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JOHN E. DEASY, Ph.D.  
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

November 17, 2011

Dear LAUSD Teacher,

Beginning in September, the District made available to the public the most recent school-level Academic Growth over Time (AGT) reports for all schools where the data existed. AGT, as you are aware, is a comprehensive analytical system of computing gains based on the progress students have made on standardized tests from one year to the next. This public data covered over 650 schools, grade levels 2 through 11, and various subjects (e.g., math, ELA, algebra, science, biology, chemistry, etc.).

We made that data public because we believe that it represents an important measure of each school's progress, is of high public interest, and does not invade the privacy of individual teachers. Following that public release, we provided individual teacher AGT results on a confidential basis limited to the teacher and principal.

The *Los Angeles Times*, not satisfied with our public disclosure of the AGT data, has made a Public Records Act demand upon the District seeking AGT data results for every teacher, and also demanding that we identify the teachers by name. I have been clear about my view that the AGT teacher-identifying data should not be shared with the public. This personnel information is evaluative of the teacher's performance and should instead be used as part of the performance discussion between a teacher and their principal. We have therefore declined the *Times*' request. Not satisfied with this approach, the *Times* last week threatened to file a lawsuit against the District unless we turn over all of the AGT results, including the teacher-identifying information.

The District, legally obligated to respond to this Public Records Act request, will be producing the school-level data and grade level data (except for grade levels with only one teacher), and we will also be producing AGT results for every teacher that **do not** disclose the teacher's name. We hope that this disclosure will satisfy the *LA Times*. Otherwise, the *LA Times* may still file a lawsuit to compel LAUSD to turn over AGT results for every teacher **with** teachers' names.

We will continue to keep you advised as to the progress of this matter.

Cordially,

Dr. John E. Deasy  
Superintendent