PRESS RELEASE
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CalSTRS and WestEd Experts Join Commission
Teacher Supply/Demand Discussion at April Meeting

SACRAMENTO – Joining the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (Commission) for review of their annual Teacher Supply in California report (TSR) are two experts in teacher demand: Ed Derman, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Plan Design and Communication, CalSTRS; and Tony Fong, Senior Policy Associate, WestEd. Mr. Fong will discuss WestEd's past research on the topic and touch upon some challenges in gathering teacher demand data, while Mr. Derman will bring statewide and regional data on expected teacher retirements.

Discussion of the TSR will take place at the Commission’s April 10, 2014 meeting in Sacramento.

The TSR reveals that the percent of fully-credentialed teachers inched up to 98.5 percent (from 98.4% in 2011-12) of all California public school teachers in 2012-13.

Additionally, the data show an increase in the number of intern credentials awarded to Education Specialist Teaching Credential candidates through the Alternative Certification (Intern) route. The number of Education Specialist intern credentials almost doubled between 2011-12 and 2012-13.

However, the data also marked the ninth consecutive year in which the total number of initial teaching credentials issued has dropped. California saw a 7 percent decrease in the number of newly issued credentials in 2012-13. This decrease is across all three types of preliminary teaching credentials (Multiple Subject, Single Subject and Education Specialist credentials) and represents a nearly 30 percent decline in the past five years in the number of initial and new type teaching credentials issued.

CTC Executive Director Mary Vixie Sandy noted that initial credentials issued for the first part of 2014 have increased slightly. “We are cautiously optimistic that we have seen the end of the downward trend,” she said.
Similarly, total teacher preparation enrollments reported under federal Title II regulations show that annual enrollments declined more than 18,000 over the past five years. This is a decrease of 41 percent between 2007-08 and 2011-12. Total teacher preparation enrollment was down by 20.7 percent between 2010-11 and 2011-12.