

DATE: February 4, 2025

TO: CLPCCD District Enrollment Management Committee

FROM: Chancellor Ronald P. Gerhard, CLPCCD

SUBJECT: Response to DEMC's Recommendation for Academic Year 2025-2026

I want to express my sincere appreciation for your leadership and dedication in developing the recommendations outlined in <u>Attachment A</u>. Your work is vital to our district's success and has a significant impact on our ability to serve students effectively.

Since your recommendation last November, two key developments have emerged:

- 1. **P1 Apportionment Attendance Report Submission** Last month, we submitted our Period 1 (P1) Apportionment Attendance Report to the state. The positive news is that our annual enrollment figures continue to rise, which in turn increases our three-year rolling average (see <u>Attachment B</u>).
- 2. Change in Hold Harmless COLA Treatment We recently learned that Hold Harmless districts will no longer receive any COLAs (one-time or ongoing). Previously, the 2022 Budget Act and related guidance suggested that while COLAs would no longer be "cumulative", districts would still be provided COLA on a one-time basis. However, this interpretation has now changed, resulting in a potential \$3 million reduction in one-time funding. This shift increases the urgency for us to accelerate growth across all SCFF metrics to move off Hold Harmless status as soon as possible.

Given these developments and their implications for institutional planning, I support the DEMC recommendation with the following modifications:

- Chabot's 2025-26 FTES target will remain at 9,975 FTES, as originally recommended.
- LPC's 2025-26 FTES target will be increased to 7,000 FTES.
- Chabot's FTEF allocation will remain unchanged.
- LPC's FTEF allocation will increase by 13 FTEF, with the understanding that if, by the end of September 2025, actuals are not "on-pace" with the approved targets, designated FTEF reductions will be made for the Spring 2026 schedules (13.40 for Chabot and 3.0 for LPC), per the recommendation.

Additionally, I recognize that these targets were set without factoring in the Winter 2025 intersession. FTES and FTEF targets for Winter will be established separately. However, it is worth noting that with the inclusion of the Winter intersession, our AY 2025-26 FTES target could reach approximately 17,000 FTES, raising our three-year rolling average to 15,800 FTES—a 1,500 FTES increase over our current average. Achieving this would be a major milestone in our effort to generate sufficient SCFF-based revenue to transition off Hold Harmless status.

Once again, I deeply appreciate your thoughtful analysis, collaboration, and leadership in advancing both student access and our district's fiscal stability.