



**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT
OF EDUCATION**

TONY THURMOND
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

1430 N STREET, SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5901 • 916-319-0800 • WWW.CDE.CA.GOV

February 19, 2021

James Berardi, Superintendent
Sierra County Office of Education
P.O. Box 955
Loyalton, CA 96118

Dear Superintendent Berardi:

Subject: 2020–21 First Interim Reports

Pursuant to California *Education Code* sections 1240(l), we have reviewed your county office of education First Interim Reports and the accompanying positive certifications of financial solvency to determine whether they comply with the Criteria and Standards for fiscal stability adopted by the State Board of Education, allow your offices to meet their financial obligations during the fiscal year, and are consistent with a financial plan that will enable your offices to satisfy their multiyear financial commitments. We concur with your assessment that, based on current projections, your county office will be able to meet their financial obligations for the current and subsequent two fiscal years and that positive certifications are appropriate.

We note that the 2020–21 negotiations with the certificated and classified bargaining units were not settled at the end of the first interim period. To the extent that collective bargaining agreements result in additional ongoing costs, we advise you that such increased costs should be supported by additional ongoing revenues or ongoing reduction of expenditures. Further, the Criteria and Standards specify that upon settlement, the county office of education must provide the California Department of Education with an analysis of the cost of the settlement and its impact on the operating budget. The public disclosure documents prepared in compliance with *Government Code* Section 3547.5 can be used to satisfy this requirement.

James Berardi, Superintendent

February 19, 2021

Page 2

We appreciate the submission of your First Interim Reports and await your Second Interim Reports, which is due to our office by March 17, 2021. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our office by phone at 916-322-1770.

Sincerely,

/s/

Jonathan Feagle, Administrator
Fiscal Oversight and Support Office

JF:jm

2021-0203a-46

cc: Nona Griesert, Business Manager,