K-12. Commissioned by the California Department of Education.

**Commitment**

*The undersigned district/agency agrees to:*

- Commit time and resources specifically to closing the gap for English Learners.
- Establish annual SMART goals and strategies for closing the achievement gap.
- Share SMART goals and strategies with Aiming High partners.
- Ensure district/agency participation in Aiming High committees and professional development activities relevant to established goals.
- Be proactive in seeking and securing assistance from Aiming High partners who can contribute to English Learner success.
- Publicly report on district/agency progress.

**Accountability**

With the support of agency partners, member districts commit to charting their progress using the following benchmark:

- Increase the percentage of English Learners scoring at or above proficient on the California Standards Tests in language arts and mathematics by 3 points annually.

Progress will be measured at the school, district and county levels through the 2012 school year. *Just for the Kids-California* will provide the compiled data for measuring success.

|   |                                      |               |
|---|--------------------------------------|---------------|
|  | <i>Belleuve Union Superintendent</i> | <i>9/4/08</i> |
| <i>District/Agency Signature</i>  | <i>Title</i>                         | <i>Date</i>   |

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |