

Wilson has \$42 million just waiting to fund schools

By Dianne Feinstein

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WITH the majority in Congress rushing to turn federal programs from Medicaid to job training into block grants to encourage reform, another block grant — this one for education — is being unjustly pilloried by some Republicans as federal intrusion into state decision-making.

Gov. Pete Wilson is still on the fence about whether or not he will reject California's \$42 million share of Goals 2000 funds because, he says, the program contains "a myriad of federal dictates."

Those of us who want school reform are tired of listening to critics make sweeping judgments without citing one "federal dictate" that this program supposedly contains. In my view, it is time for these critics to either put up or be quiet and take the money.

Goals 2000 is just what it appears to be: a set of goals. There are no federal dictates, strings or unfunded mandates hidden in the text.

The program is simple: Congress adopted a set of national goals, first created by the nation's governors and President Bush, to improve education in this country, and set aside a pot of money for anyone who wants to try to achieve these goals. Here is a list of them:

- All students will start school ready to learn;

- The high school graduation rate will be at least 90 percent;

- Students will be competent in core subjects such as English, mathematics, science, history, geography, and foreign languages;

- The nation's teaching force will have access to programs for the continued development of its professional skills;

- The United States will rank first in the world in math and science achievement;

- Every adult American will be literate and possess the skills necessary to compete in a global economy;

- Schools will be safe, disciplined and drug-free;

- Every school will promote partnerships that will increase parental involvement and participation in their children's learning.

With which of these goals does Gov. Wilson disagree? School districts in California can use Goals 2000 funds to work toward these goals in any way, shape or form that suits their individual needs, as long as the focus is on improved student achievement.

To date, 47 state and hundreds of local school districts, including 228 in California, received Goals 2000 funds last year and are using them for local improvement



California ranks an abysmal 42nd out of all 50 states in the amount of money spent per pupil.

efforts.

San Ramon Valley school district in Contra Costa County is using the money to develop academic benchmarks for student work. The Norwalk-La Mirada district in Los Angeles County is creating school-to-career systems. Los Alamitos district in Orange County will expand early literacy programs. As these examples suggest, no school district was told by Washington what policies, practices or strategies to adopt as a result of Goals 2000.

Oh, there is one catch: A state has to want

the funds. A state that wants to use the funds to improve its educational system has to apply for Goals 2000 funds and tell the federal government how it intends to use the money.

When was the last time a state complained about telling the government what it wanted to do with its money? No state has ever been turned down for Goals 2000 funds, and no state has ever been asked to alter their plan.

California's school system is in crisis. In the recent National Assessment of Educational Progress, California's fourth-grade students placed almost dead last. Only Guam's students scored lower. California ranks an abysmal 42nd out of all 50 states in the amount of money spent per pupil.

As a result, our classrooms are overcrowded, our teachers are overworked, our school buildings are crumbling, and our high schools are graduating students who cannot find China on a map, count change or fill out an employment application.

At a time when California could use every available resource to restore its system to its former status, Gov. Wilson should accept the \$42 million in Goals 2000 funds that belongs to us and put it to use immediately.

Dianne Feinstein is a Democratic senator from California.

Governor's school blockade

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GOV. Pete Wilson has every right to complain about federal meddling in education, if that's truly a concern of his.

But it would be nice if he expressed his dissatisfaction in a way that doesn't cost California \$41.5 million.

That's how much the state's schools stand to receive under the federal Goals 2000 education reform plan. For months now, Wilson hasn't wanted to accept the money.

Before Wilson's short-lived presidential campaign ran out of steam, he made a big deal out of threatening to reject the funds, on the grounds that Goals 2000 (which started under President Bush and was signed into law by President Clinton) is a federal attempt to micro-manage California education.

That argument fit the anti-Washington theme of Wilson's presidential bid. Now that he's out of the race, however, he should do the state a big favor and drop his opposition.

The cash-strapped state and its pitiful schools are too badly in need of the money. And besides, the governor is probably wrong.

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Delaine Eastin says that Goals 2000 permits enormous flexibility in encouraging innovation and school improvements.

Likewise, U.S. Education Secretary Richard Riley — a former governor of South Carolina — has urged Wilson to reconsider, saying no federal dictates are contained in Goals 2000.

Virtually all other states already have accepted their Goals 2000 funds — and they'll share California's \$41.5 million, too, unless Wilson changes his tune.

With California badly trailing other states in per-capita spending for education, and with the state's schools sorely needing improvement, it makes no sense to turn

down the money.

This situation reminds us of another governor who stood in a schoolhouse door to score political points. That was Alabama's George Wallace, fighting racial desegregation in public education during the 1960s.

In both instances, a politician was occupying the spotlight for his own purposes, even if it meant interfering with — rather than helping — education.

Rejection of U.S. funds underlines dispute in school reform program

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By LISA PETRILLO
Staff Writer

Two San Diego County school districts have plunged into a political firestorm over Goals 2000, the biggest federal education-reform effort in three decades.

The elementary and high school districts in Escondido recently rejected a \$58,000 federal grant despite spending the last year pursuing the money for literacy programs. State officials say the Escondido districts may be the only ones in California to reject their federal grant.

Their lone-wolf status surprised the superintendent of the Escondido Union High School District, Jane Gawronski, who said, "I would have thought with all the concerted effort against it, the refusal would have been more widespread."

At issue is the reform measure that began under the Bush administration and was signed into law by President Clinton while he was in San Diego in March 1994. It basically sets higher standards for public schools, and districts can apply for federal grants to help them achieve any of the program's eight goals.

The goals include making American students the world's best in math and science, raising high school graduation rates to 90 percent, increasing parental involvement in schools, and making schools safer and free of guns.

But some conservative groups have attacked the program, saying it is riddled with problems, ranging from potential federal intrusion into local schools to mind control of students. When Gov. Pete Wilson was running for president, he threatened to reject \$42.1 million in Goals 2000 funds already approved for California schools. The money remains in limbo.

"This is distressing," said Michael Cohen, a senior analyst with the federal Department of Education, when told of Escondido's rejection. "Did they mention what these alleged strings on the money are, or whose mind we're going to control?"

A leading critic of Goals 2000 is Assemblyman Steve Baldwin, R-El Cajon. Although he agrees that schools need overhauling, he assails the federal method of giving grants

"like so much candy" to financially starving school districts.

"They say there's no strings attached, which we disagree with, but they'll get everybody addicted and then they'll start making more and more demands," says the freshman legislator.

But state and federal education officials insist otherwise.

"This is voluntary," says Cohen. "It's higher standards, it's parental involvement, it's accountability for schools, it's technology — it's everything everybody says they want."

Escondido's high school and elementary districts were to have shared Goals grants that could have amounted to \$170,000 over the next three years.

Linda Woods, an Escondido Union Elementary School District trustee who cast the lone vote to accept the money for her 17,000-student district, said the opposition mystifies her.

She noted that Escondido trustees had unanimously backed Goals 2000 until last month's meeting, when organized opposition to the program surfaced.

"It's a wonderful program because we at the local level say what we spend our money on," said Woods. "I think we erred on behalf of the children."

But Dawna Nerhus, another elementary district trustee, said that rejecting the grant sends a message to the federal government: Local schools want local control.

Nerhus said she joined the majority in dropping support because "we had so much input from the community against it."

Escondido Union High administrators had recommended accepting the money, but trustees rejected the grant without saying why. Escondido's board President, Mike Morasco, did not return telephone calls seeking an explanation.

The program includes \$1.2 million that would be shared by 130 schools in 19 San Diego County school districts. The grants call for a variety of proposals ranging from beefing up math programs to involving the community in education and setting up student internships with area businesses.

Districts sharing the money include Coronado, Chula Vista Elementary, Sweetwater Union High, Encinitas Union, Grossmont Union, Lemon Grove, La Mesa, Lakeside Union, Poway Unified, San Diego Unified, San Marcos Unified, San Ysidro, Solana Beach, San Dieguito Union, South Bay Union and Vista Unified.

Forty-six states have accepted Goals 2000 money; New Hampshire, Virginia and Montana declined to apply this year. Alabama's governor has threatened to reject his state's share.

If California, the nation's most populous state, joins the minority in opposing Goals 2000, it will not kill the program, according to Cohen, the Department of Education analyst.

Educators waiting for Wilson to decide about federal funds

ASSOCIATED PRESS

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SACRAMENTO — Educators are still waiting for Gov. Pete Wilson to decide whether to accept \$42 million in federal funds for California's cash-strapped schools — more than three months after the money became available.

Wilson was notified in July that the money was available but he hasn't announced a decision, despite prodding from state school Superintendent Delaine Eastin. Eastin spokeswoman Susie Lange said Thursday.

"It's difficult for us to understand," Lange said.

"Delaine is frustrated because twice now she has made an offer to clarify for him any kind of prescriptive language and even go to bat with the federal government to negotiate a change if there is something specific that concerns him," Lange said.

"But we haven't been able to find out what it might be that's bothering him."

Proponents find the delay particularly puzzling because Wilson has repeatedly accused the federal government of underfunding some programs and has already accepted an initial \$10 million under the school program.

The delay comes at a time when schools are scrambling for funds and the state is 40th in per-pupil spending.

The \$42 million is available under the federal government's Goals 2000 program, which supporters describe as a virtually string-free effort to help schools develop their own programs to raise achievement levels.

Opponents contend it amounts to a "massive federal intrusion into local school districts in the broadest sense of the word."

"Proponents are not telling the truth," said state Sen. Ray Haynes, R-Temecula. "The law is very clear. What they are trying to do is force schools to com-

pletely redo the way they teach."

Another critic, Assemblyman Steve Baldwin, R-El Cajon, said the program's mandates cover such things as assessment tests, teacher credentials and funding equity. "Equity is a scary word that opens a can of litigation," he said.

Cindy Katz, a spokeswoman for Wilson's Office of Child Development and Education, said the governor wants to see what Congress does with the program this year before making a decision.

"He still has some major concerns about taking money from the federal government," Katz said. "We have been burned in the past ..."

Lange contends that opposition to the program is coming from "the radical right wing that has been very active nationally in raising concerns just about anything going on in public schools."

"They have attributed things to Goals 2000 that have no relationship to reality," she said, adding that there's no reason for Wilson to wait for Congress to decide whether he will take the \$42 million.

"There's never a guarantee with federal or state categorical money that you're going to get it again," she said. "If you use that as a reason not to accept the initial money you never get any."

Katz denied that Wilson initially balked at accepting the funds because he was running for president earlier in the year and didn't want to anger conservative Republican voters.

"That is a smoke screen," she said. "When the left doesn't have the appropriate answer they say it's the right wing that's making the governor do something they don't want."

Mike Cohen, senior adviser to U.S. Education Secretary Richard Riley, said there are some basic requirements in the Goals 2000 program.

"It would be irresponsible for the federal government to say, 'Here is some money. We don't care what you do with it.'"

Escondido schools F-88 refuse federal funds

■ **EDUCATION:** School board members reject \$58,920 Goals 2000 grant because it comes with federal strings attached

RANDY DOTINGA / Staff Writer

ESCONDIDO — Saying that schools shouldn't be pinned down by money from Washington, elementary school board members delivered the knockout punch on Thursday to a federal grant that aimed to promote literacy.

The board rejected a \$58,920 grant from the Federal Goals 2000 program, which was initially to be shared by both the elementary and high school districts in Escondido. The move followed on the heels of the high

school board's decision to throw out the grant.

The grant is now dead.

"If we take the money, we have to say we believe in Goals 2000," said board member Kathy Marler. "I'm not ready to tie our hands."

Supporters say the Goals 2000 program promotes education and community involvement, but critics say it's filled with unnecessary mandates and liberal ideas. Citing those concerns, Gov. Pete Wilson is holding up \$42 million in Goals 2000 money headed for California. That money would have funded 60 percent of the \$58,920 grant.

Until recently, the joint grant had sailed through both districts' school boards with little public outcry. The grant would fund pro-

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SCHOOLS: Refuse federal funds

grams to increase literacy and improve communication between teachers in the two school districts.

A consortium of local educators and social service agencies has been meeting to figure out how to spend the money.

But over the past several weeks, parents began protesting the grant and convinced the high school district board to pull out. The elementary school district was left to decide whether to take over the whole grant, take part of it, or flip-flop and pull itself out, too.

Several parents said the grant could only hurt the district. Goals 2000 is "turning our schools from places of learning into places of social engineering," said parent Debbie Steeve.

Parent Milly Colwell said she feared the grant would be a "Trojan horse," allowing the social service agencies involved in the program to find a way onto campus and pry into the private

lives of students.

School board President Pam Grosso questioned why parents weren't included in the planning if the purpose of the grant was to increase parent involvement. Assistant Superintendent Sue Coyle acknowledged that parents were not involved in the grant application process, but she did say that school principals kept parents informed.

School board members said they aren't willing to take money from Washington.

"I'm hesitant to jump on a bandwagon that would make us take funding from a distant source," said board member John Laing.

"Maybe it's time to say that if we want to spend a dollar, it's better to spend it ourselves rather than send it to Washington and have them filter it down to a quarter," Laing said.

The board voted 4-1 to cancel the grant, with board member Linda Woods voting no.

"That was our all-time low... havior, while others accom- Tarent graduations for Damer schools.

Templeton schools receive Goals 2000 grant

By Lisa Bradin
The Daily Press

F-88

Templeton Unified School District has recently been granted more than \$13,000 to participate in the national Goals 2000: Educate America Act, but for a while no one was sure if the project would last through grueling debates in the House of Representatives and Senate.

In a press release, the U.S. Department of Education Secretary Richard Riley announced the project will be funded for the 1996/1997 school year and has increased California's allotment to more than \$42 million.

According to Department of

Education spokeswoman Terry Emmett, the issue is under discussion in Congress with reaching an agreement.

Emmett said the Senate planned to spend \$300 million on the project while the House didn't want to support the project at all. President Clinton was reported to say he would veto any low expenditures for the project.

The announcement not only assured the state of future funding for the project, it also has given educators and administrators hope that Gov. Pete Wilson will allow the rest of 1995-1996 money to be distributed to the districts.

According to Emmett, Wilson has held 60 percent of this year's funds, unwilling to spend the money.

There are only two districts in San Luis Obispo County receiving money from Goals 2000 and Templeton school district's superintendent Curt Dubost said the project has been viewed as "highly parti-

san" and said there has been controversy in the values it supports.

"Some are running away from Goals 2000 like it was the plague," he said.

The eight goals it highlights include:

- All children in America will start school ready to learn.
 - The high school graduation rate will increase to at least 90 percent.
 - American students will be competent in core subjects.
 - Students will be the first in the world in science and mathematics.
 - Every adult American will be literate.
 - Every school in America will be safe and free of drugs.
 - Teacher development and professionalism will be enhanced.
 - Parental involvement in schools will increase.
- Approximately half of the state schools are receiving funding for the project which

encourages student preparation for the 21st Century.

The act was signed by President Clinton on March 31, 1994 as a part of his education reform package. But Emmett said the legislation wasn't a Democratic movement.

In fact, she said the idea came from a National Governors Convention and former Republican president George Bush was the one who encouraged funding the project. Although Clinton added two more goals to the pre-existing six, he didn't change much.

Templeton district applied in May for funding and learned in August they would be awarded the money. But since then, the state has only allowed 40 percent of the 1995-1996 money to go to the districts.

While funding has been authorized at the national level, the state agency must still await the governor's approval for actual allocation.

Controversial federal F-88 program supported by some local school districts

by Howard Owens

Fears that the federal government will use the allure of cash from a national education program to assert control over local schools hasn't kept at least two local school districts from seeking those grants.

Lakeside and Grossmont Union High School districts have requested grants totaling more than \$100,000, with Lemon Grove and La Mesa-Spring Valley school districts joining in the Grossmont request.

The program is called Goals 2000 and it has raised hackles across the state and nation from conservatives who warn that the government is lulling districts into financial dependency. Once a district is hooked, like a junkie in need of a fix, they say, the districts will do whatever it takes to get more grant money, including obeying odious federal regulations.

"Goals 2000 is a step toward slow and gradual centralization of power in Washington, D.C.," said state Assemblyman Steve Baldwin, R-77th. Baldwin is vice chair of the Assembly Education Committee and has been a vocal opponent of Goals 2000 since taking office in January.

Every federal program, from welfare to highway construction, has strings attached, Baldwin said. If Goals 2000 has no apparent strings now, it will, he said. In transportation, for example, the state must keep the speed limit at 55 m.p.h. and the legal drinking age at 21 in order to receive federal highway construction funds.

"The speed limit and drinking age is all fine and dandy," said Baldwin. "The point is, we don't have control over our own laws."

But administrators who have pursued Goals 2000 grants dis-

miss the idea of the federal government using the program as an opportunity to strip school districts of local control.

"There was nothing in any of the materials to indicate (increased federal control)," said Jo Ann Smith, superintendent of the Grossmont Union High School District. "If there's any truth to that claim, then it's a political issue that isn't part of the grant materials or process. From an educational response, it seemed like an opportunity to get some badly needed funds to achieve some important objectives."

Grossmont applied for \$150,000 over three years. Jean Kerr, director of special programs for the district, said Grossmont should get a partial installment of \$23,000 next week. The rest of the money is being held up by Gov. Pete Wilson, who is unsure whether California schools should accept any federal funds.

The inability to assure full funding leaves Grossmont and its partners in the grant — La Mesa-Spring Valley and Lemon Grove — in limbo. The program they designed is fully integrated and requires full funding to be successful, said Kerr.

Grossmont's program, if implemented, will develop K-12 curriculum and design student performance standards for the four schools in La Mesa and Lemon Grove that feed into Helix. The entire program was designed by local administrators without federal involvement.

Lakeside Union School District is pushing forward with part of its program even though it hasn't been fully funded.

Lakeside requested \$74,000 and will receive \$29,000 immediately, according to Carol Leighty, assistant superintendent.

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The elements Lakeside can begin working on are a telephone survey of area residents to determine Lakeside's educational needs, the development of a community calendar for parents and development of a summer recreation program in cooperation with the Parks and Recreation Department and the Lakeside Boys and Girls Club.

Two East County districts haven't pursued Goals 2000 grants at all.

Cajon Valley and Santee school districts officials said the proposal either faced opposition from some school board members or simply didn't fit into the district's plans.

"The previous superintendent (Dennis Smith) heard from some of the board members that they didn't want the district going after that money, so we didn't," said Marsha Saben, president of the Cajon Valley board. "They were concerned about there being too many strings attached. It was never discussed at a meeting of the board."

The board of trustees for Santee has also never formally taken a position on Goals 2000, according to Dianne El-Hajj, board president.

"Some of the programs under

Goals 2000 really seem to address areas with more minorities and a bigger socio-economic mix than we have," El-Hajj said. "There is also a big push to establish collaborative efforts, and in our community there doesn't seem to be enough of a base to do that from."

Goals 2000 is the product of federal legislation passed more than a year ago. It is primarily a set of eight goals for education, but it also provides grants to local districts to implement those goals.

The goals are:

- All children in America will start school ready to learn;
- All students in America will be competent in the core academic subjects;
- Every adult in America will be literate and possess the skills necessary to compete in the economy of the 21st Century;
- All teachers will have the opportunity to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to prepare U.S. students for the next century;
- The high school graduation rate will increase to at least 90 percent;
- U.S. students will be first in the world in math and science;
- Every school in America will

be safe, disciplined and drug-free;

• Every school will promote parental involvement in their children's education.

"I don't see Goals 2000 as being all that controversial," said Lakeside's Leighty. "I think people have made it controversial because they look at it constrictively. I look at the eight goals and I don't see anything that any parent wouldn't want for their own children."

But there's more to Goals 2000 than eight nice sounding goals, detractors say.

Baldwin, for example, claims that in the legislation passed by Congress, the words "shall" and "will," describing what states will do, are used 80 times.

The language is specific enough to concern Warren Hoga-

rth, superintendent of the La Mesa-Spring Valley district, who remains skeptical of Goals 2000 even while his district engages in a partnership with Grossmont.

"From past experience we know that most federal programs have an incredible amount of red tape, which many of us don't appreciate," said Hogarth.

"That kind of red tape is not beneficial to what we're trying to do."

Besides, Hogarth said, the district has done a pretty good job of developing its own mission statement.

"There's nothing so unique about our vision for the district but that it's ours," said Hogarth. "Thus we have much more commitment to completing it."

The biggest concern for con-

servatives, Baldwin said, is that the federal government will use grant money to eventually introduce psychological counseling or the dispensing of contraceptives in classrooms.

While recognizing the powerful need in local schools for more money, Baldwin isn't convinced that throwing federal dollars at education is going to solve the nation's educational problems.

"The federal government has spent \$30 billion since 1979 when they created the Department of Education," Baldwin said. "They have nothing to show for it. In fact, test scores have gone down."

3 districts take Goals 2000 funds

AID: Vista, San Marcos and Poway schools go ahead with their plans for grant; Escondido schools turned down a share

RANDY DOTTINGA / Staff Writer

While Escondido's two school districts have turned up their noses at money from a federal education program, three other area districts escaped ideological debates over Goals 2000 and haven't changed plans to spend a total of nearly a half-million dollars.

"We didn't see this as a major problem, and the public never said anything about it," said Vista school board President Linda Rhoades, whose district expects to get a \$120,360 grant to expand college-level classes in its high schools.

However, the Vista district and others still don't know if

they will get all that they have been promised. Sixty percent of this year's Goals 2000 grant funds are being held up by Gov. Pete Wilson, who objects to the program because he feels it micromanages local districts.

Goals 2000 is a Clinton administration program that gives money to districts for education programs. Supporters say the money supports a variety of goals, including community involvement and the improvement of literacy and graduation rates. Critics, however, say the money comes with strings and liberal goals, and violates the concept of local control of schools.

Five Inland North County school districts — Escondido Elementary, Escondido High, Poway, Vista and San Marcos — applied for grants and got them. The Escondido grant of \$58,920 was to be shared by both districts.

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GOALS: Three schools take funds

But conservative parents in Escondido raised an outcry, persuading the two school boards to return the money to Washington. The Escondido Elementary School District board made its decision on Thursday, after hearing from several disgruntled parents.

Susie Lange, spokeswoman for the state Department of Education, said only one or two other districts in the state have rejected Goals 2000 grants that they had already applied for and gotten.

Statewide, 227 districts were to get grants.

In San Marcos and Vista, there was no opposition to the grants. In April, the Poway school board heard from worried parents but decided to accept the grant by a 4-1 vote.

Susan Maki, assistant superintendent of the San Marcos

School District, said the district is still waiting to figure out which end is up with its \$62,190 in grant money, because Wilson has held up some of the money.

"It's there, and then it's not there," Maki said. "When it's actually here, we intend to use it."

The San Marcos money will be used to expand programs that assign large groups of students to the same five or six teachers, so teachers can more easily coordinate their classes.

In Poway, the school district is using \$296,520 — the third-largest Goals 2000 grant in the state — to help teachers set academic standards about what students should learn, when they should learn it, and how to test them, according to a Sandra Johnson, director of learning-support services. Johnson said the district received its first installment of money last week.

Davis to seek U.S. education funds

By John Howard
Associated Press

F-JD

SACRAMENTO — Lt. Gov. Gray Davis, who serves as governor while Pete Wilson is out of the state, intends to seek \$42.1 million in federal education money available to California that Wilson hasn't accepted, Davis' office said Wednesday.

The Republican governor planned to leave California Thursday to campaign in Florida on behalf of GOP presidential

front-runner Bob Dole.

Wilson, who folded his own presidential campaign Sept. 29, is expected to return to the state Saturday, then leave the next day for the Republican governors convention in New Hampshire.

Davis intends to use his authority as acting governor to get the money, although his office said it wasn't clear whether there would be sufficient time for Davis to begin the action during Wilson's latest round of out-of-state trips.

Davis has said on several

occasions that he hopes to get the money.

"He is fully intent on obtaining that money if and when the governor is out of the state and he has a reasonable chance of pulling it off," said Davis spokesman Steven Allen.

"This is a ministerial process and somewhat extensive; it's not just signing or vetoing a bill," Allen added.

He said the Department of Education and the Finance Department also must participate, among others.

Davis, a Democrat and political rival of Wilson, said he will try to get the funding, part of the Goals 2000 education program. Forty-seven other states already have received the money, part of a federal fund to improve student achievement.

Wilson has declined to accept the money, saying it is encumbered by federal restrictions.

"We do not need federal micro-management of California's education reform efforts," Wilson wrote in a July 21 letter to the Clinton administration.

LAUSD board plans lobbying

By Kimberly Kindy
Daily News Staff Writer

Proposed federal education funding cuts threaten \$78 million in Los Angeles school programs that mainly benefit low-income students.

Among the programs that would be cut would be ones for poor and underachieving youths, school lunch programs, and bilingual education.

Board of Education members expressed outrage Monday at the proposed cuts and pledged to organize a heavy lobbying campaign to fight them.

"I call it a budget assault on African-American, Latino and Asian children," said board member Barbara Boudreaux. "Do we have the will to educate them, the will to take care of them?"

President Clinton has promised to veto the GOP spending plan that scales back spending on education and a variety of other programs.

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School board plans to fight cuts to education budget

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That veto is expected to trigger critical negotiations between congressional leaders and Clinton to reach a compromise by a Dec. 15 deadline, said Mike Casserly, executive director of the Council of the Great City Schools, a coalition of 50 of the largest urban school districts. Casserly said education leaders must quickly mobilize their constituencies to lobby Congress and the president. "Washington is like

everywhere, it's about pressure politics," Casserly said. School board member Jeff Horton agreed, saying time is of the essence and recommended that an emergency meeting be called to plan a lobbying strategy.

"This needs to happen really fast," Horton said. "There is plenty at stake to justify this."

Casserly and the district's own lobbyists plan to provide board members with a list of local business, civic and education groups today to

coordinate letter-writing and telephone campaigns.

"We are going to get a strategy to them and we have to start on it next week," said the district's chief lobbyist, Ronald Prescott.

The largest proposed cuts in the Los Angeles Unified School District would be in the following areas:

- \$24.5 million reductions to Title I programs for poor and underachieving youths.

- \$23 million in cuts to school lunch programs.

- \$15 million in cuts to summer youth programs.

- \$5.7 million in cuts to the Goals 2000 program, a federal grant program to encourage school-reform efforts.

- \$2.5 million in cuts to bilingual education.

Prescott said the proposed cuts are a "worse case scenario"; but, he added, just how much will be cut from federal education funding depends on the public.

Outcome-based education generating doubt and worry

By Christine Young
STAFF WRITER

Touted by some and criticized by others, one of the latest teaching strategies may be best illustrated by the following math problem joke:

"By cutting down beautiful forest trees, a logger makes \$20. What do you think of this way of making money?"

Written by an anonymous author and distributed at a spring Newark community meeting on curriculum, the joke is not amusing to parents who fear that it is an indication of where education is headed. They worry about "dumbed-down" academics, fuzzy exercises and what they see as a dangerous focus on children's values and feelings.

At the heart of the joke is outcome-based education. While none of the school districts in Alameda County has fully adopted an outcome-based program, according to the county education office, the approach still is generating worry among those who fear it is creeping into the curriculum.

Shift from tradition

Outcome-based education represents a shift from traditional short-term educational goals to a systematic way of looking at outcomes and working backward from these outcomes, said Sharon Oldham, coordinator of curriculum and instruction at the Alameda County Office of Education.

It was developed by William Spady, director of the High Success Network Inc. in Gypsum, Colo.

Rather than stressing exams and papers after each lesson, grading on a bell curve, and being at the mercy of the school calendar, the outcome-based schools, in Spady's vision, focus on students — all students — demonstrating their cumulative knowledge of a topic.

Students aren't finished with a topic at the end of the week or month or a semester — they're done when they've demonstrated competency.

Principal Gary Soto can't stop raving about the program. His school, South Ridge Middle School in Fontana, adopted outcome-based standards about five years ago. He said he has seen grades and student enthusiasm rise as a result.

At South Ridge, a 1,300-student school for sixth-through eighth-graders, the percentage of students earning A's jumped from 8 percent in 1991 to 32 percent in 1993, Soto said. After 1993, the school switched to a different grading system.

Opponents, he said, would charge that the improvement stems from a dumbed-down curriculum. But he argued that students must and are demonstrating their knowledge in the lab and classroom.

"The criticism it's received, some is warranted and some . . . are absolute lies," Soto said.

Trouble comes when school districts — such as in Pennsylvania — mandate outcomes, or academic objectives, that deal with value judgments and without community input, Soto said.

Schools teaching values

Pennsylvania's state Board of Education ran into trouble in 1989, when members began revising the state school code to encompass outcomes. One particular set of outcomes garnered opposition: "Outcome No. 6: Appreciating and Understanding Others," which was interpreted by opponents as schools teaching values.

After Outcome No. 6 was dropped, the reform

"The criticism it's received, some is warranted and some . . . are absolute lies."

Gary Soto

Fontana school principal who favors the outcome-based education

passed in June 1993.

Nonacademic outcomes are at the heart of Newark parent Carol Carter's concerns. She was one of a small group of parents who brought Anita Hoge, an activist opposed to outcome-based education, to a Newark community meeting.

In the past few years, Carter said, the suburban district of 7,000 students has overemphasized multiculturalism and self-esteem at the elementary level and allowed too much group work among students. These areas often are linked with outcome-based education.

"We celebrate the Presidents Day — there was no explanation of who George Washington was, and who Abraham Lincoln was and what he contributed," Carter said, explaining that when nonwhite cultures are studied, there is no mention that many of the foreign countries are places where people are oppressed and choose to leave.

Appreciation of cultural diversity, Carter said, can be demonstrated by parents, and taught in high school and college. The bottom line? Elementary students need basics, Carter said.

This school year, Carter decided to send her children to private schools.

Newark educators say they are not in an outcome-based district. "I feel they have been phasing this stuff in," Carter said.

Denial in the district

The district's curriculum director, Nancy Villarreal, vehemently denies the charge. There is, however, a move in the district, as in many districts, to implement academic standards, and this may be misconstrued as an attempt to infuse outcome-based standards into the curriculum, she said.

What's thrown out at the outcome-based schools like South Ridge is the endless string of facts students in traditional schools are required to memorize. Teachers at South Ridge show kids how to find the facts if they need them, Soto said. Seventh-graders there write health plans in physical education class. And sixth-graders use negotiating and bartering skills in studies about Egypt, Soto said.

"Let's have them work on a skill that has something to do with Egypt that they can use in the 21st century," he said.

Some say outcome-based education is linked to the federal Goals 2000 plan which outlines eight objectives for schools to meet so they turn out students prepared to compete in a global economy.

Goals 2000, Oldham said, doesn't include outcome-based education; their similarity may lie in the standards that both approaches call for, she said.

While some parents are concerned that both plans mean limited local control over what goes on in the classroom, both actually call for more parent involvement. But, Oldham explained, the involvement is on a different level than parents may be accustomed to.

With eye toward global future, Goals 2000 still no assurance



ix-year-old Russell Halterman of Tracy gets in a couple of questions about reading with his teacher at Golden West Elementary.

By Christine Young
STAFF WRITER

Goals 2000 is a set of eight objectives that schools are encouraged to aim for to bring America's students up to globally competitive standards. Developed under the Bush administration, the Goals 2000: Educate America Act was signed by President Clinton in 1994.

States that participate are eligible for federal grants after submitting applications describing how school improvement plans would be developed. So far, 48 states are signed up and \$85 million distributed this year.

In California this year, districts submitted funding requests to the state education department, which allocated a little more than \$10 million.

Recipients form panels of school and community members who examine their district's needs. Grant money is used to meet these needs.

Governor's block

Gov. Pete Wilson has blocked distribution of \$41.5 million in U.S. Department of Education money for 1995-96 because he wants to wait until Congress makes a decision on the future of

Goals 2000. The program is part of Congress' 1995 rescission package, so future funding is uncertain.

The Berkeley, Oakland and New Haven unified school districts qualified for \$474,790 in grants over a two-year period. These districts are scheduled to receive 40 percent of the funding this month, but Wilson's action blocks the other 60 percent, which was expected in December.

The program also has generated controversy among some parents who fear that it means academic ideals are being lowered and that curriculum-based standards are being replaced by wishy-washy academic outcomes that deal with value judgements, opinions and feelings.

Surrounded by controversy

"I don't know why there's so much controversy around the goals. It just seems to be politically correct for some segments of the community to be against these goals," said Margaret Fortune, an education consultant with the state Department of Education.

"If you look at them, who doesn't want this stuff?" Fortune asked.

The goals to reach by 2000, according to the U.S. Department of Education, are:

- All children in America will start school ready to learn.
- The high school graduation rate will increase to at least 90 percent.
- American students will leave grades four, eight and 12 having demonstrated competency in challenging subject matter, including English, mathematics, science, history and geography; and every school in America will ensure that all students learn to use their minds well, so they may be prepared for responsible citizenship, further learning and productive employment in our modern society.
- U.S. students will be first in the world in science and math.
- Every adult American will be literate and have the knowledge and skills necessary to compete in a global economy and exercise the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.
- Every American school will be drug- and violence-free and will offer a disciplined environment conducive to learning.
- Parental involvement in schools will increase.
- Teacher development and professionalism will be enhanced.

High in sky there's a way to give schools monetary help

394 WASHINGTON

THE Clinton administration wants the nation to wire its millions of classrooms to the Internet by the year 2000. A laudable goal, but one that presents a tough question: how to pay for it?

The administration likes the idea of public seed money matching much larger private-sector grants, like the grants the president announced in early October. The only problem, of course, is that even the modest sums Clinton has in mind are fodder for budget-cutters.

So leave it to former FCC chairman and telecommunications legend Newton Minow, the man who labeled television a "vast wasteland" more than three decades ago, to proffer a seemingly radical, yet eminently practical solution.



**CAPITOL
TECH**

Rory J. O'Connor

Minow's proposal: That Congress allocate to classroom and public library technology a percentage of the money raised when the FCC auctions the rights to use a part of the nation's airwaves.

Drawing on the lesson of the Morrill Act of the 1860s, which set aside federal land in each state as sites to locate the nation's land grant universities, Minow said the money should be given to states to administer the projects they most need.

The best part of the plan is the funds don't have to be subject to political squabbling because they aren't

See O'CONNOR, Page 6E

■ O'CONNOR

from Page 1E

part of the existing budget and tax structures.

"It's a lot of money," he said. "And that money is literally coming from the sky."

That's because the auctions are a new approach at the FCC. Traditionally, the country awarded broadcast frequencies — a television channel, for example — based on a complicated application process that cost next to nothing. For a pittance, giant corporations obtained the exclusive use of public property (that is how the law treats the limited radio spectrum), a franchise worth a fortune.

Now, with the auctions coming closer to achieving a fair exchange of value between the feds and the networks, the Treasury stands to reap a windfall. I'm with Minow: Let's make sure some of those millions benefit children, who have with rare exceptions been victims rather than beneficiaries of television.

□

IN FDR, D IS FOR DIGITAL: The Highway 1 center near the Capitol was set up a few months ago as a laboratory to expose legislators and their staff members to the wonders of technology. A couple of weeks ago, though, the place was filled with librarians (and a senator or two) admiring the latest in digital library technology.

From the Martin Luther library in Germany to the FDR archives in New York State, digital images of illuminated manuscripts and World War II documents popped up on huge video screens run by the kind of computers most libraries can only dream of owning.

Nice-looking stuff, and worth showing a convention of librarians. So why assemble the demon-

schools some of FCC's haul



CAPITOL TECH

Rory J. O'Connor

stration in Washington? Because, said an IBM executive, the federal government is in effect one of the largest libraries in the world, from the Library of Congress to the reams of documents, statistics, reports (and regulations) spewing forth from the government every day. IBM hopes it can persuade the government to start buying this kind of technology to manage that huge collection of information.

That makes sense if you buy the rhetoric from both parties that the government ought to embrace technology to make Washington more accessible and interactive to the citizenry. Of course, like everything around here, you'll have to figure out how to get the money for it, too. (How much does that last useless nuclear submarine cost?)

D.C. DISCOURSE: One of the biggest differences between San Jose and Washington — and there are so many to choose — is the thick blanket of tourists that avoids San Jose but crowds the street near my office and the really awful food stalls in my office building.

The tourists suffer from a seeming inability to find most landmarks, let's say the White House, even though the city is laid out as a grid and you can figure addresses on your fingers. It doesn't help to ask the locals, ei-

ther. In seven years living in San Francisco, I never saw tourists ignored so well as they are here.

In recognition of this, here is my contribution for the week to tourist relations and high-tech entrepreneurship. Gather up all those disused computer information kiosks from around the Bay Area — you know, the ones with the 15-year-old technology and interfaces — reprogram them for Washington and ship 'em out. Charge a buck a printout.

The tourists will love it, the locals will be grateful, nobody around here will know enough to sneer about how you can't Web

surf with the things, and you'll make a tidy profit. Send my percentage — or just a note — to rjoconnor@aol.com.

□

OOPS: Last week, I referred to Sen. James Exon of Nebraska as a Republican. He's a Democrat. (His anti-cyberporn amendment just seems so Republican.)

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Educators want Wilson to accept \$42 million

SACRAMENTO (AP) ³⁹⁴ Educators are still waiting for Gov. Pete Wilson to decide whether to accept \$42 million in federal funds for California's cash-strapped schools — more than three months after the money became available.

Wilson was notified in July that the money was available but he hasn't announced a decision, despite prodding from state school Superintendent Delaine Eastin, Eastin spokeswoman Susie Lange said Thursday.

"It's difficult for us to understand," Lange said.

"Delaine is frustrated because twice now she has made an offer to clarify for him any kind of prescriptive language and even go to bat with the federal government to negotiate a change if there is something specific that concerns him," Lange said.

"But we haven't been able to find out what it might be that's bothering him."

Proponents find the delay particularly puzzling because Wilson has repeatedly accused the federal government of underfunding some programs and has already accepted an initial \$10 million under the school program.

The delay comes at a time when schools are scrambling for funds and the state is 40th in per-pupil spending.

The \$42 million is available under the federal government's Goals 2000 program.

Wilson may reject \$42 million from U.S.

Phinney
Service

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WASHINGTON

California schools are eligible to a grant totaling more than \$42 million, but Gov. Wilson may not to cash the check. The federal grant has been under Goals 2000, a program created by Congress last year to encourage states to meet national standards in the schoolroom. But in July, Wilson informed the Education Department that he had "reservations" about the program. "We do not need federal micromanagement of California's education efforts," Wilson wrote in a letter dated July 21. "Education is the primary responsibility of state and local government. Federal government plays a supportive role."

Wilson's moves in the new Congress to repeal even abolish Goals 2000, said he would not expend the grants from the program until Congress has acted. Wilson wrote that letter after the House of Representatives has canceled next year's Goals 2000 funding, while the Senate Education Committee has recorded \$310 million for the program.

Wilson will decide whether to spend the money after an informal audit of the Goals 2000 grant money the state has received, said Cindy Katz, spokeswoman with the governor's

office for child development and education. "He's not refusing the money, he's just proceeding with great caution," she said.

Wilson's ambivalence puzzles Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., who has urged the governor several times to take the money, especially at a time when state spending per student is 40th in the nation.

"We should be using every available resource to improve education," she said. "Our classrooms are overcrowded, our teachers are overworked, our schools are crumbling, and students are graduating from high school who cannot find a job on a map, count change, or fill out an employment applica-

tion."

Signed into law by President Bill Clinton, Goals 2000 seeks to raise academic achievement by supporting professional development in teaching, expanding the use of computers and technology in the classroom and increasing parental and community involvement.

The program received broad bipartisan support when Congress approved it, and was the culmination of efforts first initiated by former Republican presidents Ronald Reagan and George Bush.

California's state superintendent of public instruction, Delaine Eastin, informed Wilson by letter a week ago that local educators be-

lieve Goals 2000 to have fewer restrictions than any other federal program.

"I believe it is grossly unfair to our schools to impede the receipt of these badly needed funds," Eastin said.

As for the possibility of the California being left with unfunded programs, Michael Cohen, senior adviser to Education Secretary Richard Riley, suggests that Wilson approve the grant money with the warning to school districts that there may not be money in the future.

If Wilson chooses not to use the grant, the money will go to other states, he said.

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Allen's P.C.B.

Use school grants now

Wilson hesitancy makes no sense, hurts children

Gov. Pete Wilson's hesitancy about accepting \$42 million in federal funds for education makes little sense as a political protest and is injurious to state school programs in desperate need of money. The governor should quickly act to accept the money and get it to work helping schoolchildren throughout the state.

The federal grant money, \$2.5 million of which would go to the Bay Area, and nearly a half million dollars to Contra Costa schools, is part of Goals 2000.

The federal program, promoted by former President George Bush, is designed to help states raise academic achievement by supporting professional development in teaching, expanded use of technology and increasing parental and community involvement in schools.

meet national standards in the schoolroom.

However, Wilson is wary of the program, which he considers a federal effort to intrude upon state prerogatives and a threat to local control. But Goals 2000 merely sets standards and allows individual school considerable flexibility spending funds.

Wilson also is concerned that the funds will be cut off, leaving the state with an unfunded federal program. Perhaps Congress will kill the program. But as long as it remains in force, the governor should accept the \$42 million in grants that the state already has received.

If Wilson should refuse the money, he will save taxpayers nothing because the funds will be spent elsewhere. As Sen. Dianne Feinstein said, "We should be using every available resource to improve education."

Wilson should realize that political

Poway district parents form conservative oversight group

CHRISTIE RITTER / Staff Writer

RANCHO BERNARDO

Worried about invasion of privacy and a movement away from the basics, a group of Poway School District parents has started a chapter of Parents Involved in Education, a conservative group that is opposed to federal programs such as Goals 2000 and the School to Career plan.

Conservative activist Carolyn Steinke told about 150 parents Monday night that the School to Career plan is nothing more than a translation of a vocational education plan which was used in the Soviet Union.

"We're implementing a Socialist plan for America," Steinke said.

Steinke founded Parents Involved in Education, which has 50 chapters around the state, including one in Escondido. The group led the opposition to the California Learning Assessment System test, which was eventually scrapped by the state.

The goal of Parents Involved in Education is to "restore academics in education and eliminate dangerous psychological practices in the classroom." The

Please see PARENTS, B2

PARENTS: Form conservative group

Poway School District voted last spring to accept about \$300,000 of federal funding for Goals 2000. Steinke called Goals 2000 "federal blood money."

"Educators like to say 'it takes a village to raise a child,'" Steinke said. "I say no, it just takes my husband and I."

Poway was a good place to start a chapter, Steinke said, because it has been used as a model of education reform, which the group sees as social engineering. The group is opposed to schools collecting information on students on databases, which they fear may be accessed by other government agencies.

A group of activist parents routinely speak out at Poway's school board meetings against federally-mandated programs and teaching techniques that they describe as psychological manipulation. Dean Movroydis, spokesman for the Poway chapter of the parents group, said there are too many strings attached to Goals 2000.

"Basically, it's federal intrusion into a local matter, it's a federal school board," Movroydis said. He said four families got together to organize the Monday forum. They plan to hold more sessions and encourage other parents to get involved in educational issues.

Schools face 60% cutback in program

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County/districts will receive less than half the Goals 2000 grant money they had expected.

