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December 16, 2015

Dear Former FUSD Student,

We are contacting you today to let you know about recent changes to the law which may positively impact you. Requirements around the passage of the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE) have changed. Any former FUSD student who met all graduation requirements with the exception of passing the CAHSEE is eligible to receive a diploma beginning January 1, 2016.

Due to the change in academic standards, Senate Bill (SB) 172 was signed by the Governor to suspend the administration of the CAHSEE and the requirement that students pass the CAHSEE to receive a high school diploma for the 2015–16, 2016–17, and 2017–18 school years. The law requires that schools grant a diploma to any pupil who completed grade twelve in the 2003-04 school year or later, and met all applicable graduation requirements other than the passage of the high school exit examination. The law becomes effective on January 1, 2016. A prior bill, SB 725, exempted just the students from the class of 2014-15, and became effective August 26, 2015.

If you believe you are now eligible to receive a diploma, please visit your high school's web site at http://www.fremont.k12.ca.us. You can find specifics about a form that you will need to complete and submit either in person or via mail (email will not be accepted). High schools will begin accepting the forms when they re-open from the winter break on Monday, January 4, 2016. As long as all applicable graduation requirements have been met, you will be eligible to receive a high school diploma.

If you have classes that you need to complete in order to receive a diploma, your high school can provide you with a transcript. The school web site has contact information for this purpose. The Fremont Adult and Continuing Education school is available for adult students to complete necessary coursework and graduate. If you are out of the area, you can present your transcript to a local adult school to see how to proceed.

Please note, all Fremont Unified schools re-open from the winter break on Monday, January 4, 2016. Additionally note that, if approved, it may take up to several weeks to receive the diploma.

If you have additional questions, please contact the registrar at your high school. We wish you continued success in your college or career path.

Warm regards,

Julie Forbes Director of Assessment and Accountability