



CALIFORNIA  
DEPARTMENT OF  
EDUCATION

**TOM TORLAKSON**

STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

## **SCHOOLS INVITED TO APPLY FOR 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY SKILLS 2015–16 EXEMPLAR PROGRAM**

Dear County and District Superintendents and Charter School Administrators:

I am writing today to make you aware of an opportunity for schools to apply for the 21st Century Learning Exemplar Program for 2015–16.

Presented by the Partnership for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills (P21), the 21st Century Learning Exemplar Program is designed to identify, document, promote, and celebrate examples of successful 21st century learning. This program provides educators and communities a variety of examples from which to draw and offers policymakers and P21 state partners local examples to help encourage their support.

The California Department of Education joined the P21 Network in 2013 at my direction. As I noted at that time, this partnership underscores our commitment to prepare every student for the challenges of a changing world.

All schools and districts based in the United States are eligible to apply. Schools that appear to have exemplary 21st century learning practices improving student learning in classrooms and communities will be selected for evaluation visits by the P21 team. Schools that are then selected for an evaluative visit will be contacted and additional materials or information may be requested in advance of that visit. Evaluative visits will be conducted before the end of the 2014–15 school year.

Scheduling will be individually determined based on P21 and school representative availability. Following the evaluative visits, the evaluation team will make a determination regarding 21st Century Learning Exemplar status.

The program application and more information is available on the P21 Learning Exemplar Web page at <http://www.p21.org/exemplar-program-case-studies/about-the-program>. **The deadline to apply is January 31, 2015.**

For more information, please contact David Miltzer, Education Programs Consultant, Career and College Transition Division, by phone at 916-323-5146 or by e-mail at [DMiltzer@cde.ca.gov](mailto:DMiltzer@cde.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tom Torlakson".

Tom Torlakson

TT:ccc  
2014-10345