By ALMA D. VELAZQUEZ
and EDITH INTA
NEWS-PRESS STAFF WRITERS

Four Santa Barbara County school districts scheduled to receive a combined \$200,000 from the federal Goals 2000 program have been notified they will get only 40 percent of those funds.

Gov. Pete Wilson refused to accept the remaining 60 percent from the federal government because he said those monies would come with strings attached and could mean loss of local control of school policies.

The national debate over the purpose of Goals 2000 — a program to establish clear educational goals for the nation's schools — hit home as local district officials now find themselves with plans for their schools, but not enough money to carry them out.

The districts affected are Santa Barbara Elementary and High School Districts, the Lompoc Unified School District, the Carpinteria Union School District and the districts in Orcutt, Guadalupe and Santa Maria, which applied as one.

Officials from the Santa Barbara districts said they were told they qualified to receive almost \$95,000. They had planned to use the funds to set grade-level targets and help students meet them.

With about \$38,000 they will receive in the coming weeks, Santa Barbara school officials still will attempt to reach those goals, but aren't sure how much they'll achieve.

Schools plan suffers setback

FUNDS

Continued from Page B1

The funding, officials said, can be used for various educational programs. Debbie Flores, Santa Barbara's assistant superintendent, said school districts have the final say in how the money is spent.

"We're in the driver's seat," Flores said. "I've heard some districts in Massachusetts have chosen to establish charter schools with their money. It's completely up to the district."

Still the debate over local control continues.

During a recent school board meeting, trustees voted to accept the grant, despite opposition by some parents and even threats by local activists.

Critics of the Goals 2000 program have said these goals signal a trend by the federal government to control how local schools spend their monies. Those in favor of the grants say the money is a blessing for schools suffering from budget cuts.

"One of the few things you're required to do is to report to the government how you use the money," Flores told board members. "But

that's typical of any grant."

The Goals 2000 grants came as a result of an agreement by President Bush and the nation's governors in 1989 to establish six national educational goals by the year 2000. Educators say the grants are awarded to help district reach those goals. The goals include conquering illiteracy, ending school violence and making U.S. students tops in math and science by the end of the century.

As it is, the more than \$120,000 the four districts in the county will lose could mean a continuation of the problems school officials have long sought to eradicate.

In Lompoc, officials were hoping to use their \$43,460 to help elementary school students, among other things, improve their language skills and overcome their truancy problems.

In Carpinteria, the loss of 60 percent of their originally expected \$32,820 grant would also come as bad news.

"We've spent two-thirds of the (expected) grant already," said Bob Keatinge, Carpinteria Unified School District director of special projects.

The Carpinteria district laid out two goals: to coordinate curriculum district-wide and to provide appropriate support services for all students so they stay in school.

Administrators, teachers and district officials will take those goals and develop a Goals 2000 plan that essentially will change the way the district educates its children, said Jim Tremaine, special education director, who helped write the grant.

Carpinteria began reviewing its instruction system in the early 1990s, Tremaine said. The review showed that the district needed to

improve the way curriculum was connected between grades so that academic expectations are clear and the testing appropriate.

Also, the district needed to improve the way children felt connected to school. That means finding the right services, such as tutoring or counseling, that will prevent students who have problems from failing or dropping out.

It's unknown how many of their goals are still achievable given the cut in funding.

"The bottom line is that schools won't be getting money they were hoping to get," said Bill Cirone, county superintendent of schools.

"This money was going to allow schools to have real control of their programs and of what they're able to achieve academically. Now, the ones who lose are the children."

In the North County, elementary school officials from Orcutt and Guadalupe were hoping to use the \$46,700 they planned on getting to form a partnership with officials at Ernest Righetti High School in Orcutt and Cal Poly State University in San Luis Obispo to address the needs of their students.

"We were hoping to work together in several projects," said Hugo E. Lara, superintendent of Guadalupe Union School District.

Elementary students from Orcutt and Guadalupe normally attend Righetti High. This would have allowed us to work together in achieving educational goals, Lara said. The amount of grant money the district will now receive is unlikely to allow for the same scope of projects originally planned.

"When you see what's happening in education and you look at the funding, it's hard to believe we want our schools to do better. The money is not going in that direction."

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Allen's P.O. Box 115788

Friday, October 5, 1995

Worthy goals for schools

OUR VIEW Goals 2000 isn't some scary program being rammed down the public's throat. It makes good sense. 394

At the time, 1989, goals for the nation's schools seemed like an apple-pie idea no one could oppose. And no one did.

President Bush called a summit of the nation's governors. Republicans and Democrats, laboring side by side for three days, forged goals they all could embrace. Congress adopted their work as Goals 2000, and the nation's schools finally had a set of targets at which to aim, along with a little federal money to help reach them.

Now, that rare display of bipartisanship is about to be undone. The House, prodded by the Christian Coalition, has voted to pull the targets down and take the money away. It's a giant step backward. Without goals, and some encouragement to reach them, high school graduates will continue to come up short compared with peers abroad, as they have for years.

That fact is widely recognized by business leaders and educators, who see the program as an essential effort to raise expectations for the nation's students.

The Christian Coalition and its allies offer some valid criticisms. But they focus more on routes mapped to reach the goals than the goals themselves. They complain

stream that they've been rejected overwhelmingly by history teachers. They don't mention math-teaching guidelines, accepted as fair and workable.

Opponents also raise the bogeyman about national goals infringing on local control. But do they? Judge for yourself.

Goal 1: "All students will start school ready to learn."

Goal 2: "The high school graduation rate will be at least 90%."

Goal 3: "Students will be competent in English, history, geography, foreign languages and the arts."

What school board will object to those? Goals 4-8 are equally non-controversial.

So is the federal spending. It's used for such things as teacher training, increased parent participation, curriculum improvement and dropout prevention.

There is no national school board, as the critics like to claim. In fact, the entire program is voluntary. States must choose to participate. All but three — Montana, New Hampshire and Virginia — have.

This is not a debate about whether Washington should control education. It shouldn't, and it can't. The debate is about whether Washington should provide a way for schools to measure their progress toward widely accepted objectives and get a little money to help them along the way.

Six years ago, Republicans and Democrats set aside the hyperbole long enough to

Will Davis play while Wilson's away?



Making promises. It's the politician's favorite pastime, especially if it means making new friends who vote.

Following up is another story. That could require discipline, resolve, time, money, sacrifice — not to mention a memory.

Seizing a topic sure to be popular with many parents of school-age children, Lt. Gov. Gray Davis last month told Capitol reporters that the next time Gov. Pete Wilson is out of town, he will accept federal education money that Wilson may refuse.

Davis, a Democrat, gets to play governor when Wilson, a Republican, travels outside California. As acting governor, Davis can sign bills, veto bills, make appointments and, as he threatens in this case, make decisions the real governor might not like.

Wilson says he will probably refuse \$42 million in federal money under the Goals

2000 program, a relatively innocuous school-improvement plan that conservatives insist is a sinister tool for the liberal brainwashing of young children. The paranoia seems to have started in the rumor mills of fundamentalist prayer circles, since Goals 2000 critics find it hard to articulate what about the program will result in this body-snatcher nightmare.

The Clinton administration sent the \$42 million to the California Department of Education despite Wilson, who objects to a "myriad of federal dictates" in Goals 2000 that don't exist. The department can't send the money to California schools — including San Diego County school districts — until Wilson's Department of Finance gives the go-ahead.

In a state as strapped as this one, it's like watching someone try to force-feed the starving.

Enter Davis, the gubernatorial wannabe who hopes to be on the Democratic ticket in 1998. Davis got his first opportunity to make good on his

Inside Sacramento

DANA WILKIE

threat a few weeks ago when Wilson left the state for Washington to endorse the presidential candidacy of Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole of Kansas.

Davis learned late Friday night that Wilson would be out of town from Saturday afternoon through Monday evening. But Davis says he didn't have time to take the steps necessary to release the money.

First, Davis had to ask the state Department of Finance for a sort of release form allowing California to spend the money. Officially, it would have been a gubernatorial order, not a request. So it would have been interesting to see if the Finance Department, run as it is by Wilson appointees, was suddenly struck by an unusually debilitat-

Goals 2000 money at issue

ing strain of the flu.

Provided Davis could get the release, the 13 members of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee would then have to approve the expense. Not a problem, since Democrats who are sympathetic to Goals 2000 control the committee and since out-of-town lawmakers need only register their approval in writing.

Naturally, Davis would have to move like a man who meant business — arm himself with lawmakers' approvals over the weekend and station himself outside the Finance Department door Monday morning. That is, if making good on his threat was a real priority.

Asked last week if he intends to release the money the next time the governor is out of state — which could be as early as next week should Wilson decide to attend the Republican Governors Association meeting in New Hampshire — Davis' response was this:

"I think it's an outrage that we don't accept money designed to improve academic

performance in this state, and I'm going to take whatever action is appropriate to assure that California receives that money."

Hardly the resolve Davis demonstrated in his remarks to reporters last month. Asked again, he responded: "My intention is to see that schoolchildren have the benefit of this money, and I will take any and all appropriate action."

Not exactly a commitment. Pressed again, Davis found some backbone: "If (Wilson) leaves the state for a long enough period of time to allow me to perfect the receipt of the funds, I will do that."

Whether Davis wants to go to the trouble is a different matter. Thwarting the will of a sitting governor has its consequences. For Davis the publicity hound, it is easy to pose for the evening news as California's defiant education crusader; for Davis the cagey politician, it will be harder to be one.

DANA WILKIE covers Sacramento for the Union-Tribune.

Sex slave to school reform

Sac. Bee 10-18-95 (Editorial)

ANYONE WHO wonders why it's so hard to raise national education standards couldn't do better than look at the increasingly virulent attacks from the right at Goals 2000, a program originally conceived under President Bush and enacted last year to encourage states and local school districts to upgrade their academic programs.

The feds don't prescribe the standards, although the Bush administration did fund programs to develop model curricula. Some of those proposed standards, particularly one in history that was developed at UCLA, became highly controversial and were subject to vigorous attack, in part by the same people, among them Lynne Cheney, the former head of the National Endowment for the Humanities, who had commissioned them.

But Goals 2000 does not require the adoption of any model. Its aim is to fund and encourage states and local districts to develop their own standards to further a half-dozen broad goals: having every child begin school ready to learn; reducing the dropout rate; improving the performance of U.S. students so they will be first in the world in math and science; promoting parental participation in their children's education; promoting safe schools; fostering adult literacy and lifelong learning.

THAT, HOWEVER, hasn't deterred charges from the nutcake right that the feds are plotting a takeover of the minds and hearts of America's children, and perhaps of their bodies as well.

■ In New Hampshire, one of four states that rejected Goals 2000 funding, a gun group warned that Goals 2000 would send federal snoops into people's homes and take away children from families who keep firearms in their house. The Wall Street Journal also quoted Eleanor Campbell, who heads a group called People for Responsible Education Policy, who says the law's real purpose is "mind manipulation for political correctness."

■ In Virginia an outfit called the American Policy Center warns that Goals 2000 "takes away parents rights over their children . . . and makes outcome-based education a federally mandated school curriculum." The objective of having all chil-

COMMENTARY

Peter Schrag
Associate Editor

dren ready to learn when they start school "means that the government plans to take over responsibility for raising infants, toddlers and preschoolers." That message is echoed by Robert Simonds, the head of the California-based Citizens for Excellence in Education, who says under Goals 2000, parents will "lose control of how to raise their children."

■ In Idaho, Jed Brown of the Citizens Awareness Network warns that Goals 2000 is "a well-organized plan" cooked up

The irony here is that
it's the very lack of
prescription in the
Goals 2000
regulations that's
permitting local
agencies to operate
the programs that the
right is complaining
about.

by UNESCO, the United Nations Educational, Social and Cultural Organization in Paris, to "destroy the individualism in children" by adopting world-class educational standards.

■ In Bozeman, Mont., a woman named Cathy O'Brien appeared before the local chapter of the Militia of Montana to announce that she had been a sex slave for Goals 2000, during the course of which she was abused by three former U.S. presidents, two Canadian prime ministers and a number of other officials. She said she worked with two former secretaries of education, William Bennett and Lamar Alexander, promoting the idea of Goals 2000 at the 1984 national governors conference.

■ In Palm Desert, Calif., an outfit named Parents Involved

in Education issued dark warnings not only about Goals 2000 but about the federal and state school-to-work programs, programs designed to provide better training and transitions from school to careers for students not going to college. Both are part of a government plot to take over not only the schools but "control over free enterprise." Requiring children to engage in some form of community service, the group says, is tantamount to slavery. PIE, along with most of the state Assembly Republican caucus, is urging Gov. Pete Wilson not to accept Goals 2000 money.

AND WILSON seems to be listening. To his credit, the governor this week signed a new, long overdue state testing bill for K-12 schools, despite opposition from those same Assembly Republicans. But Goals 2000 seems to be another matter. In July, Wilson wrote a letter to Washington complaining that Goals 2000 involves "a myriad of federal dictates" that threaten "federal micromanagement of California's education."

Wilson hasn't specified what federal dictates or what federal micromanagement he's talking about, and although he spent most of the past two years complaining about how Washington underfunds California's programs, he seems ready to reject \$42 million that the feds have provided under Goals 2000 for this year. That would make California only the fifth state to reject Goals 2000 money.

The irony here is that it's the very lack of prescription in the Goals 2000 regulations — the program's latitude — that's permitting local agencies to operate the programs, particularly the attempt to train inner-city parents to become more engaged in their children's learning, that the right is most loudly complaining about.

Nobody, of course, has snatched any child away under some federal mandate or turned anyone into a sex slave, but the genius of paranoia is the ability to see how one thing — a voluntary program with voluntary parents — could lead to another and then, step by step, to its Orwellian conclusion. The feds have invited Wilson to discuss with them "any problems you might identify." So far only people like O'Brien and Brown have provided any details.

EDITORIAL REPLY

KNX Newsradio • 6121 Sunset Boulevard, Los Angeles, California 90028 • (213) 460-3338 / CBS Owned

Reply to "School Funding"

November 1, 1995

R95-213

Spokesperson: John Herr, Communications Director, the Los Angeles based Center for the Study of Popular Culture

The KNX editorial urging Governor Wilson to accept Goals 2000, the 1994 federal education law, is wrong.

The "Goals" of Goals 2000 are supposed to be voluntary, but look closer: No state can receive grants without submitting its curriculum to a National Goals Panel for federal approval. These federal bureaucrats are the same people responsible for the biased National History Standards, which the Senate voted 99 to 1 to condemn. Whatever happened to local control of public education?

Goals 2000 also creates a new government program called "Parents as Teachers," a social engineering scheme that will send social workers to monitor our homes. Is this what California wants?

The federal Education Department was never designed to dictate how to run our local schools. But today it spends over \$32 billion a year on mandates, red tape and regulations, none of which have toughened standards or improved performance. Goals 2000 is simply another in the long line of well-intentioned federal failures. It would give California \$42 million, but only to construct a golden cage, trapping our public schools under federal control. Governor Wilson is right to question whether we should sell out our educational independence for a few pieces of Washington silver.

KNX Radio welcomes editorial replies by qualified persons to maintain fairness and balance in the presentation of public issues.
George Nicholas, Vice President, CBS Radio Division, and General Manager, KNX Radio

KNX 10.70
NEWSRADIO

NOV 20 1995

Wilson's \$42 million delay leads educators to wonder

By STEVE LAWRENCE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SACRAMENTO — Strapped for money, educators are wondering why Gov. Pete Wilson is taking so long to accept \$42 million from a federal program that is supposed to help schools improve academic standards.

Wilson was notified in July that the money was available but he hasn't made a decision, despite prodding from state school Superintendent Delaine Eastin. Eastin spokeswoman Susie Lange said Thursday.

"It's difficult for us to understand," Lange said.

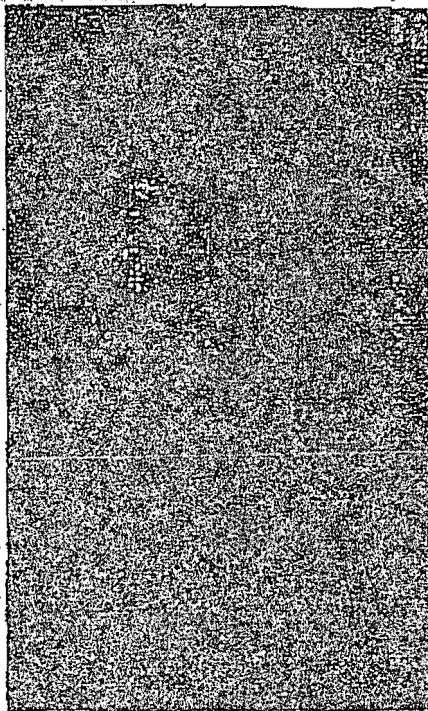
"Delaine is frustrated because twice now she has made an offer to clarify for him any kind of prescriptive language and even go to bat with the federal government to negotiate a change if there is something specific that concerns him," Lange said.

"But we haven't been able to find out what it might be that's bothering him."

Proponents find the delay particularly puzzling because Wilson has repeatedly accused the federal government of underfunding some programs and has already accepted an initial \$10 million under the school program.

The delay comes at a time when schools are scrambling for funds and the state is 40th in per-pupil spending.

The \$42 million is available under the federal government's Goals 2000 program, which supporters describe as a virtually string-free effort to help schools develop their own programs to raise achieve-



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Superintendent Delaine Eastin is frustrated by governor's lack of decision.

ment levels.

Opponents contend it amounts to a "massive federal intrusion into local school districts in the broadest sense of the word."

"Proponents are not telling the truth," said state Sen. Ray Haynes, R-Temecula. "The law is very clear. What they are trying to do is force schools to completely redo the way they teach."

Another critic, Assemblyman Steve Baldwin, R-El Cajon, said the program's mandates cover such things as assessment tests, teacher credentials and funding equity.

"Equity is a scary word that opens a can of litigation," he said.

Cindy Katz, a spokeswoman for Wilson's Office of Child Development and Education, said the governor wants to see what Congress does with the program this year before making a decision.

"He still has some major concerns about taking money from the federal government," Katz said. "We have been burned in the past in programs where they promised to send the money and then reneged on that fact."

Lange contends that opposition to the program is coming from "the radical right wing that has been very active nationally in raising concerns just about anything going on in public schools."

"They have attributed things to Goals 2000 that have no relationship to reality," she said, adding that there's no reason for Wilson to wait for Congress to decide whether he will take the \$42 million.

"There's never a guarantee with federal or state categorical money that you're going to get it again," she said. "If you use that as a reason not to accept the initial money you never get any."

Katz denied that Wilson initially balked at accepting the funds because he was running for president earlier in the year and didn't want to anger conservative Republican voters.

"That is a smoke screen," she said. "When the left doesn't have the appropriate answer they say it's the right wing that's making the governor do something they don't want."

SF EXAM. 10-8-95

Gov. Wilson vs. schoolkids

GOV. WILSON is having a hard time coming back to Earth after his high-flying but short-lived pursuit of the Republican nomination for president. His head is still in the clouds and he can't see the reality of California schools needing every dollar they can get to maintain decent standards.

Wilson threatens to refuse \$42 million in congressionally approved grants dispatched to this state for school projects under the federal Goals 2000 program. The governor objects that the money comes with too many "federal dictates" attached.

The law once proposed by President Bush and now championed by President Clinton seeks to help schools raise their standards by such means as encouraging parent participation, expanding the use of computers and other technology and sup-

porting professional development. Projects OK'd for federal aid include the creation of educational advisory committees in San Francisco and a learning center in Santa Clara. Applications for the money have the backing of state education officials.

Wilson, however, seems entrapped by the anti-Washington rhetoric of his defunct presidential campaign. In July he objected to "federal micro-management of California's education reform efforts" and said he would not spend such grant money "until Congress has acted" to change the law.

Congress might vote to change — or cancel — Goals 2000 in the next budget. But our schools can make good use of the funds already sent to Sacramento as a partial return on our federal tax payments. The money shouldn't be diverted elsewhere to satisfy a Wilson debating point.

USA
TODAY

Today's debate: IMPROVING THE SCHOOLS

10/5/95

1/2

Worthy goals for schools

OUR VIEW Goals 2000 isn't some scary program being rammed down the public's throat. It makes good sense.

At the time, 1989, goals for the nation's schools seemed like an apple-pie idea no one could oppose. And no one did.

President Bush called a summit of the nation's governors. Republicans and Democrats, laboring side by side for three days, forged goals they all could embrace. Congress adopted their work as Goals 2000, and the nation's schools finally had a set of targets at which to aim, along with a little federal money to help reach them.

Now that rare display of bipartisanship is about to be undone. The House, prodded by the Christian Coalition, has voted to pull the targets down and take the money away. It's a giant step backward. Without goals, and some encouragement to reach them, high school graduates will continue to come up short compared with peers abroad, as they have for years.

That fact is widely recognized by business leaders and educators, who see the program as an essential effort to raise expectations for the nation's students.

The Christian Coalition and its allies offer some valid criticisms. But they focus more on routes mapped to reach the goals than the goals themselves. They complain about guidelines for teaching history that deviated so drastically from the main-

stream that they've been rejected overwhelmingly by history teachers. They don't mention math-teaching guidelines, accepted as fair and workable.

Opponents also raise the bogeyman about national goals infringing on local control. But do they? Judge for yourself:

Goal 1: "All students will start school ready to learn."

Goal 2: "The high school graduation rate will be at least 90%."

Goal 3: "Students will be competent in English, history, geography, foreign languages and the arts."

What school board will object to those? Goals 4-8 are equally non-controversial.

So is the federal spending. It's used for such things as teacher training, increased parent participation, curriculum improvement and dropout prevention.

