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EdVoice Statement on California's NAEP Scores

SACRAMENTO – Today's release of the Nation's Report Card only further highlights the total absence of equity of opportunity for all California's children. Results from the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) underscore a bleak reality continually facing California: persistent, decades-long gaps in achievement based on race and income. While California ranks at the bottom of the nation in reading and math achievement, it ranks at the top – in massive achievement gaps.

In 4th grade math, low-income students rank 48th in the nation – only above West Virginia, Alaska and Alabama. The size of the gap between California's low-income students and their higher income peers is the nation's sixth-largest. In eighth grade, reading and math scores have both declined. "The vast majority of California's achievement gaps have not budged in decades," said Bill Lucia, President of EdVoice.

"These results and the flat and backwards movement of scores on California's statewide tests released earlier this month call into question the state's commitment to fixing failure in California public schools. It appears the Local Control Funding Formula is finally proving to be nothing but a failed funding formula and clearly not a best practices strategy to fix failing schools," continued Lucia.

About EdVoice

EdVoice is a nonprofit grassroots network of over 50,000 parents, community leaders, educators, and the state's leading education philanthropists, working together to dramatically increase measurable student achievement and eliminate educational inequality for all children.