December 18, 2015

Dear Parents/Guardians of San Joaquin County Office of Education,

On October 7, 2015, Governor Brown signed new legislation SB 172 suspending the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE) as a requirement for graduation from high school. With the signing of SB 172, there will be no administrations of the CAHSEE for the 2015–16, 2016–17, and 2017–18 school years. Prior to this new legislation, existing law required, commencing with the 2003–04 school year and each school year thereafter, each student completing grade 12 to successfully pass the high school exit examination as a condition of receiving a diploma of graduation or a condition of graduation from high school.

This bill removes the high school exit examination as a condition of receiving a diploma of graduation from high school for each student completing grade 12, for the 2015–16, 2016–17, and 2017–18 school years. The bill requires, until July 31, 2018, that the governing board grant a diploma of graduation from high school to any pupil who completed grade 12 in the 2003–04 school year or a subsequent school year and has met all applicable graduation requirements other than the passage of the high school exit examination. The diplomas are to be dated January, 2016.

If you or someone you know met all of the graduation requirements but did not pass CAHSEE between the school years 2004 to 2015 and did not receive a high school diploma, please have them contact the County Operated Schools and Programs Office to determine if they meet the local and state graduation requirements to receive a high school diploma. Please contact our office should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Janine Cuaresma
Assistant Superintendent
San Joaquin County Office of Education
County Operated Schools and Programs