There is no "national school board," as the critics like to claim. In fact, the entire program is voluntary. States must choose to participate. All but three — Montana, New Hampshire and Virginia — have.

This is not a debate about whether Washington should control education. It shouldn't, and it can't. The debate is about whether Washington should provide a way for schools to measure their progress toward widely accepted objectives and get a little money to help them along the way.

Six years ago, Republicans and Democrats set aside the hyperbole long enough to recognize that fact. As the Senate weighs the fate of Goals 2000, it should do no less.

Editorials

Wilson decision defies logic

The threat by Gov. Pete Wilson to deny the state's schools \$42 million in federal funds — \$387,159 of which has come or will be coming to Kern County — makes no sense on its face. Worse, his reasoning raises the issue of whether he is making a rational education policy decision, or is really using the program to pursue a political agenda.

The money is from the federal government's two-year Goals 2000 program. The program is an outgrowth of the bi-partisan Education Summit called by President Bush several years ago, and pursued by President Clinton.

In threatening to send the money back, Wilson complained about federal strings attached to the funds.

Mike Hulsizer, administrator of instructional services for the Kern County Superintendent of Schools, and federal officials in Washington, both are baffled by the governor's statement. Both say that there are none of the usual complex rules and regulations that often are attendant to federal grant programs. That was specifically a result of requests made by local school districts for a maximum degree of local control when the program was being set up.

"There are no federal dictates in Goals 2000, nor are there any federal regulations issued as a result of this program," according to a statement issued by the U.S. Department of Education in response to the governor's comments. Hulsizer agrees with that assertion.

In providing the money, the federal government is merely asking all states to pursue several broad goals, hopefully to be achieved by the end of the century, but not mandated. They include mom-and-apple-pie ideals that most districts are trying to achieve as a matter of course. They include such things as raising high-school graduation rates, increasing math and science literacy, working to have greater percentages of elementary school enrollees attend preschool, etc.

To the extent that there are regulations, in fact, they come from Wilson's home turf in Sacramento — the program in California is administered for the federal government by

Kern schools have a lot to lose from a threat by Gov. Pete Wilson to reject \$42 million in school aid.

the state Department of Education.

Of nine Kern County districts that applied for funds, five got money (the bulk went to such high-population districts as the Los Angeles Unified Elementary School District and Bay area schools). Kern districts which have funds or will get them include both east Kern and valley schools: Mojave Unified School District, Sierra Sands Unified School District in Ridgecrest, Muroc Joint Unified School District in North Edwards, Lamont School District and the Kern High School District.

As an example of how the funds — \$112,349 for the 1994-95 year and a projected \$274,810 for 1995-96 — are being used, the Kern High School District is trying to keep essential elements of the unrelated but similarly named Project 2000 program intact. The largely corporately funded pilot program sought to identify students at risk of failure and keep them in school — and even to encourage them to go on to college.

The program has been universally praised both for its goals and achievements. Relevant to the debate over Goals 2000, the Kern High School District's innovative program also is often cited as an example of the benefits of giving local districts both the control they need to develop programs that can best meet local needs, and the resources to do so.

While some critics — both political and educational — have targeted federal educational programs as red tape-encrusted bureaucratic nightmares, Goals 2000 seems to be the kind of ideal they should welcome: Enriching resources flowing to local districts combined with a maximum degree of local control.

Unless Wilson can show the flaw in such logic we have a difficult time taking his decision and his reasoning at face value. Worse, it is possible that in turning his back on this ideal arrangement, the governor may be placing at risk other educational grants that require incorporation of Goals 2000 in their justification.

If, in fact, the governor's threat is part of a hidden agenda, it will be our students who will risk more than his political agenda. Which is more valuable?

San Francisco Chronicle

THE VOICE OF THE WEST

EDITORIALS

Wilson's Illogic

ANY HOPE that Governor Wilson's withdrawal from the presidential race might restore the moderation, fairness and empathy that marked the early years of his political career appear dashed with his threat to refuse to accept school improvement money from the federal government.

Apparently, Wilson is still in the campaign mode that holds that Republicans must use every opportunity to naysay the Clinton administration, even when such actions harm one's own.

'It's crazy,' says one East Bay school district leader

By any measure of logic outside the strange ethos that dictates political behavior, Wilson's stubbornness is inexplicable and childish.

Despite the governor's vow to refuse the money unless changes are made to end "federal micromanagement" of schools, the Department of Education sent the Goals 2000 funds anyway — \$42.1 million to be

used toward a range of general goals in elementary and secondary schools, from creating more rigorous academic standards to improving teacher training.

Individual school districts came up with their own reform plans based on those broad aims.

Wilson, who had no qualms about accepting the money last year, now is complaining, along with some right-wing know-nothings, that the program contains "a myriad of federal dictates" that can usurp local and state authority over education reform.

Such a complaint doesn't ring true, especially when the Goals 2000 program — the brainchild, by the way, of the Bush administration — comes with almost no strings and when districts developed programs that they determined would best meet local needs.

Wilson's threat to send the money back is certainly not endearing him to California educators. "It's crazy," said Robert Kessler, superintendent of San Ramon Valley Unified, whose district stands to receive \$184,000 in Goals 2000 money to promote student achievement through individualized learning plans.

We second Kessler's assessment.

The wrong goals

If it were a movie, the name would be "Goals 2000: A Waste Odyssey." Instead, this Clinton administration program is named the "Goals 2000: Educate America Act." Although begun by the Bush administration (since dismissed by voters), the program's details have been filled in by President Clinton's team.

A new report by the Claremont Institute describes what's wrong with it: "Drafters of the Goals 2000 law use the command 'will' over 40 times in describing what the federal government expects states and local districts to do to accomplish the act's eight national goals."

Some examples from the federal law itself (with our emphases):

► "All children will have access to high-quality and developmentally appropriate preschool programs ..."

► "Parents will have access to the training and support parents need." Since when is it the business of any government to "train" parents?

► "Children will receive the nutrition, physical activity, experiences, and health care needed to arrive at school with healthy minds and bodies" That's a prescription for social workers to invade even more homes, monitoring not only how much fat and sugar Mom puts in the food, but the all-encompassing "experiences."

► "All students will be knowledgeable about the diverse cultural heritage of this nation." As the teenagers might say, that would mean political correctness to the max.

Despite such obviously coercive language written into law, U.S. Secretary of Education Richard Riley maintains, "We seek to support and encourage; we do not dictate or determine local or state policy." Please, Mr. Riley, this isn't 1933. Americans have had more than six decades of federal "voluntary compliance" turning into coercion.

Contradicting Mr. Riley, former Assistant Secretary of Education Diane Ravitch predicts, "In the future, because of Goals 2000 and its tight linkage to the Elementary and

Gov. Pete Wilson has a chance to blow Goals 2000 out of the sky by turning down the \$42 million the state is scheduled to get — each dollar with a red string attached.

Secondary Education Act ... federal regulation may extend much more directly into what is taught, how it is taught, the conditions in which it is taught, and how it is tested."

According to the Claremont analysis, "The act also creates a number of federal research institutes. The problem with these Institutes is that the mission outlined for them in the act contains provisions that would turn them into advocacy organizations.

"For example, the National Institute on Student Achievement, Curriculum, and Assessment (NISACA) is charged with, among other things, identifying: '... the impact and effectiveness of federal, state, and local efforts to provide gender-fair educational opportunities to elementary and secondary students.' " What next, mandating that football teams be half girls (er, pre-women)?

Gov. Pete Wilson has a chance to blow Goals 2000 out of the sky by turning down the \$42 million the state is scheduled to get — each dollar with a red string attached stretching 3,000 miles to Washington. Rejecting this immense waste of taxpayers' money would encourage the Republican U.S. Congress to terminate the entire program.

For now, according to his Office of Child Development and Education, "He's taking a wait-and-see approach. He's still doing an internal audit on Goals 2000 and waiting to see what Congress does." No audit is necessary. The governor need only read the report by the Claremont Institute, then reject this odyssey of waste and control.

San Jose Mercury News

EDITORIALS

\$42 million; say yes

California schools need the money, and Wilson is dithering

THE U.S. Department of Education wants to give California \$42 million to spend. Gov. Pete Wilson's dithering on whether to take it.

Easy call, governor. Take the money.

The \$42 million is California's share of funding for Goals 2000, the federal initiative to raise academic standards.

Unfortunately, what started under President Bush as a bipartisan program has been demonized by the right.

Some conservatives believe Goals 2000 will lead to federal control of education. They worry that standards will be mandatory, not voluntary, and will be designed to fit a New Age or left-wing agenda: Johnny will be required to loathe Christopher Columbus, admire Aztec human sacrifice, celebrate homosexuality and hug trees.

When he was running for president, Wilson attacked Goals 2000 as "federal micromanagement" of California school reform, and declared he won't take the money until Congress decides whether

to keep or kill the program.

Now that he's back to being governor of California, the needs of the state's students should come first.

Goals 2000 money has a lot fewer strings attached to it than the other federal funds California routinely accepts. The money will be spent to develop education reforms at the state and local level. Parents and communities have to be involved in the planning.

So far, every state application for Goals 2000 money has been approved as is, according to U.S. Education Secretary Richard Riley. There has been no micromanagement.

California can find good uses for \$42 million in education money. If Goals 2000 gets the ax next year, the money doesn't have to be returned. If the program survives, it will do so by allaying the fears of a Republican-controlled Congress. And that means no federal mandates.

EDITORIAL

KNX Newsradio • 6121 Sunset Boulevard, Los Angeles, California 90028 • (213) 460-3338 / CBS Owned

School Funds

October 15, 1995

95-213

The National Goals Two-Thousand Program is meant to help states and school districts fund challenging academic curricula and achievement. And the federal program has sent California its allocation of \$42 million. But the money is sitting in a bank somewhere because Governor Wilson is hesitant in accepting it, fearing some federal mandates may be lurking underneath. The U.S. Department of Education says it's simply suggesting some general goals for those districts which use the funds.

It's obvious a mediator is needed, and KNX suggests state schools chief Delaine Eastin. This appears to be a matter of semantics. The goals set by the federal government include having children ready to learn as they enter kindergarten. Promoting parental involvement. Making schools drug-free and violence-free. Nothing very earth-shattering or sinister.

KNX hopes Eastin works quickly in easing the Governor's concerns and clarifying the program's goals. Education funding is too important to be tied up in misunderstandings.

KNX Radio welcomes editorial replies by qualified persons to maintain fairness and balance in the presentation of public issues.
George Nicholaw, Vice President, CBS Radio Division, and General Manager, KNX Radio

KNX 10.70TM
NEWSRADIO

Stonewalling school innovation

WHAT DO you do if someone asks you to accept a check for \$42 million virtually free of strings? If you are Gov. Pete Wilson, you sniff, "probably not," and let the federal government, which made the offer, stew in its own juices.

This is what the controversy over Goals 2000, the federal education program that encourages educational innovation in states and local school districts and that began in the Bush administration, has come down to in California.

It is getting stupid. Male hormones may even be involved.

Wilson, who spent six months running for president on a states' rights and anti-federal-mandates platform, has also spent the last two years blasting President Clinton and the federal government for not supplying enough money in other areas, such as education, health benefits and prison costs for illegal immigrants.

The governor now says he is not likely to accept the \$42 million that Congress already appropriated for California schools because too much federal "micromanagement" is involved. Besides, he says, there is no guarantee that more money would be available next year. Indeed, it's quite possible that the GOP majority in Congress will kill the program next year.

But Secretary of Education Richard Riley said in an interview last weekend that 46 other states have accepted the money, that 14 have submitted final plans for how to spend it, and that his department has accepted all 14 plans "without changing a word."

"GOALS 2000 clearly says the states will create their own academic standards and their own plans to help students reach those standards," said Riley. "I would hope every state would do that anyway. This is a very important issue. We are ready to wire the money electronically the minute we get approval." (Without Wilson's approval, Riley will redistribute California's share to other states.)

Moreover, Riley said, Wilson could accept the \$42 million for this year, apply it as other

POLITICS IN REVIEW

John Jacobs *Sac. Bee*
Political Editor 10-26-95

states have done for new computers, or school safety or parental involvement programs, or whatever the locals want. "This is not money for ongoing budgets," Riley said. "If the money is gone next year, but you've used it this year to improve the schools, you haven't wasted it."

If California schools
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schools.

If California schools were so luxuriating in wealth that they didn't need the money, Wilson's reluctance might even seem magnanimous. But in fact, California is near the bottom in state funding for schools, class size, computers per classroom and a host of other measures. Even with extra money for the schools in the latest state budget, California still spends some \$1,200 a year per child less than the national average.

"A lot of the criticism is misunderstanding and misinformation," Riley said, "and represents extreme views of folks who are opposed for bizarre reasons, who are out of touch with reality." In New Hampshire, for ex-

ample, some parents thought Goals 2000 was a United Nations cabal to give shots to children and control their minds. Elsewhere, others thought it was a plot whereby the federal government could inspect homes and remove the children if they found certain kinds of weapons. "That's way out," Riley said. "If I thought that, I'd be against it, too."

But Wilson is not crazy. He doesn't believe, as one of his own advisers put it, that Goals 2000 means "kids are required to ride brooms and hand out condoms." He may also be ticked at the state Department of Education. In the first-year installment of Goals 2000 funds last year, it got \$10 million, kept \$4 million for administration costs and quickly promised the other \$6 million to school districts, plus another \$9 million, which did not yet exist. That \$9 million was expected to come from this year's \$42 million. That's tacky.

WHEN several other states said they were unhappy with federal rules, the feds waived them. They have indicated a willingness to sit down with state education officials and work things out.

"Contrary to the assertions in your [July 21] letter," federal officials wrote Wilson on Sept. 29, "Goals 2000 does not contain 'a myriad of federal dictates'; nor has it led to 'federal micromanagement of California's education reform efforts.' In fact, there are no federal dictates in Goals 2000, nor are there any federal regulations issued as a result of this program. We would be happy to address any problems you might identify."

"I was the governor of South Carolina from 1979 to 1987," said Riley. "I looked to California with envy. As we began moving South Carolina up, California was at the very top in education spending. Now, it's at or near the very bottom. I just hope he [Wilson] will come around. It would break my heart if this critical state, at a time of having serious problems funding education, would turn its back on this money."

Wilson may be looking for a face-saving way to accept the money. Let's hope he finds one.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR S.F. Chron 10-18-95

The Governor, Schools and Goals 2000

Editor — Your October 6 article titled, "Wilson Spurns \$42 Million Federal Grant for Schools," does not properly present the governor's position on Goals 2000.

The governor has made very clear his belief that education is the responsibility of state and local governments, and that the federal government has no role in micro-managing our schools. That's why the governor has stated his belief that we should "proceed with caution" in accepting second-year Goals 2000 dollars.

He believes that educators and parents must be assured that these dollars will, in fact, not be tied to federal mandates that limit local decision-making on how to use the money either now or in the future.

All too often the pattern of federal programs is to offer funds that are then followed by the intervention of controlling regulations and bureaucratic meddling.

A further complication is that the House has removed funding for next year's Goals 2000 budget, and the Senate Appropriations Committee has reduced Goals 2000 by nearly two-thirds below the president's January budget request.

With the future of Goals 2000 funding uncertain, for local school districts to program funds for multiyear projects, which will require the redirection of funds from other worthy projects, if and when the federal dollars are eliminated or diminished, would be counterproductive and imprudent.

We need only look to the broken IRCA and SLIAG commitments to remember that the federal government has promised money before and reneged on that promise.

Very simply put, the governor — with experience as the teacher — is being admirably cautious in refusing to accept these funds until all the details are ironed out. Local school districts will do well by being equally as cautious and not expending funds that are not already in the bank. Writing checks on an empty account is never a good idea.

The bottom line: If the Goals 2000 program is in fact structured to be free of federal strings and fully funded, and the governor believes that the reforms being funded are good for our students, his concerns will be satisfied.

MAUREEN DiMARCO
Cabinet Secretary
Governor's Office
of Child Development
and Education
Sacramento.

WILSON: Education Money

From Page 1

under the Goals 2000 program to 1,600 schools for programs such as a parent resource center in Santa Clara and a model reading program in San Diego.

Wilson informed federal and state officials during the summer when he was still a contender for the Republican nomination for president that he would not spend the funds as currently authorized. A Wilson aide said yesterday that he still intended to make good on his threat unless Congress moved to relieve what he called "federal micromanagement" of California schools.

State schools superintendent Delaine Eastin yesterday called the governor "misinformed" and labeled as "ironic" his intention to return taxpayer money to Washington after insisting that California was not receiving its fair share of federal tax dollars.

"I don't think he would be so foolish as to send \$42 million back to Washington," she said. "It would seem quite ironic if we rejected \$42 million that would (otherwise) go to some other state or to Bosnia."

Under the law, any funds not spent by a state can be reclaimed by the federal government for other purposes. Federal officials said yesterday that California must spend the funds sometime in the next two years.

Senator Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., sent a letter to Wilson last week, saying she was "shocked that you intend" to reject the funds. "I simply cannot understand why," she said. "The program contains only broad goals, chiefly to encourage greater participation of parents and local communities in the education of our children. Can anyone object to these goals?"

First conceived by President George Bush and adopted by governors from every state in 1989, Goals 2000 was intended to help schools achieve long-term goals such as reducing dropout rates and improving curricula by the turn of the century. But since President Clinton began promoting the program as a pet project, it has become the target of criticism by conservative groups that see it as an attempt by the federal govern-

ment to control what children are taught and to impose liberal or secular values in the schools.

Federal officials expressed some bewilderment yesterday at the situation in California. They noted that the California Department of Education had requested the funds after screening detailed proposals from hundreds of schools.

"It would be nice if the state Department of Education and the governor got on the same wavelength," said Mike Cohen, a senior adviser to Education Secretary Riley.

He noted that Congress is considering trimming back or even eliminating the program for the 1996 school year and that the money sent to California yesterday already had been approved by Congress and was intended for use during the current school year.

In a July letter to federal officials, Wilson said the Goals 2000 program, which he supported when it was first proposed during the Bush administration, had "deteriorated into a myriad of federal dictates."

However, officials said they had asked Wilson to bring them any complaints about excessive intrusion into the schools but had not received any.

Cindy Katz, an aide to the governor, hinted that there might be some room to maneuver, saying Wilson was "proceeding with caution" on the matter. "He is not saying no to the dollars, he wants to see how this is going to play out in Congress," she said.

The House has already voted to eliminate the program, despite a threat of a veto from Clinton. The Senate has approved drastic cuts in financing.

"The governor is saying we don't need another program coming out of Washington where they promise the money but the next year there is no money, and we still have a problem," said Katz.

Eastin, however, noted that Wilson accepted \$6 million in Goals 2000 funds last year. "If the program was so flawed, why did the governor accept the money last year?" she asked. "If anything, the federal government has made it even easier to get the money since then."

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OCT 6 1995

Allen's P.C.B. 1st 1888

Wilson Spurns \$42 Million Federal Grant for Schools

394 By Louis Freedberg
Chronicle Washington Bureau

Washington

In a move that has dismayed state education officials, Governor Wilson is refusing to accept a \$42 million federal education grant, claiming that the money comes with too many strings attached.

Despite Wilson's threat not to spend the money, U.S. Secretary of Education Richard Riley yesterday sent the money to California anyway, saying that it came with "no regulations" and that the state has "unprecedented flexibility" in how to spend it.

The flap, just the latest controversy between Wilson and the Clinton administration, involves grant money.

WILSON: Page A19 Col. 4

Delaine Eastin yesterday called the governor "misinformed" and labeled as "ironic" his intention to return taxpayer money to Washington after insisting that California was not receiving its fair share of federal tax dollars.

"I don't think he would be so foolish as to send \$42 million back to Washington," she said. "It would seem quite ironic if we rejected \$42 million that would (otherwise) go to some other state or to Bosnia."

Under the law, any funds not spent by a state can be reclaimed by the federal government for other purposes. Federal officials said yesterday that California must spend the funds sometime in the next two years.

Senator Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., sent a letter to Wilson last week, saying she was "shocked that you intend" to reject the funds. "I simply cannot understand why," she said. "The program contains only broad goals, chiefly to encourage greater participation of parents and local communities in the education of

eliminating it for the 1996 school year. The money sent to California yesterday already had been approved by Congress and was intended for use during the current school year.

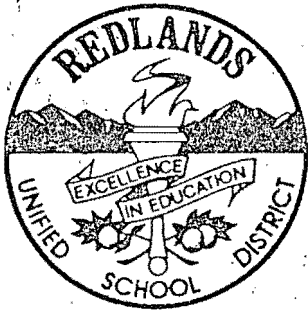
In a July letter to federal officials, Wilson said the Goals 2000 program, which he supported when it was first proposed during the Bush administration, had "deteriorated into a myriad of federal dictates."

However, officials said they had asked Wilson to bring them any complaints about excessive intrusion into the schools but had not received any.

Cindy Katz, an aide to the governor, hinted that there might be some room to maneuver, saying Wilson was "proceeding with caution" on the matter.

"He is not saying no to the dollars, he wants to see how this is going to play out in Congress," she said.

The House has already voted to eliminate the program, despite a threat of a veto from Clinton. The Senate has approved drastic cuts in financing.



RECEIVED
REDLANDS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOV 3 9 46 AM '95

November 1, 1995

Board of Education

Pat Kohlmeier

Janet Korfmacher

Henry Mercado, D.D.S.

