



# CALIFORNIA INTERSCHOLASTIC FEDERATION

Marie M. Ishida, Executive Director  
ishidasan@cifstate.org

Roger L. Blake, Associate Executive Director  
rblake@cifstate.org

Ron Nocetti, Senior Director  
rnocetti@cifstate.org

STATE OFFICE • 4658 DUCKHORN DRIVE, SACRAMENTO, CA 95834 • TEL 916-239-4477 • FAX 916-239-4478 • [www.cifstate.org](http://www.cifstate.org)

January 2010

The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger  
Governor, State of California

The Honorable Darrell Steinberg  
President, California State Senate

The Honorable Karen Bass  
Speaker, California State Assembly

The Honorable Dennis Hollingsworth  
Minority Leader, California State Senate

The Honorable Sam Blakeslee  
Minority Leader, California State Assembly

RE: Evaluation and Accountability Activities of the California Interscholastic Federation ("CIF")

Dear State Policymakers:

We are pleased to submit to you the report highlighting the evaluation and accountability goals and activities regarding high school interscholastic athletic programs in California. This report complies with Education Code 33352 (b)1.

The CIF has made major strides in many areas including student safety, equity and quality of coaching. As a whole, the volunteer-run statewide federation has worked hard to change its constitution and bylaws to address emerging athletic issues regarding student eligibility and appeals processes. We have improved our methods of communication to enhance transparency and have worked hard to enforce new laws requiring comprehensive training of high school athletic coaches. Additionally, in 2008, CIF participated in an informational hearing held in the Capitol to educate the Legislature and public on CIF's structure, history and rule-making processes.

Without a doubt, the CIF and its member schools have worked diligently to improve interscholastic programs for all students that participate in high school sports. However, the fiscal challenges being faced by public schools are having a major impact on interscholastic athletic programs, as many school districts have been forced to consider cancelling and/or reducing their athletic programs. Additionally, legal expenses continue to grow as parents become more litigious when they disagree with a decision at the local level regarding the state rules governing student eligibility. These are areas we will continue to focus on in the future. Finally, as part of its ongoing strategic plan implementation process, CIF is undergoing a comprehensive review of its governance structure and final recommendations are due to the federated council in 2010.

As always, we thank you for your support of education based high school interscholastic athletics. If you have any questions regarding the attached report, please do not hesitate to call.

Mike Henson  
President, State CIF and  
Director, Student Pathways,  
Porterville Unified School District

Marie M. Ishida  
Executive Director