Barbara Phelps

Sue Teele, Ph.D.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE - COMMUNICATIONS UNIT

DATE: 11-7-95

Superintendent

Robert J. Hodges

The Honorable Pete Wilson
Governor of California
1st Floor State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

- FOR YOUR INFORMATION

cc: Ruth McKenna
Pat Newsome
Terry Emmett
Sue Lange

Dear Governor Wilson:

The Redlands Unified School District is a GOALS 2000 grant recipient. We are greatly concerned that you are strongly considering not accepting these Federal Funds. We were excited about this project from the beginning since the standards of GOALS 2000 are consistent with our district's Strategic Plan and San Bernardino County's Community Coalition project. Since all of the programs in our GOALS 2000 grant are a part of our Strategic Plan, GOALS money will allow us to implement key strategies sooner than expected.

In March of 1995, a broad-based committee of teachers, administrators, parents, community and business leaders was convened. This committee reviewed and revised Strategic Plan goals and objectives. The first priority of the committee was for students to develop strong communication skills. Therefore, the focus for grades K-3 is early literacy. With GOALS 2000 funds teachers are being trained to use a balanced approach to literacy, including phonics, word attack strategies, shared reading, guided reading and oral reading. Most of our GOALS 2000 funds will be used to buy the materials for this specific program (\$2,500 per teacher).

One of our emphasis for students in grades 4-6 is improving the core curriculum through the use of computers. We are presently networking all classrooms for access to the super highway. We see GOALS 2000 funds for the next four years extremely helpful in this area.

At the middle school level, a primary focus is safe, drug-free schools. The district has chosen a curriculum with an emphasis on reducing violence, appreciating diversity, teaching problem solving and building resiliency. This requires three days of training. The entire staff must be trained in order to positively impact the culture of the school. Again, we are hoping for GOALS 2000 funds to help with this expenditure.

Letter to Governor Wilson

November 1, 1995

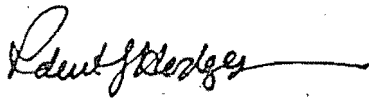
Page 2

Redlands High School has been chosen by the Community Coalition as a demonstration site for School-to-Career. We believe all students should leave high school prepared to enter the work force or to pursue post secondary training. This program requires new means of assessments, training for teachers, connections with the business community and increased use of technology. All of these activities demand additional funds.

This is an ambitious endeavor but one we feel is necessary to prepare our students for the 21st century. The loss of GOALS 2000 money will make this a greater challenge.

If you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call me at (909) 307-5300, ext. 200.

Sincerely,



Robert J. Hodges
Superintendent of Schools

RJH/ECB:hsm
cc: Delaine Eastin
Senator Dianne Feinstein

95/11/11govwilson



San Juan Unified School District

Superintendent of Schools

P.O. Box 477, 3738 Walnut Avenue • Carmichael, California 95609-0477

Telephone (916) 971-7100 • Fax (916) 971-7070

DE

Ray Tolleson
Superintendent

EXECUTIVE OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE UNIT

DATE: 11-7-95

November 2, 1995

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The Honorable Pete Wilson
Governor of California
State Capitol
Sacramento, California 95814

cc. Ruth McKenna
Pat Newsome
Terry Emmett
Sue Lange

Dear Governor Wilson:

Since 1990 the San Juan district has been involved in bringing about systemic change in our schools. We have continued our efforts with resources we have generated locally. We have also encouraged our schools to apply for grants which would allow them to restructure their schools to meet the changing needs of students. While we believe we have made great strides in our efforts, more needs to be done. Therefore, I am writing this letter to express one district's concern about your position of withholding \$42 million of federal government funds for Goals 2000.

My understanding is that you have decided not to release the money because of the constraints imposed by the federal government. However, I have heard that you are a strong believer in local control and that schools and school districts should have the opportunity to determine what is best for their community. It seems inconsistent that local districts would not have the option to use the funds in the best way possible or to reject them based on their specific needs.

For our district, it means about \$121,690. Sixteen of our schools applied for the initial phase of Goals 2000, and they were funded. As you know, the first phase offered only a small amount of resources. But these schools decided to make the effort in the hope there might be additional funds forthcoming. While \$121,690 might not seem like a lot of money when it is spread across 16 schools, it is enough to continue our restructuring efforts.

I urge you to release the money to California school districts so they can make the determination of whether or not they want to operate under the guidelines of the federal government. And I believe that our community thinks the same way. When I am asked about your position, it is very difficult for me to explain to the San Juan community the reasons why we would turn our backs on \$121,690 when we have the opportunity to serve the children of California. Please reconsider your decision and allow the school districts to move forward.

Sincerely,

Ray Tolleson

Ray Tolleson
Superintendent of Schools

RT:eb

c: Delaine Eastin, State Superintendent of Public Instruction
San Juan Unified School District Board of Education

RECEIVED
EXECUTIVE OFFICE
CORRESPONDENCE UNIT
NOV 8 1995

San Diego Union-Tribune
October 20, 1995

Forget the strings

Wilson should accept federal school aid

Now that Gov. Pete Wilson is no longer running for president, he should stop campaigning.

We're speaking of his suggestion that he will reject \$42 million in federal school aid from the Goals 2000 program because, in his view, there are too many strings attached.

School-district officials say there are very few strings attached to this money. The program includes a few goals, but nothing that would impede the funding from being put to good use. Besides, Wilson never has hesitated to accept federal education money in the past.

About \$10 million of the Goals 2000 money has already been disbursed in California. That is about 60 percent of the first-year funding. The \$42 million represents the remaining 60 percent for the first year and all of the second year.

That money is important to Superintendent Bob Reeves of the Poway Unified School District. The district has used Goals 2000 money to set up strict academic-performance standards for each grade, a project that has cost \$296,000. Reeves said this funding has no burdensome federal strings. "If it did, we'd send it back," he said. "Our board doesn't believe in a lot of strings from Congress."

Twelve other school districts in the county have received nearly \$523,000 in Goals 2000 funding. By next year, 18 districts and 120 schools would benefit from the funding. If Wilson refuses the funds, the two-year loss for San Diego County school districts would be over

\$2 million.

During his presidential campaign, Wilson used Goals 2000 to illustrate how the federal government was trying to control the states. To show his independence, he said he would refuse money from the program. Apparently, he still feels bound by that promise.

He shouldn't. The promise was a bad idea then, and it's still a bad idea.

While there are many examples of onerous federal mandates and controls on states, Goals 2000 is not one of them. This program includes eight lofty-sounding goals, but any standards for testing to reach these goals is strictly voluntary. Besides, the goals are things nobody can argue against, such as increasing parental involvement, improving academic standards, freeing schools of drugs, violence and guns, and making American students No. 1 in the world in math and science.

Gov. Wilson has accepted education money from the federal government before. About 8 percent, or \$2.6 billion, of the state's education funding comes from Washington. And he accepted the first installment of Goals 2000 money.

Education is too important to become a political plaything, especially in California. Kids in our state rank dead last in the nation in reading comprehension. Two out of three states spend more per student than California does. We have more pupils per classroom than any other state. And these problems are getting worse, not better.

The governor should back off his campaign promise and accept the Goals 2000 money.

Will busing's end rejuvenate

By The Economist

DENVER - To listen to the city fathers, these are high times for Denver. The largest city in the Rocky Mountains has become the hub of America's fastest-growing region.

More than 2 million people now live in the Denver metropolitan area, and new industries such as telecoms are naturally drawn toward it. A building spree, which started in 1990 with a \$133 million convention center, shows little sign of slowing down.

In May, the city opened a \$70 million central library next to an amphitheater in Civic Center Park. Baseball has resumed in a brand-new \$215 million stadium in a renovated central district.

Roller-bladers and mountain-bikers cruise along the landscaped waterfronts of the South Platte River, and

even the new international airport is up and running at last.

Yet there have always been two Denvers, one prospering and one struggling, as a judge's decision on Sept. 13 made plain.

The judge told the city that it could abandon a federal court order that, since 1974, has required children to be bused many miles each day to school. The order was intended to help to integrate Denver by mixing children of different races from different districts. But it has made little difference.

At the last count, around 28,000 Latinos and 13,000 blacks were enrolled in Denver's public schools together with 18,000 whites, down from around 63,000 whites in the year before busing began.

It was the busing order, more than anything else, that caused white families to flee to Denver's suburbs. Middle-

class blacks and Latinos have either followed suit or tried to put their children into private schools.

This has had two effects: It has depopulated the city - only a quarter of the metropolitan area's residents now live there - and it has made a mess of the city's public schools.

Two-thirds of the children in them qualify for subsidized school lunches (against 5 percent to 10 percent in suburban schools), and a third fail to graduate.

AMONG LATINOS, by far the largest minority in the city, the figure for nongraduation jumps to 46 percent. It has been steadily increasing in recent years, despite an official relaxation of the required standards.

The Denver city school board, which now includes both blacks and Latinos,

Monday, October 2, 1995 B7

downtown Denver?

has been quietly cutting down the busing program for years, convinced that it does not work.

In most of the schools that have been removed from the program, enrollment has increased, and so too has parental involvement.

According to many parents and teachers, a return to neighborhood schools is long overdue and - provided there is enough money in the kitty to improve them - might well help to revive depressed inner-city districts.

It means, however, that the city's schools will be even more heavily segregated by race. This would once have caused Denver residents some disquiet. But now integration seems a long way down their list of things worth fighting for.

They complain more about the "quality of life," not least the time it takes them to commute to office parks and

shopping malls.

Many have taken part in campaigns to restrict homosexual rights and to permit concealed weapons. A growing number, as much concerned as thrilled by the city's glittering renaissance, are calling for limits on its expansion.

A RECENT survey found that 65 percent of the Denver area's residents want the state government to spend tax dollars on managing growth, and 75 percent see growth as a problem.

If families now in the suburbs could be persuaded to move back into the city center as the schools improve, Denver's relentless centrifugal push might begin to slow down. But it is highly unlikely that the neglect of a generation will reverse itself with the ease of a bus turning around.

Sac. Bee
10-2-95

Federal school strings

The Sept. 20 editorial "Wilson: Goals 1996" does not properly present Gov. Pete Wilson's position on this issue.

The governor has made very clear his belief that education is the responsibility of state and local governments, and that the federal government has no role in micromanaging our schools. That's why the governor has stated his belief that we should "proceed with caution" in accepting second-year Goals 2000 dollars.

He believes that we must take a wait-and-see posture until Congress has taken action to ensure that those dollars will, in fact, be coming and will not be tied to federal mandates that limit local decision-making on how to use the money.

Local school districts, such as the Sacramento City Unified School District, would have done well by being equally as cautious and not expending funds that are not already in the bank. Writing checks on an empty account is never a good idea.

Maureen DiMarco
Cabinet Secretary,
California Office of
Child Development and Education
Sacramento

The Goals 2000 mandates the governor is referring to are real. States that receive funding must design a plan to meet each of the eight national education goals. The Goals 2000 Educate American Act also lists strategies that must be followed to meet the mandated goals. Further, the state plan must be approved by bureaucrats in Washington, D.C., and continued funding is dependent on how well the state and local schools adhere to the reform plans and social services required under the federal act.

It is unfortunate that many schools will race for the funding without thoughtful analysis. Many who have researched the federal reform plan have concluded that the goals are not designed to increase the quality of academic instruction, but instead promote societal reform through the schools.

Goals 2000 undermines the rights of parents by funding home visits by "certified parent educators," who are sent into students homes to identify risk factors such as tired parents, too many or few toys, birth of a sibling, etc. No family will escape these universal risk factors. Families and students can be labeled as "at-risk" and channeled into social and health services, simply through the subjective determination of a "parent educator."

There is nothing voluntary about Goals 2000 at the local level. Once the state takes the funding all schools are involved. California should not take any money that will cost children and society in the long run. It is time to send education home to local communities.

Natalie Williams
Director of Education Affairs
The Claremont Institute
Sacramento

DEBRA J. SAUNDERS

10-6-95

The Race to Create Camp San Francisco

MAYORAL wannabe Roberta Achtenberg likes to style herself as the substantive candidate — you know, the policy wonk who talks to the issues. Truth is, she says no more than the other candidates, but she says it in bureaucrat-ese.

Get a load of this statement she made at a candidates forum in the Western Addition Monday night: "I believe that neighborhood participation is absolutely critical if we are going to harness the kind of energy that it will take to solve San Francisco's problems. . . . I believe it's crucial to create structures that provide vehicles for that kind of participation." Sounds heavy. Means nothing.

Her weighty phrases like "strands of community policing" and her slow, deliberate enunciation leave some folks with the impression she is profound.

There has been a rumor floating around — wholly unsubstantiated and too good to check — that Mayor Frank Jordan's campaign was considering funneling money into the Achtenberg camp in order to siphon votes from Speaker Emeritus Willie Brown. That would be a big mistake. With Achtenberg out of the picture, the button-down Jordan could look like the weighty guy. He's almost as dull as she is.

At the Western Addition forum, only Achtenberg and Jordan were punctual, which made for a dull beginning until Supervisor Angela Alioto arrived out of breath and full of cheer. She may not be winning votes, but with her sense of humor and demonstrated knowledge of the city, the Alioto is a force.

Brown was even more fashionably late, but Brown can afford to be late. With his panache, brains and brass, Brown can break the rules. Most candidates for mayor talk as if they could never part with the city they want to run. Brown told the gathering that if it weren't for term limits, "I would not be a candi-

date for mayor. But this talent which I have acquired needs to be put to good use." And the crowd ate it up.

Jordan knows he can't compete with Brown in the style department and wisely doesn't even try. But at times it seems he and his campaign have lost their focus. Hitting Brown for some anti-crime bill he didn't vote for may attract some votes, but the Jordan message has been getting lost as the mayor fails to articulate the major difference between him and the other candidates.

All the front-runners want to court business these days. But only Jordan is willing to do the unpopular thing when it comes to the homeless. The others are stuck in the do-nothing past. They say they see a role for law enforcement, then denounce its use.

Alioto said that if she were mayor the city would pick up only homeless people "who are willing to be picked up." Consider that only 13 of 78 homeless people contacted by social workers before the Matrix II sweep of Golden Gate Park wanted referrals to shelters and other services — and they were facing a roust. Pledging to pick up only those who want help essentially means promising that the city will do little more than beg more than 80 percent of the city's bums to clean up their act.

Yesterday, Brown told The Chronicle that he would build more shelters. Which brought to mind something Department of Social Services General Manager Brian Cahill once said about homeless shelters: If you build more, more homeless will come.

Brown's other solution was to allow bums who are drunk into shelters. Just what this city needs. Already city police trash the shelters as too crime-ridden and sordid to impose on the city's sensitive street folk. Add drunks to the shelters and the city can become one big free Camp San Francisco.

Wilson weighs school aid rejection

Says 'dictates' taint \$42.1 million grant

By Mary Lynne Vellinga
Bee Capitol Bureau

10-6-95

The U.S. Department of Education announced Thursday it is sending California \$42.1 million in aid for schools, but Gov. Pete Wilson said he still hasn't decided whether to take it.

Wilson said in September that he might not accept the aid, offered under the federal Goals 2000 program, because of "myriad federal dictates" attached and because Con-

gress may decide not to continue the program next year.

Nevertheless, state Superintendent of Public Instruction Delaine Eastin applied for the funds, and the U.S. Department of Education said Thursday that they have been released. But they can't be spent without authorization by Wilson's Department of Finance.

Cindy Katz, spokeswoman for the Wilson administration's Department of Child Development and Education, said Thursday the governor hasn't decided whether to distribute the money to 1,600 local schools or send it back.

"Until Congress decides what they're going to do with that program, the governor is not going to make a final decision," she

said. Wilson wants to know what strings will be attached to Goals 2000 dollars and he doesn't want local schools to become dependent on the money, only to have it vanish later.

But federal and state education officials – as well as some local parents and principals – criticized Wilson's stance, saying he is depriving schools of badly needed funds for little reason. About \$1.1 million of the \$42 million is for schools in Sacramento, Yolo, Placer and El Dorado counties.

Eastin spokeswoman Susie Lange called Wilson's reluctance to take the second-year funding "bizarre." The funds are "some of the most stringless money that's ever come to schools," she said.

Thirty-nine campuses in the Sacramento

City Unified School District are poised to receive about \$300,000 this year in the funds and Elk Grove at least \$196,000.

Conservatives in Congress and the state legislatures have derided Goals 2000 as federal intrusion, and four states – New Hampshire, Virginia, Montana and Alabama – have never participated in the program or announced plans to withdraw.

But Michael Cohen, senior adviser to U.S. Education Secretary Richard Riley, said Goals 2000 gives the states tremendous flexibility to work toward a set of national academic goals, and requires only that they set challenging academic standards and develop a plan to meet them.

Bee staff writer Jan Ferris contributed to this report

College offers a warranty on its graduates

Boston Globe

It won't be printed on the degree, but starting next spring, graduates of Fitchburg State College will enter the world with a guarantee to future employers:

If they can't do the job, send them back.

The warranty, which is good for three years, makes the Massachusetts school one of a handful of four-year colleges nationally that are spelling out what used to be an implicit guarantee — that a college degree means a solid education and a good job.

Although some deride the warranties as a cheap trick that relieves students of responsibility for their own education — and colleges of the hard work needed to improve teaching — the idea is catching on, especially among public two-year colleges that focus on vocational education.

All 70 Texas community colleges, for example, and many in Michigan, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania and New York offer their own versions.

Among four-year colleges, the bulk of

guarantees come attached to vocational programs.

Santa Clara University, however, in 1993 guaranteed to provide tuition-free classes for its engineering graduates who were unemployed and looking for work.

But at Fitchburg, the guarantee will apply to all graduates, providing they are working in the field they studied. If an employer finds the graduate lacking in skills or know-how, the college will design a special program of re-education.

"We want to show that we're standing behind our students, that they're getting quality education and that they can compete in the international market," said Michael P. Riccards, who is launching the guarantee just weeks after assuming the presidency of Fitchburg State.

A similar rationale is driving a guarantee plan at all 12 state universities in Oklahoma. By 1997, the regents there decided, all 12,000 bachelor's degrees awarded annually will carry a job performance war-

ranty.

Taking a different tack, St. John Fisher College in Rochester, N.Y., is backing up its guarantee with greenbacks. The small Catholic college pledged last year to pay up to \$5,000 to any qualified graduate who doesn't secure a job within six months.

While many other four-year colleges are trying to be more accountable to the public and to improve quality control, most are wary of the warranty.

"It's a cosmetic way to solve the question of quality, a rip-off of the unwitting consumer," said Leon Botstein, president of Bard College in upstate New York.

Others say the job market changes too quickly for useful guarantees. "It's courageous of these schools to try," said Thomas Angelo, who heads the college assessment program at the American Association for Higher Education. "But there's a feeling generally that we can't train people specifically for the job market because it's so fluid."

Colleges issuing warranties admit that this is a marketing tool, designed to attract attention and prove the worth of an education that may cost as much as \$25,000 a year.

But administrators say the warranties represent a commitment to do better.

Fitchburg graduates about 900 students a year. The top majors are business, education, communications and nursing.

Whether the guarantees make any difference is unclear. At St. John Fisher, it will be three years before any students fulfill their part of the bargain — four years' participation in campus activities, internships and career planning and a 2.75 grade point average — to qualify for the guarantee, which promises \$400 a month for up to a year.

At Doane College in Crete, Neb., which has guaranteed teacher training graduates since 1983, only three students of about 375 graduates have come back for more schooling, officials there said.

WILSON: Education Money

From Page 1

under the Goals 2000 program to 1,600 schools for programs such as a parent resource center in Santa Clara and a model reading program in San Diego.

Wilson informed federal and state officials during the summer, when he was still a contender for the Republican nomination for president, that he would not spend the funds as currently authorized. A Wilson aide said yesterday that he still intended to make good on his threat unless Congress moved to relieve what he called "federal micromanagement" of California schools.

State schools superintendent Delaine Eastin yesterday called the governor "misinformed" and labeled as "ironic" his intention to return taxpayer money to Washington after insisting that California was not receiving its fair share of federal tax dollars.

"I don't think he would be so foolish as to send \$42 million back to Washington," she said. "It would seem quite ironic if we rejected \$42 million that would (otherwise) go to some other state or to Bosnia."

Under the law, any funds not spent by a state can be reclaimed by the federal government for other purposes. Federal officials said yesterday that California must spend the funds sometime in the next two years.

Senator Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., sent a letter to Wilson last week, saying she was "shocked that you intend" to reject the funds. "I simply cannot understand why," she said. "The program contains only broad goals, chiefly to encourage greater participation of parents and local communities in the education of our children. Can anyone object to these goals?"

First conceived by President George Bush and adopted by governors from every state in 1989, Goals 2000 was intended to help schools achieve long-term goals such as reducing dropout rates and improving curricula by the turn of the century. But since President Clinton began promoting the program as a pet project, it has become the target of criticism by conservative groups that see it as an attempt by the federal govern-

ment to control what children are taught and to impose liberal or secular values in the schools.

Federal officials expressed some bewilderment yesterday at the situation in California. They noted that the California Department of Education had requested the funds after screening detailed proposals from hundreds of schools.

"It would be nice if the state Department of Education and the governor got on the same wavelength," said Mike Cohen, a senior adviser to Education Secretary Riley.

He noted that Congress is considering trimming back or even eliminating the program for the 1996 school year and that the money sent to California yesterday already had been approved by Congress and was intended for use during the current school year.

In a July letter to federal officials, Wilson said the Goals 2000 program, which he supported when it was first proposed during the Bush administration, had "degraded into a myriad of federal dictates."

However, officials said they had asked Wilson to bring them any complaints about excessive intrusion into the schools but had not received any.

Cindy Katz, an aide to the governor, hinted that there might be some room to maneuver, saying Wilson was "proceeding with caution" on the matter. "He is not saying no to the dollars, he wants to see how this is going to play out in Congress," she said.

The House has already voted to eliminate the program, despite a threat of a veto from Clinton. The Senate has approved drastic cuts in financing.

"The governor is saying we don't need another program coming out of Washington where they promise the money, but the next year there is no money, and we still have a problem," said Katz.

Eastin, however, noted that Wilson accepted \$6 million in Goals 2000 funds last year. "If the program was so flawed, why did the governor accept the money last year?" she asked. "If anything, the federal government has made it even easier to get the money since then."

Wilson Spurns \$42 Million Federal Grant for Schools

10-6-95

By Louis Freedberg

S.F. Chronicle Washington Bureau

Washington

In a move that has dismayed state education officials, Governor Wilson is refusing to accept a \$42 million federal education grant, claiming that the money comes with too many strings attached.

Despite Wilson's threat not to spend the money, U.S. Secretary of Education Richard Riley yesterday sent the money to California anyway, saying that it came with "no regulations" and that the state had "unprecedented flexibility" in how to spend it.

The flap, just the latest controversy between Wilson and the Clinton administration, involves grants

WILSON: Page A19 Col. 4

Semi-literates taking toll on the bottom line

Washington Post

Sac. Bee
10-1-95

WASHINGTON - She never would have noticed it if she hadn't forgotten her glasses.

Cindy Marano, executive director of a job-training program in the District of Columbia, had stopped for lunch at a local sandwich shop, but without the glasses couldn't read the menu posted on the wall. So Marano asked a middle-aged woman working at the counter to read it for her.

The woman pretended not to hear her, then appeared irritated and flustered, and finally got another worker to answer. At first, Marano was annoyed, assuming the woman was rude or lazy. Then it dawned on her: The woman was unable to read the menu herself.

WORKPLACE

"Suddenly, the light went on for me: Aha!" Marano said. "Then I knew what I was dealing with. But like most Americans, I made the assumption that the person could read just fine."

Executives across America are learning literacy isn't something that can be taken for granted. An estimated 40 million adults in the United States - or about one in five workers - can barely read or write, according to a recent national study. Often the problem isn't immediately apparent in the workplace, because many people, such as the woman working at the sandwich counter, are adept at concealing it.

But the problem is showing up on the bottom line. According to a recent survey, about 90 percent of Fortune 1,000 executives say illiteracy is hurting productivity and profitability. It costs the U.S. economy about \$225 billion a year in lost productivity, say experts.

"It's a very serious economic problem," said Peter Coors, chief executive of the Colorado-based Coors Brewing Co. "I'd call it a crisis."

Coors, who is leading a campaign to increase corporate awareness, said the nation's deteriorating literacy levels are hurting American businesses because they are reducing the pool of skilled labor needed to perform workplace tasks that are increasingly technical and complex. He said workers unable to read instruction manuals, for example, will not be

able to operate equipment properly or fix something that goes wrong.

Experts on adult literacy say the big problem isn't people who can't read or write at all, but those who read and write poorly - at a time when higher-level skills are needed.

Almost everyone can sign his or her name or find the expiration date on a driver's license. But approximately 40 million semiliterates identified in a 1993 study by the National Center for Education Statistics are unable to handle such ordinary activities as totaling a bill, finding an intersection on a street map or writing a brief letter explaining a credit card bill error. They can't read a newspaper or a romance novel, add fractions or

Please see READ, page B9

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Wilson urged to accept funds for schools

By Herbert A. Sample
Bee Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — Sen. Dianne Feinstein on Friday urged Gov. Pete Wilson to accept \$41.5 million in federal education dollars while calling on the governor to get more involved in Congress' welfare and Medicare debates now that his presidential campaign has ended.

The California Democrat contended that Wilson has not been as involved in important legislative work on Capitol Hill as he should, and that the state could suffer because of it.

Wilson recently indicated that his 1995-96 state budget does not include the

money from the Goals 2000 education reform program, which was initiated under former President Bush and signed into law by President Clinton last year.

The governor's aides said Wilson was waiting to see if Congress axes the program or places more strings on use of its grants. But Feinstein, speaking at a meeting with reporters, expressed disbelief at the possibility that the money will be rejected.

"This state is deeply, financially troubled," she said. "To turn down \$41 million when our schools have something like the 42nd lowest per-student, per-dollar ratio in the United States — it's bizarre."

In a letter the senator wrote to Wilson on Thursday, she said the Senate has rewrit-

ten the Goals 2000 program to give states more flexibility.

"I hope that demonstrates to you how Goals 2000 is designed to help students, not set up a huge bureaucracy," Feinstein wrote.

At her news conference, the senator said Wilson now can spend more time lobbying his fellow Republicans in Congress who are drafting reforms to the nation's welfare, Medicare and Medicaid programs. Their actions will have enormous fiscal and policy implications for every state.

"It was clear to me that he didn't weigh in on welfare reform in a meaningful way," she said.

"You can't really run for president, do

your job as governor and also be an advocate back here. It's an impossible task," Feinstein said. "Wins are few and far between back here for California and we need all the help we can get. And that's what a governor ought to be doing."

But Paul Kranhold, Wilson's chief spokesman, said the governor "has been involved up to his ears in the welfare debate." He noted that Wilson recently wrote GOP governors and a key House Republican urging their support for the House version of welfare reform.

Wilson has criticized the Senate version, which he contends will cost the state much more to put into effect.

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September 25 1995

Part I.

**1995-1996
Goals 2000 Grant Awards to San Diego County Consortia
\$1.28 Million***

District/Consortia	# of Schools	Annual Grant Award (\$5,000 base + \$10 per ADA)	Description of Plan
1) Coronado Unified	4	\$ 31,200	Creates K-12 student internships with business, medical agencies, and the Navy. It also supports Reading Recovery and investigates an International Baccalaureate program at the middle school and Eton Academy, an alternative learning environment.
2) Escondido Union H.S. Escondido Elementary	5	\$ 58,920	Focuses on literacy by providing full access to literacy programs for all students and the necessary professional development for all teachers.
3) San Diego Unified	22	\$204,950	Uses funding to become a standards (curriculum and performance standards) based district through the vehicle of a comprehensive site-based plan. Three pilot clusters of schools will be models for the entire district. One will target a literacy campaign.
4) South Bay Union Sweetwater	7	\$ 89,450	South Bay schools will team up with Sweetwater schools to strengthen parent education programs and a language academy to accelerate literacy. Staff training will also include technology strategies to improve student achievement.
5) Encinitas Union San Dieguito	6	\$ 53,820	Focuses on service learning addressing the transition of students from elementary to high school. All students K-12 will learn the skills and crafts of a variety of professions in the local community. Plan will drive the restructuring of the curriculum K-12.
6) San Marcos Unified	10	\$ 62,190	Develops greater parent and community participation in setting high standards for student achievement, preparing students for the world of work and improving school safety and discipline. Funding will be used for curriculum development, staff training and evaluation of programs.
7) Chula Vista Elementary Sweetwater	16	\$134,780	Develops 21st century technology strategies for students and teachers in all content areas. Professional development delivered via computer and teleconference networks.



the association of california urban school districts

Executive Committee***President***

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San Francisco Unified

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Superintendent
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Jo Ann Yee

Executive Director

Sacramento Office

520 Capitol Mall
Sacramento, CA. 95814
Ph: (916) 468-0906
FAX: (916) 428-5608

November 16, 1995

Dear District Superintendent and Board President,

The Association of California Urban School Districts (ACUSD) was organized in 1965 for the purpose of identifying the problems facing urban school districts in California and finding the solutions to those problems. The members of ACUSD represent a diverse cross-section of California urban districts. Our members include most of the large urban districts in California such as San Bernardino City and Fresno as well as smaller urbans such as Berkeley and Inglewood.

I am writing to you today, not to talk about urban issues, but to ask for your support and participation in an effort to address a mutual problem.

As you well know, California has been awarded over \$42 million from the federally funded Goals 2000 grant. Governor Pete Wilson has not released these funds and has indicated that he does not intend to because of a number of concerns he has about the program. The U.S. Department of Education and our own California Department of Education have tried to set the record straight by issuing a number of responses to the Governor's concerns.

A political effort is underway to urge the Governor to reconsider his decision. Many organizations and individual districts have already sent letters asking him to release these funds. Your district may have been one of them. Organizations are expected to issue letters, hold press conferences and stage events during the next few weeks. ACUSD has drafted the enclosed letter asking the Governor to release the Goals 2000 funds and we are circulating it to the 227 districts who are waiting for their funds. Eleven districts in our Association have been approved to receive these funds. They are already committed to signing this letter. I am inviting you to add your signatures to theirs.

Why is your participation important?

In July, Assemblyman Steve Baldwin (R-El Cajon), sent a letter opposing Goals 2000 to the Governor. It was signed by 140 individuals, including 78 school board members. It got the Governor's attention. ***If all the superintendents and board members of 227 districts sign the enclosed letter, we will have over 2000 signatures!*** With your support, we can get the Governor's attention and give him another reason to release these funds.

The letter to the Governor is an open letter. The signatures of the superintendents and board members will be identified by district only, not by affiliation with any organization. In addition to mailing the letter to the Governor, copies will also be distributed to other elected officials, the U. S. Department of Education, the California Department of Education, and local newspapers. This is an important issue for our schools and communities. Local control is on the line. More than \$42 million is at stake. We will all continue to wait or we may lose these funds altogether unless we work collectively and let the Governor know he should do the right thing and release these funds.

Timing is very important. Our goal is to secure as many signatures as possible and mail it to the Governor, ASAP. It is imperative that we act quickly.

Please see the attached Alert! for details. Call Jo Ann Yee, ACUSD Executive Director, at (916) 446-0906 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jill Wynns, President
Association of California Urban School Districts
Member, Board of Education
San Francisco Unified School District

cc: ACUSD Executive Committee

The Honorable Pete Wilson
Page 1 of 2

An Open Letter to Governor Pete Wilson

We, the following superintendents and school board members, on behalf of our students, our schools and our communities, request that you release the \$42,111,705 from Goals 2000 to California and authorize the local expenditure of these monies. Don't make our students, teachers and parents wait.

There are four basic reasons for our request.

1. We believe very strongly that California tax dollars sent to the federal government to support federally funded educational programs should be spent on the children of California. We join voices with many respected groups and individuals who seek fair and equitable treatment of California from the federal government. Do the fiscally responsible thing and spend California tax dollars at home rather than allow these funds to be disperse to other states.

2. California needs your leadership to re-establish itself as the state with the nation's leading educational system. Currently, California is near the bottom in every important indicator of our commitment to educational excellence: state funding, class size, access to technology, adequate supplies and materials, support for infrastructure. Student achievement has suffered. It bears repeating that California, the state with the most diverse student population, still spends \$1,200 less per child than the national average. While we agree that throwing money at the problem is not necessarily the solution, can we really afford to refuse any available resource for our kids, especially resources that are rightfully theirs?

3. We care deeply about maintaining state and local control of educational policy. We support the concept that the best government is that which is closest to the people. We believe that concept applies within the state as well. There is no level of government that is closer to the people than the locally elected school board. While we all share a common ground as Californians, our communities, from Yreka to San Diego, are distinctively different. The structure for the governance of our local schools is designed to respect those differences. Concerns have been raised that Goals 2000 will encourage and allow school districts to implement programs that some groups will consider objectionable. The decisions that school board members make as locally elected officials are the results of the give and take of compromise, the building of consensus, and the democratic processes that are the essential elements of good government. The commitment to local determination is tested by the willingness to respect and trust local communities to identify and address their own needs, set their own standards, and develop their own strategies. Those who claim to support local determination but would deny or impede the right of others to exercise full local control exhibit the same arrogance and intrusion of which the federal government is often accused.

The Honorable Pete Wilson

Page 2 of 2

4. Finally, we believe, as you do, that the proper role of the state and the federal government is to provide support to locally determined educational reform efforts. You have referred to this as a "hopeful partnership." Our schools and our communities have lived up to our end of this partnership; the federal government is providing support; we're waiting now for you. Let's not just pay lip service to the serious business of building partnerships. With the passing of very day, the credibility of your commitment, not only to local determination but to this "hopeful partnership", will be in question. Send the message that you want to encourage and validate parent and community involvement and you are willing to support it where it counts the most by providing the financial resources to make it possible for communities to implement their locally developed school improvement plans.

Those of us who are on a traditional school calendar are already well into the second quarter of the school year. Spring and the third quarter are just around the corner. And by the time you issue your revised state budget, our high school seniors will be preparing for graduation ceremonies. We reiterate: Don't make our students, teachers and parents wait. Release the Goals 2000 funds. Let's do it while there is still time to make a difference for our kids this year.

	<u>Signature</u>	<u>Print Name</u>
Superintendent:	_____	_____
Board Member:	_____	_____
Board Member:	_____	_____
Board Member:	_____	_____
Board Member:	_____	_____
Board Member:	_____	_____
Board Member:	_____	_____
Board Member:	_____	_____
Name of District:	_____	_____

FROM THE WASHINGTON OFFICE OF:

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE
ESTEBAN E. TORRES (D-CA)

2368 Rayburn H.O.B.
Washington, DC 20515
Tel: (202) 225-5256
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8819 Whittier Blvd., Ste. 101
Pico Rivera, CA 90660
Tel: (310) 695-0702
Fax: (310) 692-2216



FAX COVER SHEET

TO:

Terry Emmett

FAX NO.:

916-657-5457

FROM:

Jennifer Gardiner

DATE:

11/3

TIME SENT:

2:50

NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING COVER SHEET):

3

NOTE:

Terry - we wanted you to know what
action we're taking. Please distribute as you
see fit & reply with any comments.
Thank you so much for your help!



U.S. REPRESENTATIVE

ESTEBAN E. TORRES

2368 Rayburn Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-5256

8819 Whittier Blvd., #101
Pico Rivera, CA 90660
(310) 695-0702



MEMBER, APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE, DEPUTY DEMOCRATIC WHIP

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 3, 1995

Contacts: Roderic Olvera Young, 202/225-5256
Jamie Casso, 310/695-0702

“This is the height of irresponsibility,” Torres says about Governor Wilson’s Decision to Refuse Federal Education Funding

Washington, D.C. -- Despite objections from parents, students, teachers and California Superintendent of Education Delaine Eastin, Governor Pete Wilson has decided to reject a federal education grant of \$42.1 million.

Congressman Torres: “I was shocked to learn that Governor Wilson decided to reject the \$42.1 million federal grant when education is one of the highest priorities for Californians. The Goals 2000 funds provide states with a broad framework, flexible enough to accommodate a wide range of education reform strategies. The federal funding maintains the traditional state and local control of how the money is spent.

“Without these funds California children will lose. The Los Angeles Unified School District last year received \$4,449,750 and anticipated \$7 million to \$11 million this year. The funds would have paid for a locally designed program, Los Angeles Educational Alliance for Restructuring Now (LEARN). Ninety percent of the funding States receive goes to local districts to support improved student learning. The program pays for local improvement plans, professional development, pre-service teacher education and the purchase of new technology.

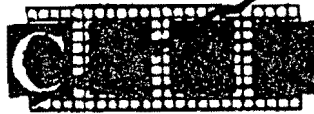
Congressman Esteban E. Torres
November 3, 1995

Page Two --

"Unfortunately, Governor Wilson has misinterpreted how the Goals 2000 funds may be spent. Contrary to Governor Wilson's allegation, Goals 2000 is not a "myriad of federal dictates." The purpose of Goals 2000 is to enhance our students' education by implementing a locally drafted plan to reach higher educational achievement. California is the only state to refuse these education funds; and California students will be the only ones to lose.

"The U.S. Department of Education asked Governor Wilson, in a letter dated September 29, 1995, to bring specific concerns to its attention. Secretary of Education Richard Riley has stated that he is willing to work cooperatively to address any problems. To date, the governor has not responded. I urge members of our community to call upon Governor Wilson to work with the Department of Education to secure and expend these much needed funds. We cannot afford to let these funds go to waste in an era of budgetary constraints and educational need," Torres stated.

<u>School</u>	<u>Funds Lost Due to Inaction of Gov. Wilson</u>
Whittier Union High School	\$ 95,520
Norwalk-La Mirada USD	\$118,350
Montebello USD	\$101,170
Hacienda-La Puente USD	\$ 37,740
Bassett USD	\$ 41,090



Coalition for A Brighter California

P.O. Box 7643, San Francisco, CA 94120-7643

November 9, 1995

Honorable Pete Wilson
Governor
State of California
State Capitol, 1st Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor:

As representatives of California's education and business communities, we believe California's schools and students are deserving of the recently awarded \$42 million Goals 2000 grant, and we encourage you to authorize spending of these funds.

Like you, we agree a great deal must be done to improve California's public education system. We have been actively involved in local schools and education-related projects that further the state's goals of improving its education, curriculum, skills, and standards and assessments systems. Through our efforts, we have seen first-hand how Goals 2000 provides for freedom and innovation at the local level, and encourages districts and schools to meet individual students' needs most appropriately.

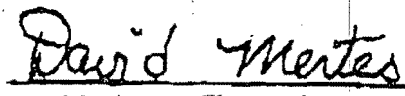
Authorizing spending of this Goals 2000 grant will further promote school-based change, innovation and parental and community involvement at the school site -- all goals to which we are committed. Clearly, California will not remain competitive in the national economy unless we invest in the state's future workforce -- our students -- and our education system. This \$42 million grant will help local communities, parents, teachers, students and schools do just that.

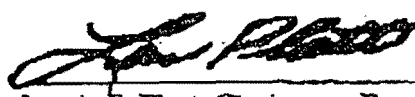
Honorable Pete Wilson
November 9, 1995
Page two

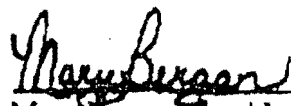
We urge you to authorize immediately spending of the \$42 million Goals 2000 grant for California's deserving schools and students.

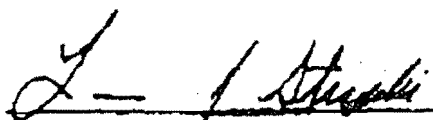
Sincerely,


D. Van Skilling, Executive Vice
President and General Manager
TRW Information Systems & Services

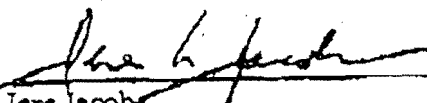

David Mertes, Chancellor
California Community Colleges


Lewis E. Platt, Chairman, President
and Chief Executive Officer
Hewlett Packard Company

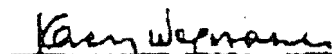

Mary Bergan, President
California Federation of Teachers

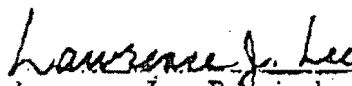

Larry Stupski, Vice Chairman
The Charles Schwab Corporation

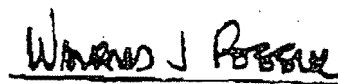

Rusty Herod, President
California School Employees
Association

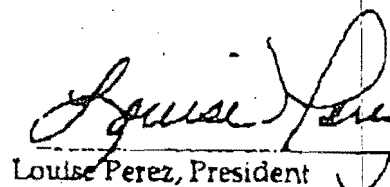

Jere Jacobs
Assistant Vice President
Pacific Telesis Group


Tom Giugni, Executive Director
Association of California
School Administrators


Karen Wegmann, President
Wells Fargo Foundation


Lawrence Lee, Principal
Berkeley High School


Walfred J. Fassler
Regional Vice President
General Representation
Chevron USA, Inc.


Louise Perez, President
California School Boards
Association



Governor Pete Wilson
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

California arts educators have historically lead the educational reform movement in this state. Four hundred and eighteen (418) of these state leaders, representing over 130 organizations, have drafted and signed the following letter to encourage your support for **GOALS 2000: Educate America Act** as an important facet of education reform, and agree that the arts should be a valued component when selecting the California State Panel to implement GOALS 2000.

GOALS 2000 has the potential to immediately fund stronger educational programming at the local level. Placing power in the hands of local administrators can truly transform our system, increasing test scores, attendance and an overall sense of school community.

We hope that you will reinforce the bipartisan national agenda set forth in this bill and support GOALS 2000 and the arts as vital components of the education reform movement.

Caroline
Caroline Ahmanson
Chairman
Education Council

Joan Boyett
Joan Boyett
Vice-President
Education Division


John Knecht
Program Associate
Education Division

The Music Center of Los Angeles County
717 West Temple Street, Suite 400, Los Angeles, CA 90012
213 / 250-ARTS Fax: 213 / 481-7597

LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR GOALS 2000 & ARTS EDUCATION

With the passage of "GOALS 2000: Educate America Act," the United States Congress has elevated the arts to be included as one of the National Education Goals. GOALS 2000 coincides with recent public demand for school reform in the state of California. As an important facet of education reform, we agree that the arts should be a valued component in the upcoming California State Plan to implement GOALS 2000.



The Music Center
*Education
Division*

Recent data suggest that increased exposure to arts programs increases student motivation, College Board SAT scores, graduation rates, multicultural understanding, community involvement, and the overall academic performance of students.

This supports the voice of U.S. Secretary of Education Richard Riley, who has said: "Art in all its distinct forms defines, in many ways, those qualities that are at the heart of education reform in the 1990's -- creativity, perseverance, a sense of standards, and, above all, a striving for excellence." Also, in 1992, the U.S. Department of Labor recognized that the arts develop "core competencies" needed by the American workforce in order to compete globally.

We urge you to consider the importance of arts education when creating the State Plan to implement GOALS 2000. **In California, millions of young people would benefit directly from involvement with cultural institutions and arts programs.** We hope that you will reinforce the national agenda set forth in GOALS 2000 and support the arts as a vital component of education reform.

Thank you for your support.

INDIVIDUAL ARTS EDUCATION SUPPORTERS

October 17, 1995

ARTS ORGANIZATIONS

ARMORY CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Jetty Fong, President
Elisa Greben Crystal, Executive Director
Christy Armstrong, Outreach Director

ART AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

V. Schoenfeld, Organizer

ART TO GROW ON/YOUNG AT ART

Annemarie Rawlinson, Organizer

ARTS EDUCATORS OF LOS ANGELES

Judith Marcus, Art Teacher

ARTSREACH UCLA

Jerome Butler, Actor/Teacher

ASIAN AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATRE

Valerie Lee Acoba, Artistic Director

THE ARTS BRING CULTURES (ABC) TOGETHER PROJECT

Sally Kurnick, Coordinator

ARTS FOR KIDS AND ADULTS

Lisa Quagliozzi, Artist/Art Educator

BAY AREA DISCOVERY MUSEUM & LYCEE FRANCAIS

Jo Anne Ford, Arts Educator

CALIFORNIA ALLIANCE FOR ARTS EDUCATION

Ed Hughes, Chair
Al Muller, Past-Chair
Beth Mott, Executive Director

CALIFORNIA ASSEMBLY OF LOCAL ARTS AGENCIES (CALAA)

Sandra Gibson, Chair

CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION FOR HEALTH, PHYSICAL EDUCATION, RECREATION AND DANCE

Teresa L. Felix, Vice-President of Dance

CALIFORNIA ARTS EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

Terry Givens, President-Elect
Larry Oviatt, Executive Director

CALIFORNIA CONFEDERATION OF THE ARTS (CCA)

Susan Hoffman, Executive Director

CALIFORNIA DANCE EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION

Linda Sievers, President
Catherine Lynch, Vice-President

CALIFORNIA EDUCATIONAL THEATRE ASSOCIATION (CETA)

Dr. Frederick Tollini, President

CALIFORNIA HUMANITIES ASSOCIATION

Ronald R. Young, President

CALIFORNIA MUSIC EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION

Don Doyle, President

CHAFFEY COMMUNITIES CULTURAL CENTER

Max A. Van Balgooy, President

DRAMATISTS GUILD & SOCIETY OF STAGE DIRECTORS & CHOREOGRAPHERS

Peter Grego, Theater Professor

GENE AUTRY WESTERN HERITAGE MUSEUM

Joanne D. Hale, CEO and Director
Noëlle Toal, Asst. Director of Education
Mary Ann Ruetas, Asst. Director of Programs

HISTORICAL RESOURCES, INC.

Karen Graham Wade, President

HOMESTEAD MUSEUM

Mary A. Roberts, Educator

KIDSPACE MUSEUM

Marni Gittleman, Director of Education
Brianna Cutts, School Program Coordinator

LEE DRAPER CONSULTING

Lee Draper, Principal

LEGISLATIVE ACTION COALITION FOR ARTS EDUCATION (LACAE)

Charlotte Motter, President

LONG BEACH MUSEUM OF ART

Harold B. Nelson, Director
Sue Ann Robinson, Educator
Guillermo Hernandez, Outreach Coordinator

LOS ANGELES CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

Candace Barrett, Associate Director

LOS ANGELES COUNTY MUSEUM OF ART

Jane Burrell, Art Museum Education Chief
Lisa Vihos, Associate Museum Educator
Jenny Siegenthaler, Asst. Museum Educator
Elizabeth Aronson, Education Specialties Asst.
Lisa Waters, Education Operations Asst.

LOS ANGELES CULTURAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

Roella Hsieh Louie, Director of Cultural Planning
Ina Borenzweig, Education Coordinator

LOS ANGELES MUNICIPAL ART GALLERY

Sara L. Cannon, Education Coordinator
May E. Oliver, Gallery Educator

LOS ANGELES OPERA

Tania Llambelis, Community Project Coordinator

MALIBU CIVIC BALLET

JoAnna Jarvis, Artistic Director

MARK TAPER FORUM

Dolores Chavez, P.L.A.Y. Program Manager

MUCKENTHALER CULTURAL CENTER

Sharon M. Treadgold, Education Coordinator

THE MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART (MOCA)

Kim Kanatani, Acting Director of Education
Bob Kitzmiller, Asst. Director of Education

MUSIC CENTER OF LOS ANGELES EDUCATION COUNCIL

Catherine Deely Stansfield, Member

MUSIC CENTER OF LOS ANGELES EDUCATION DIVISION

Joan Boyett, Vice-President of Education
Melinda Williams, Director of Education
Lindsey Nelson, Director of MCOT
Denise Grande, Director of ART-Partnerships
Susan Brown, Director of IDAPs
Cheryl Hall, Corwin Seminars Director
Victoria Bernal, Program Associate
Gillian McCarthy, Program Associate
John Knecht, Program Associate
Marlene Leuenhagen, Program Associate
Clare Schulberg, Program Associate
Esme Tan, Management Information Systems
Malu Ortiz, Program Associate

MUSIC CENTER OF LOS ANGELES EDUCATION GUILD

Jan Powell, President
Mary Gisbrecht, Member

NANCY WALCH CONSULTING

Nacy Walch, Education Program Consultant

NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Dara Henning, Discovery Center Manager

NEWPORT HARBOR ART MUSEUM

Karin Schnell, Museum Education Consultant

OAKLAND MUSEUM

Karen Nelson, Interpretive Specialist of Art

PALM SPRINGS DESERT MUSEUM

Sidney Williams, Director of Public Programming

PUBLIC CORPORATION FOR THE ARTS

Rick Shlemmer, Board Member

SAN DIEGO MUSEUM OF ART

Nicole Vitalich, Museum Educator

SAN FRANCISCO ART COMMISSION

Ann Wettrich, Arts Education Officer

SAN FRANCISCO DIGITAL MEDIA CENTER

Ronald Light, Director, D*LAB

SANDPAIL PRODUCTIONS

Pamela Glintenkamp, Producer

SANTA MONICA MUSEUM OF ART

Scott Boberg, Director of Education

SKIRBALL MUSEUM

Adele Lander Burke, Education Coordinator
Nancy Berman, Director
Peggy Kayser, Museum Administrator
Dorothy Clark, Education Dept. Assistant
Nadine McLaren, Administrative Assistant
Monique Maas, Museum Registrar
Joellyn Wallen, Assistant Registrar
Barbara Gilbert, Curator
Michal Friedlander, Assistant Curator
Monica Billet, Curatorial Assistant

LAURI TANNER, Independent Fundraising Consultant

UCLA ARMAND HAMMER MUSEUM

Christina Kim, Education Asst.

UCLA DANCE DEPARTMENT

Judith B. Alter, Researcher IV

UCLA FOLWER MUSEUM

Betsy Quick, Director of Education

UNITED STATES SOCIETY FOR EDUCATION
THROUGH THE ARTS

Duane Hagen, Vice-President

WIGNALL MUSEUM & GALLERY

Helen Graziano, Docent - ArtLink

WORLD FLAGGS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
CORPORAATION

Phillip Arrington, President

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

ARCADIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Deena Rusch, Teacher
Sandi McGrath, Teacher

BANQUET CANYON SCHOOL

Lori Hermelin, PTA Vice-President

BEDFORD OPEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Linda Cowen, Coordinator
R. Cheryl Pellen, Volunteer

BROAD AVENUE SCHOOL

Chrissy Estoya, Teacher

CABRILLO AVENUE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Laure Skim, Cultural Arts Coordinator

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY (CSU) AT DOMINGUEZ HILLS

Antoinette Marich, Dance Lecturer

CSU AT LONG BEACH

Liz Harvey, University Art Museum
Education Coordinator

CSU AT LOS ANGELES

Carl Selkin, Acting Dean, Arts & Letters

CSU AT NORTHRIDGE

Philip Handler, Dean of the School of Arts
Dr. Paul W. Kravagna, Professor of Art
Maralyn Parker, Dean's Secretary, School of Arts
Faye Ainsworth, Director of Development
Jerry Luedders, Music Department Chair
David Aks, CSUN Symphony Conductor
Linda Stones, Professor of Music
Rose Mathias, Music Program Director
Barbara Crockette, Theatre Operations Analyst
Daniel Kessner, Professor of Music
Dr. Heinrich R. Falk, Theatre Professor
Catherine Dezseren, Professor
Jefferey Levy, Theatre General Manager
Francis Ulrich, Music Professor
Dr. Cathryn Cheal, Lecturer
Ron Purcell, Professor
Kathi Martin, Instructor
Casey Larrain, Art History Secretary
Norman Fullner, Professor of Art
Ah-Jeong Kim, Assistant Professor
Bernice Colman, Professor
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas McMillin, Professor
Laurel Long, Associate Professor
Mary Shamrock, Professor
Deborah Hurewitz-Pitt, Lecturer

CSU AT SAN BERNADINO

Beverly Hendricks, Dean of Humanities
Ellen Gruenbaum, Dean of Social/Behavioral Sciences
Klaus Brasch, Dean of Natural and Biological Sciences
Richard Johnston, Chair, Art Department
Craig Monroe, Chair, Communication Studies Dept.
Loralee MacPike, Chair, English Department
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EDITORIAL

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School Funds
October 15, 1995
95-213

The National Goals Two-Thousand Program is meant to help states and school districts fund challenging academic curricula and achievement. And the federal program has sent California its allocation of \$42 million. But the money is sitting in a bank somewhere because Governor Wilson is hesitant in accepting it, fearing some federal mandates may be lurking underneath. The U.S. Department of Education says it's simply suggesting some general goals for those districts which use the funds.

It's obvious a mediator is needed, and KNX suggests state schools chief Delaine Eastin. This appears to be a matter of semantics. The goals set by the federal government include having children ready to learn as they enter kindergarten. Promoting parental involvement. Making schools drug-free and violence-free. Nothing very earth-shattering or sinister.

KNX hopes Eastin works quickly in easing the Governor's concerns and clarifying the program's goals. Education funding is too important to be tied up in misunderstandings.

KNX Radio welcomes editorial replies by qualified persons to maintain fairness and balance in the presentation of public issues.
George Nicholaw, Vice President, CBS Radio Division, and General Manager, KNX Radio

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San Juan Unified School District

Superintendent of Schools

P.O. Box 477, 3738 Walnut Avenue • Carmichael, California 95609-0477

Telephone (916) 971-7100 • Fax (916) 971-7070

Handwritten notes:
Roth -
Annie -
Kenny -
Jill -
DE

Ray Tolleson
Superintendent

EXECUTIVE OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE UNIT

DATE: 11-7-95

November 2, 1995
- FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The Honorable Pete Wilson
Governor of California
State Capitol
Sacramento, California 95814

cc: Auth McKenna
Pat Newsome
Terry Emmett
Susie Lange

Dear Governor Wilson:

Since 1990 the San Juan district has been involved in bringing about systemic change in our schools. We have continued our efforts with resources we have generated locally. We have also encouraged our schools to apply for grants which would allow them to restructure their schools to meet the changing needs of students. While we believe we have made great strides in our efforts, more needs to be done. Therefore, I am writing this letter to express one district's concern about your position of withholding \$42 million of federal government funds for Goals 2000.

My understanding is that you have decided not to release the money because of the constraints imposed by the federal government. However, I have heard that you are a strong believer in local control and that schools and school districts should have the opportunity to determine what is best for their community. It seems inconsistent that local districts would not have the option to use the funds in the best way possible or to reject them based on their specific needs.

For our district, it means about \$121,690. Sixteen of our schools applied for the initial phase of Goals 2000, and they were funded. As you know, the first phase offered only a small amount of resources. But these schools decided to make the effort in the hope there might be additional funds forthcoming. While \$121,690 might not seem like a lot of money when it is spread across 16 schools, it is enough to continue our restructuring efforts.

I urge you to release the money to California school districts so they can make the determination of whether or not they want to operate under the guidelines of the federal government. And I believe that our community thinks the same way. When I am asked about your position, it is very difficult for me to explain to the San Juan community the reasons why we would turn our backs on \$121,690 when we have the opportunity to serve the children of California. Please reconsider your decision and allow the school districts to move forward.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Ray Tolleson

Ray Tolleson
Superintendent of Schools

RT:eb

c: Delaine Eastin, State Superintendent of Public Instruction
San Juan Unified School District Board of Education

NOV 3 1995

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MOUNTAIN VIEW-LOS ALTOS UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

1299 Bryant Avenue
Mountain View, California 94040-4599
Phone: (415) 940-4650
Fax: (415) 961-1346

November 3, 1995

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SUPERINTENDENT

Donald A. Phillips, Ed.D.

DE
EXECUTIVE OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE UNIT

DATE: 11-13-95

- FOR YOUR INFORMATION

cc: Ruth McKenna
Bob Agee
Terry Emmett

The Honorable Pete Wilson
Governor, State of California
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Wilson:

I am writing to urge you to release Goals 2000 funding.

We were fortunate to receive funding in the first round and we are now having to put on hold many of our improvement efforts. We plan to use the funds to bring our community together to discuss what we are doing well and where we need to make improvements. We will be reviewing our strategic plan and vision statement that we developed with extensive parent, student, staff, business and community input almost five years ago.

We recognize the importance of confirming our priorities, reviewing strategies and making appropriate course corrections based upon parent, student, staff and community input. Goals 2000 is providing the funding for a thoughtful discussion in our community about what we expect from our students and how to improve our public school system.

Funds to support school sites have been targeted to support teacher inservice and curriculum development tied to our strategic plan. Pursuing higher standards, writing across the curriculum, effective use of instructional technology, and career-to-work preparation necessitate training and curriculum development at the high schools. Goals 2000 is a key funding piece for our efforts. We have found the Goals 2000 funding process to be one of the least restrictive federal or state programs we have experienced. This has allowed us to use these funds to support our improvement needs as a school district in a timely manner. It would be a real shame to lose Goals 2000 funding.

We appreciate your attention to this matter. We recognize the political pressure by some to return these funds; however, we urge you to support district like ours and others in the future who would be funded by releasing Goals 2000 funds. We need to respond to the public concern for better public education, and these funds can be an important part of this strategy.

Respectfully,

Donald A. Phillips, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

DAP/ldf

cc: Board of Trustees

bcc: Superintendent Delaine Eastin

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Poway schools, legislator battle over Goals 2000 plan

By LISA PETRILLO
Staff Writer

POWAY — As the politics intensify over a federal education program opposed by many conservatives, Poway school officials and state Assemblyman Steve Baldwin have clashed over the issue.

The dispute centers on Goals 2000, a program designed by both presidents Bush and Clinton to make America's 25 million schoolchildren more globally competitive.

Baldwin, R-El Cajon, has accused the award-winning Poway district of playing a "shell game" with its federal grant, diverting it to psychology programs instead of academics.

In response, the district has denied his claims, and accused the freshman legislator of spreading

"inaccuracies and misleading information."

Baldwin insists that what is happening in Poway is happening throughout the state. "This is what conservatives have feared all along," he said. "They've got kids chanting instead of doing multiplication tables."

"Mr. Baldwin is confused," said Leslie Fausset, assistant superintendent. "We have tried repeatedly to explain to him that the program he is talking about has absolutely nothing to do with Goals 2000."

Baldwin has been attacking what Poway calls its "wellness program," which is funded by a separate grant and is designed to help students handle conflicts and substance abuse issues. The program is only open to students who have parental

permission, officials say.

Despite Poway's arguments, Baldwin says he stands by the letter he wrote in August to all state legislators. It included six pages of quotes taken from books listed under the wellness program.

His "dear colleague" letter stated: "As predicted, Goals 2000 money here in California is being spent on highly invasive and strange new intervention programs which have everything to do with behavior modification and the practice of psychology and nothing to do with academics."

The district said his examples were all either inaccurate or out of context — including nine statements which district representatives say they have no idea where they came from.

One of the statements Baldwin used as an example of undermining parental authority came not from a wellness manual, Poway officials said, but from anthropologist Margaret Mead:

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

Poway Unified has an enrollment of about 20,000 students from the mostly affluent north inland suburbs of San Diego County, and is not in Baldwin's district.

Poway officials have sent protest letters to Baldwin in the last two months, but the conservative legislator continued to assail the district. Officials then enlisted Dede Alpert, chairwoman of the Assembly Education Committee and Coro-

nado Democrat, to send legislators another letter clarifying the difference between the wellness program and its Goals 2000 academics program.

The district maintains that its goals grant is for continued development of its academic standards and assessing intervention programs to make sure students achieve those standards.

Baldwin counters that Poway already has academic standards, and is one of the few local districts that has developed them. He notes that the district admits it will use Goals 2000 money for "intervention," which he interprets to mean behavior modification programs.

"There are no safeguards as to where this money is going. There's lots of loopholes," he said of the Goals 2000 grants.

The lack of mandates on the money, however, is one of the most controversial points of Goals 2000. Baldwin and other conservatives claim that the money will eventually come with strings attached. But federal education officials maintain that districts have their choice on

how to spend their grants as long as it helps kids achieve any of the nine broad-based goals.

One goal, for example, is that "All children should enter school ready to learn."

Baldwin maintains that what is happening in Poway proves that Gov. Pete Wilson should pull California out of the program and return the \$42 million the federal government has given the state this year for Goals 2000.

Poway is slated to receive \$196,000 of that federal funding to further develop its academic standards. Its grant is the highest of 13 designated for San Diego County schools, including one to Coronado designed to set up student internships to area businesses and hospitals.

Currently the money is stalled in the governor's office. While a candidate for president, Wilson said he would not accept the money. Some conservative groups have demanded that he return the \$10 million the federal government gave last year in the first round of Goals 2000 grants.

VENTURA

Wilson Feels Heat to Accept School Funds

394
A group of Ventura PTA activists will decide next week whether to launch a letter-writing campaign urging Gov. Pete Wilson to accept federal school-improvement funds.

Lorna Clifton, president of the Ventura Council PTA, which represents 18 Parent-Teacher Assns. in the Ventura Unified School District, said she will bring the issue up at the next joint meeting.

"It is the kind of thing that we do get involved in," she said. "We want what is best for our kids and if this is good for kids, we want it."

Wilson announced earlier this year that he may refuse to accept \$42 million in federal Goals 2000 money already designated for California. In Ventura County, about \$900,000 is in jeopardy, including \$54,800 promised to Ventura Unified.

The governor said he is concerned there are too many federal mandates attached to the money. But many California educators, including state Supt. of Instruction ~~Delaine Eastin~~, have said they see fewer strings attached to the Goals 2000 funds than other federal programs and are urging Wilson to change his mind.

Ventura schools Supt. Joseph Spirito said he is pleased that Ventura parents may begin the campaign. About 3,600 parents are actively involved in the 18 PTA groups.

"Anything we can do to get Wilson to move will help," he said.

—CATHERINE SAILLANT

\$42 million; say yes

California schools need the money, and Wilson is dithering

394
THE U.S. Department of Education wants to give California \$42 million to spend. Gov. Pete Wilson's dithering on whether to take it.

Easy call, governor. Take the money. The \$42 million is California's share of funding for Goals 2000, the federal initiative to raise academic standards.

Unfortunately, what started under President Bush as a bipartisan program has been demonized by the right.

Some conservatives believe Goals 2000 will lead to federal control of education. They worry that standards will be mandatory, not voluntary, and will be designed to fit a New Age or left-wing agenda: Johnny will be required to loathe Christopher Columbus, admire Aztec human sacrifice, celebrate homosexuality and hug trees.

When he was running for president, Wilson attacked Goals 2000 as "federal micromanagement" of California school reform, and declared he won't take the money until Congress decides whether

to keep or kill the program.

Now that he's back to being governor of California, the needs of the state's students should come first.

Goals 2000 money has a lot fewer strings attached to it than the other federal funds California routinely accepts. The money will be spent to develop education reforms at the state and local level. Parents and communities have to be involved in the planning.

So far, every state application for Goals 2000 money has been approved as is, according to U.S. Education Secretary Richard Riley. There has been no micromanagement.

California can find good uses for \$42 million in education money. If Goals 2000 gets the ax next year, the money doesn't have to be returned. If the program survives, it will do so by allaying the fears of a Republican-controlled Congress. And that means no federal mandates.

Escondido grade schools will skip Goals 2000 money

By DREW SILVERMAN
Staff Writer

ESCONDIDO — Trustees of the Escondido Union Elementary School District last night ended efforts to get a \$59,000 Goals 2000 grant to improve student literacy and parental involvement. Citing fears of federal intrusion into local schools, board members voted 4-1 against writing an addendum to the original grant applica-

tion and resubmitting it to the state for approval.

The addendum was needed because the original application, which was approved by federal and state officials, was written with the Escondido Union High School District.

Last month, trustees of the high school district voted to turn down their share of the grant. "I'm in favor of literacy pro-

grams, but not this grant," elementary board member Kathy Marler said. She said taking the money would "tie the hands" of parents and educators in efforts to manage their own schools. The board vote came after half a dozen parents addressed the board, all speaking against resubmitting the grant. Most also cited concerns about federal intrusion into local schools.

"If you accept the Goals 2000 money, you have to accept the mandates of Goals 2000," parent Debbie Stevey warned. Few of the speakers pointed out what those mandates were. The Goals 2000 program was initiated by the Bush administration and then broadened by President Clinton. A related law was signed last year.

See Goals on Page B-4

Goals 1394

High school trustees took similar action

Continued from B-1

guages to economics to history, geography and the arts.

The program also includes as goals a 90 percent high school graduation rate and increased parental participation in education of children.

Though the goals and much of the program represent voluntary standards that districts can follow, adapt or disregard, many critics of the program have lambasted it as another effort by federal bureaucrats to control local schools and to fund programs that do not focus on basic skills.

Federal education officials maintain that districts have their choice on how to spend their grants as long as the money helps kids achieve any of the eight goals.

Though few of those at last night's meeting seemed aware of the fact, one section of the lengthy Goals 2000 legislation expressly prohibits any federal interference in local school districts.

Section 318 of the law says that "nothing in this act shall be construed to authorize an officer or employee of the federal government to mandate, direct or control a state, local educational agency, or school curriculum or program of instruction."

Escondido officials said the the board's decision is likely to cost the district more than \$100,000, since the grant was expected to be a two-year expenditure.

Assistant Superintendent Sue Coyle said last night's vote would not end the district's efforts to improve literacy and parental involvement.

"This money would have helped us along, but we'll just have to manage without it," Coyle said.

In all, California schools are to receive about \$42 million in Goals 2000 grants. Forty percent of the money is to be delivered this fall and the rest later in the school year.

Gov. Pete Wilson, echoing the fears of many critics of the program, has threatened to send back the \$26 million in grants that would be sent to districts later this school year. Like most federal grants for education, aid to school districts is funneled through the state Department of Education.

Goals 2000 allows 'bottoms-up' initiatives

Editor's note: This is part two of a three-part series on the federal Goals 2000: Educate America Act. The Lompoc Unified School District is using the act as an impetus for change.

By Katherine McDonald
Record Staff Writer

LOMPOC — Change is never easy, but it can be exciting and lead to positive results. That's what the Lompoc Unified School District is anticipating as it responds to the challenges set out in Goals 2000, the federal Educate America Act signed into law by President Bill Clinton in 1994.

The act, according to the U.S. Office of Education, provides some funding to states and local schools "to develop and implement their own school improvements based on local 'bottoms-up' initiatives."

The Act was written without implementing regulations, freeing states and school districts to decide which goals to pursue and how to achieve those goals.

From the goals in the law, the district has chosen to focus on those

LUSD to bolster work already begun

that would reinforce work already begun in several areas, including: having children better prepared to start school, promoting partnerships that will increase parental involvement in the educational process, giving teachers time and training to upgrade skills, and expanding students' math and science experiences.

The Lompoc Unified School District has already received \$17,000 of a \$43,000 planning grant. Whether it receives the balance depends on the state's accepting the balance of money from the federal government. Goals 2000 grant money is given to the states for distribution to school districts.

Gov. Pete Wilson has expressed reservations about the Goals 2000 Act, but he is expected to accept the funds.

To receive a grant, school districts had to meet two criteria:

■ serving a school population that

reflected the diverse socioeconomic and cultural diversity of the state; and

■ working closely with community agencies to serve the needs of students.

The LUSD met both criteria.

The Lompoc Valley Coherent System of Education (LVCSOE) Coordinating Council, a consortium of district, school, community agency, and parent representatives, has been created to oversee progress towards the district goals under Goals 2000.

Six local elementary schools elected to be part of the consortium, based on the interest of the school staff and a high level of student need.

The schools are Clarence Ruth, Miguelito, La Honda, Hapgood, La Canada, and Fillmore.

All six share the characteristics of having student populations with high transiency and linguistic and

cultural diversity, according to Debra Bradley, LUSD assistant superintendent.

The consortium came up with a three-pronged focus for providing meaningful change for the betterment of students, she said. The focuses are: elementary math and science performance, interagency collaboration, and a school community survey:

■ Elementary math and science performance

Increasing math and science performance was the Goals 2000 goal selected by teachers for emphasis.

To enhance student performance, the consortium decided that teachers needed released time to work together in sharing instructional strategies and support materials.

This would include not only teachers from the six schools on the consortium, but also those from all the district schools.

The additional released time has already been incorporated into the 1995-96 school calendar.

The participating elementary schools have already identified their greatest need and the major contribution they could make to math and science teachers in other schools.

■ Interagency collaboration

The consortium recognized a need to increase communication among public agencies, schools, and the community. This would identify gaps and overlaps in services, so that programs are not duplicated.

■ School community survey

The school community — parents, businesses, teachers, administrators, etc., will be surveyed to assess the perceived needs of those groups.

Information from the survey will lead to the establishment of consortium subcommittees, including: pre-school, professional development, technology and human re-

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sources, school safety, and parental involvement.

"We will invite participation by parents, teachers, administrators, and members of (community) agencies to focus on what is currently taking place within the school com-

munity," said Bradley. "We will review the input to see if the needs expressed in the survey are currently being met by public agencies within the community, or if, with some sharing of ideas, we can collaborate on how to best address the needs of the community."

To ensure that children start school prepared to learn, one of the Goals 2000 goals and a major concern of the district, an Early In-

tervention Specialist has been hired.

The specialist will work with parents and school staff to aid children in literacy programs. She will also work with parents in categorical programs (Migrant Education, Title I for economically disadvantaged students, etc.) and parent education programs so that they can be active partners in their child's education.

"Until we look at change in a sys-

temic way, we're not even going to get close to Goals 2000," said Henry Gallina, LUSD administrator for Special Projects and Curriculum Support Services. "Those schools who do look at it in a systemic way will make major breakthroughs in terms of children learning. Stephen Covey said, 'If you want to make small changes, change your attitude; if you want to make major changes, change your mindset.' That's very appropriate in education."

FALL 1995

Safe schools with SchoolWatch

Keeping our campuses safe places is the purpose of SchoolWatch, a partnership program involving schools, service agencies, neighborhoods and the Butte County Office of Education. Twelve Butte County elementary, middle and high schools have applied and been selected to participate in the program.

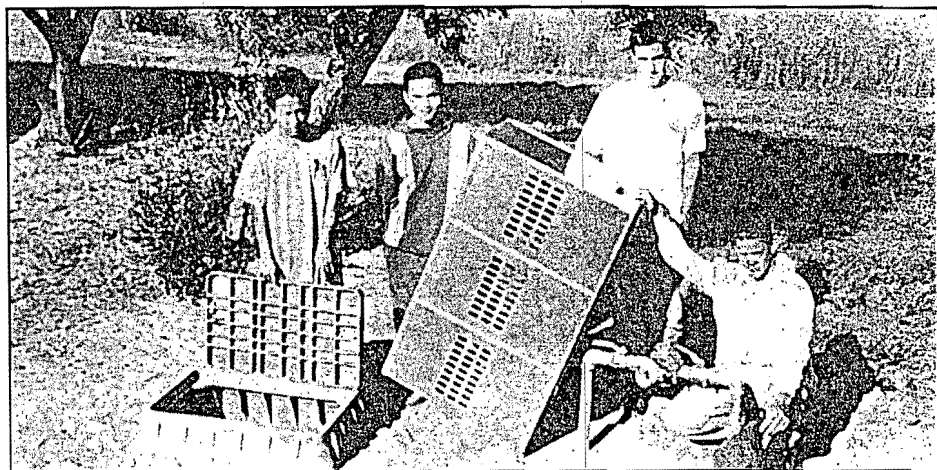
SchoolWatch is a prevention program targeting reductions in vandalism, assault, theft and drug and alcohol problems by providing students, educators, neighbors and parents an opportunity to develop and promote a safe learning environment.

The SchoolWatch Program sites include: Parkview Elementary, Bidwell Junior High, Pleasant Valley Senior High, Chapman Elementary, Cohasset Elementary, Sycamore Elementary, Sierra Avenue School, Bird Street Elementary School, Wyandotte Avenue School, Central Middle School, Berry Creek School and Educational Options - which operates Table Mountain School, Oroville Community School and Chico Community School.

The BCOE was one of five districts in California and one of 19 in the nation to be awarded a grant under the U.S. Department of Education's Safe and Drug-Free Schools Act. Through the grant, BCOE received \$446,797, which will be used to fund SchoolWatch campus support staff and programs including conflict resolution training, peer courts, counseling, campus safety teams and cultural unity events.

"I believe Butte County received this federal grant because our program is created as a prevention program, not a law enforcement or suppression program," said Shelton Enochs, SchoolWatch program manager. "We want to preserve the safe environment we have on our campuses and create an environment in which everyone associated with the schools contributes to campuses remaining safe havens for all our county's students."

Each site will receive approximately



From left: Cha Xiong, Kao Saelee, Josh Davis, Daniel Gardner inspect the valves and main connections of the sprinkler system they installed at the North Forebay.

Summer Youth: Partners in Problem Solving

"Thinking before doing" could have been the motto for the 450 Butte County youth who participated in the Private Industry Council's summer youth employment program co-sponsored by the Butte County Office of Education.

While PIC has operated summer youth programs for many years -- providing economically disadvantaged youth opportunities to develop good work habits, establish a job history, obtain team work skills and learn vocational skills while earning money -- this summer marked the first time that problem-based learning has been incorporated into the program.

In the past, the youth -- ages 16 to 21 -- were always given step-by-step instructions on how to execute a task. This summer they were allowed to figure out how to accomplish the task on their own with minimal instruction from their crew supervisors.

"In a nutshell, a problem based unit poses a real problem, like 'How do we go about installing a sprinkler system at the North Forebay?' Instead of the teacher

Goals 2000 Grants Awarded

Butte County schools are some of the first California recipients of Federal Goals 2000 grant funds.

Under the auspices of the Butte County Office of Education, 13 school districts formed a consortium to apply for the education reform grant and received funding, totaling \$144,370, which is slated to be used for improving education using Goals 2000 guidelines. Chico Unified and Paradise Unified school districts received individual grants for \$141,400 and \$36,550, respectively. However, only 40 percent of these grants are currently available.

Grantees have been charged with:

- Establishing clear local education goals;
- Defining high content and performance standards for all students;
- Evaluating local programs to see where improvement is needed;
- Developing a specific plan of action to address local needs;
- Implementing locally agreed upon improvements.

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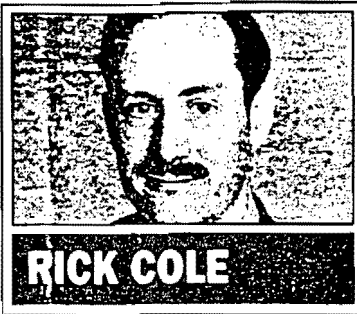
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DISNEY has recently released "Dangerous Minds," a movie filmed on location at Washington Middle School in Pasadena. In that Hollywood version of inner city education, a tough lady teacher takes on sex, drugs, gangs and illiteracy. It only takes her two hours to produce a happy ending — which is pretty much our attention span these days when it comes to complicated issues.

What happens when a tough lady superintendent takes on the same challenges — in real life? Stay tuned.

Three years ago, Superintendent Vera Vignes was new in her job. She'd replaced a smart, hard-headed, nice guy — who'd been getting ready to retire. The community had more or less given up on the public schools. A group of restless parents were pushing for change, big change.

Vignes staked her tenure on a splashy, high-risk strategy of reaching out to the community in an unprecedented "Education Summit." Part pep rally, part group therapy, it involved thousands of



parents, students, staff and community participants in figuring out how to fix the schools. It was high risk because it raised expectations: no more excuses, Vignes vowed. The schools are going to improve.

There were some basic, neglected problems that had to be faced first before Vignes could concentrate on raising student achievement. Safety. Trust. Parent involvement. That's what she heard from the "Education Summit" and that's what she's been working on. "We've made monumental improvement," she insists. "But there is no question that we need to be better at letting the commu-

nity know. The problem is — who is going to do it?"

Vignes got help this month from Delaine Eastin, the elected state superintendent of schools. Eastin announced that Pasadena would be one of the first 10 districts in California she will use as a model for education reform statewide. "Delaine Eastin wants to shake up the system," Vignes explains. "She picked us because we're already down that road."

Test scores don't yet reflect the turn-around, Vignes admits. "But we've turned the corner and there will be dramatic progress in the years ahead."

To make that happen, Vignes and the school board have taken a bold step — they have yanked federal aid dollars out of the middle schools and high schools and concentrated them on the primary grades. The goal: kids that are good at reading by the time they leave the third grade. The effort is called "Project Literacy" and it is at the heart of the district's long-term strategy for raising student achievement. It's not timed to produce a happy ending in two hours. It's aimed at producing well-edu-

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example of courage

The effort is called "Project Literacy" and it is at the heart of the district's long-term strategy for raising student achievement. It's aimed at producing well-educated graduates in twelve years.

cated graduates in twelve years.

Keeping the community focused on a goal that far off is not easy. Nor can she ignore the problems today. This year she will focus on one of the thorniest: the scandal of Pasadena's high drop-out rate. While Project Literacy offers long-term help, Vignes is not about to write off the current generation. Vignes and the school board will soon convene a task force to tackle the drop-out issue. It will operate in the spirit of the Education Summit: that the central administration doesn't have all the answers — or all the resources. It's a community challenge that demands community commitment. "We've got to do some things differently," she insists, "starting with the pattern of truancy."

There is no bravado or arrogance in her willingness to take on the seemingly impossible task

of restoring our public schools to excellence. You've got to admire her grit. During the last two years as she's tenaciously kept faith with the community by pushing through the Education Summit reforms, she was also fighting a successful battle with cancer. "I have more hope today than I had two years ago," she says. "Not that it's easy but that we've turned the corner." She's talking about the district, but her words ring with personal conviction. It's inspiring. As Dan Rather used to say: "Courage."

Hey, Disney! Interested in filming another school story in Pasadena?

Write former Pasadena City Councilman Rick Cole at the Opinion Desk, Pasadena Star-News, 911 E. Colorado Blvd., Pasadena, Calif. 91109.

Wilson May Reject \$42 Million in U.S. Funds for State Schools

LA 1 10-6-93

Education: He opposes program's 'federal dictates.'

But officials say the money has no strings attached.

in school and helping them compete in math and science with their peers around the world.

But Gov. Pete Wilson, who with conservatives around the country has said that cashing a check from the federal government is akin to turning the keys of local schools over to Washington bureaucrats,

By RICHARD LEE COLVIN
TIMES EDUCATION WRITER

Sitting in a bank account somewhere is \$42.1 million in federal money for California school districts to spend on such Mom-and-apple-pie goals as keeping children

has not decided whether to accept the largess or send it back.

The money—part of \$362 million to be made available in the second year of the national Goals 2000 program—is meant to help states and school districts by giving them money to set challenging academic standards and establish programs to meet them.

In July, however, Wilson wrote in a letter that the program "has deteriorated into a myriad of feder-

al dictates" and that he would refuse to accept the money unless changes were made. Some in Congress, sharing some of Wilson's concerns, want to eliminate the \$2-billion program altogether.

On Thursday, the federal education department sent the state of California its share of the money anyway and wrote to Wilson offering to meet with him to address his concerns.

"There are no federal dictates in

Goals 2000, nor are there any federal regulations issued as [a] result of this new program," the letter said. If Wilson's concerns cannot be assuaged, however, the money cannot be spent and would be reallocated to other states.

"We'll worry about that step if and when we get to it," said Michael Cohen, a senior U.S. education department adviser. "Our aim here is not to take the money

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Continued from A3

back, it's to get it to school districts."

At stake is a federal program that, contrary to the concerns of its critics, has almost no strings attached. The eight "goals" referred to in the law's title range from having all American children come to kindergarten ready to learn to promoting parental involvement. Schools are to be free of drugs, violence and guns and students are to meet high standards in academic subjects.

School districts were to come up with a plan that served those goals and, based on those plans, districts began receiving part of the money earlier this summer.

If the new money is accepted, Los Angeles County school districts will share about \$9 million over two years; Orange County schools would get about \$2 million; and Ventura County school districts would wind up with about \$900,000.

The money would support a wide variety of projects, such as, in Anaheim, development of curriculum and training of teachers to help students make the transition between elementary school and middle school. Simi Valley would use its share to prepare preschoolers for kindergarten and students in Newbury Park would benefit from improved math instruction.

The Los Angeles Unified School District is set to receive a total of \$3 million which it plans to distribute to 221 schools to help them institute the LEARN reform plan, focusing on improved student achievement, higher standards and a reduction in the dropout rate.

A consortium of seven school districts in the South Bay area of Los Angeles County plans to spend

the money to integrate computer technology and the Internet into a new curriculum on the environment.

Beverly Rohrer, the school superintendent in Redondo Beach, said the federal money "would be an asset—definitely an asset."

But conservatives across the country worry that, rather than an asset, the seemingly innocuous program plants the seeds of a federal takeover of schools, which have traditionally been a state and local responsibility. The outcry has been so great that some states, including New Hampshire, Virginia, Montana and Alabama, have either refused to apply for the money or have sent it back to Washington without spending it.

Joan Wonsley, a Dana Point parent who is campaigning against Goals 2000, said the testing it promotes to measure whether students are achieving academic goals amounts to "social engineering" by tracking students into certain futures based on their performance.

Goals 2000 officials say the program does mention testing and establishes academic standards, but they are voluntary, not mandated.

Maureen DiMarco, Wilson's top education adviser, said the governor wants to be sure that such concerns are addressed before agreeing to accept the money. Although the law's goals are laudable, she said, "the question is whether the money is... going to go for those goals or sidetrack us into other things."

"We have not said 'No thanks,'" DiMarco said. "If the money is truly a blank check, of course, we would take it. But if it is going to require you to do things that are in conflict with things you believe you should do, then we won't."

She said Wilson will probably stick by his earlier position of not making a final decision until after Congress and the Clinton Administration have decided on whether the program will be continued.

Forget the strings

Wilson should accept federal school aid

Now that Gov. Pete Wilson is no longer running for president, he should stop campaigning.

We're speaking of his suggestion that he will reject \$42 million in federal school aid from the Goals 2000 program because, in his view, there are too many strings attached.

School-district officials say there are very few strings attached to this money. The program includes a few goals, but nothing that would impede the funding from being put to good use. Besides, Wilson never has hesitated to accept federal education money in the past.

About \$10 million of the Goals 2000 money has already been disbursed in California. That is about 40 percent of the first-year funding. The \$42 million represents the remaining 60 percent for the first year and all of the second year.

That money is important to Superintendent Bob Reeves of the Poway Unified School District. The district has used Goals 2000 money to set up strict academic-performance standards for each grade, a project that has cost \$296,000. Reeves said this funding has no burdensome federal strings. "If it did, we'd send it back," he said. "Our board doesn't believe in a lot of strings from Congress."

Twelve other school districts in the county have received nearly \$523,000 in Goals 2000 funding. By next year, 18 districts and 130 schools would benefit from the funding. If Wilson refuses the funds, the two-year loss for San Diego County school districts would be over

\$2 million.

During his presidential campaign, Wilson used Goals 2000 to illustrate how the federal government was trying to control the states. To show his independence, he said he would refuse money from the program. Apparently, he still feels bound by that promise.

He shouldn't. The promise was a bad idea then, and it's still a bad idea.

While there are many examples of onerous federal mandates and controls on states, Goals 2000 is not one of them. This program includes eight lofty-sounding goals, but any standards or testing to reach these goals is strictly voluntary. Besides, the goals are things nobody can argue against, such as increasing parental involvement, improving academic standards, freeing schools of drugs, violence and guns, and making American students No. 1 in the world in math and science.

Gov. Wilson has accepted education money from the federal government before. About 8 percent, or \$2.6 billion, of the state's education funding comes from Washington. And he accepted the first installment of Goals 2000 money.

Education is too important to become a political plaything, especially in California. Kids in our state rank dead last in the nation in reading comprehension. Two out of three states spend more per student than California does. We have more pupils per classroom than any other state. And these problems are getting worse, not better.

The governor should back off his campaign promise and accept the Goals 2000 money.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR S.F. Chron. 10-17-95

The Governor, Schools and Goals 2000

Editor — Your October 6 article titled, "Wilson Spurns \$42 Million Federal Grant for Schools," does not properly present the governor's position on Goals 2000.

The governor has made very clear his belief that education is the responsibility of state and local governments, and that the federal government has no role in micro-managing our schools. That's why the governor has stated his belief that we should "proceed with caution" in accepting second-year Goals 2000 dollars.

He believes that educators and parents must be assured that these dollars will, in fact, not be tied to federal mandates that limit local decision-making on how to use the money either now or in the future.

All too often the pattern of federal programs is to offer funds that are then followed by the intervention of controlling regulations and bureaucratic meddling.

A further complication is that the House has removed funding for next year's Goals 2000 budget, and the Senate Appropriations Committee has reduced Goals 2000 by nearly two-thirds below the president's January budget request.

With the future of Goals 2000 funding uncertain, for local school districts to program funds for multiyear projects, which will require the redirection of funds from other worthy projects, if and when the federal dollars are eliminated or diminished, would be counterproductive and imprudent.

We need only look to the broken IRCA and SLIAG commitments to remember that the federal government has promised money before and reneged on that promise.

Very simply put, the governor — with experience as the teacher — is being admirably cautious in refusing to accept these funds until all the details are ironed out. Local school districts will do well by being equally as cautious and not expending funds that are not already in the bank. Writing checks on an empty account is never a good idea.

The bottom line: If the Goals 2000 program is in fact structured to be free of federal strings and fully funded, and the governor believes that the reforms being funded are good for our students, his concerns will be satisfied.

MAUREEN DiMARCO
Cabinet Secretary
Governor's Office
of Child Development
and Education
Sacramento.

EDITORIAL

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School Funds
October 15, 1995
95-213

The National Goals Two-Thousand Program is meant to help states and school districts fund challenging academic curricula and achievement. And the federal program has sent California its allocation of \$42 million. But the money is sitting in a bank somewhere because Governor Wilson is hesitant in accepting it, fearing some federal mandates may be lurking underneath. The U.S. Department of Education says it's simply suggesting some general goals for those districts which use the funds.

It's obvious a mediator is needed, and KNX suggests state schools chief Delaine Eastin. This appears to be a matter of semantics. The goals set by the federal government include having children ready to learn as they enter kindergarten. Promoting parental involvement. Making schools drug-free and violence-free. Nothing very earth-shattering or sinister.

KNX hopes Eastin works quickly in easing the Governor's concerns and clarifying the program's goals. Education funding is too important to be tied up in misunderstandings.

KNX Radio welcomes editorial replies by qualified persons to maintain fairness and balance in the presentation of public issues.
George Nicholas, Vice President, CBS Radio Division, and General Manager, KNX Radio

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