

SOUTH BAY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD  
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PRESS RELEASE

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SB WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD FORMS  
COLLABORATIVE TO ABATE LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL'S  
TRUANCY AND DROP OUT PROBLEMS

The South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB) has been awarded a California Department of Education 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Assets Contract to proceed with an after school Truancy/Drop Out Abatement Program over the next five years at Leuzinger High School in Lawndale. The students will benefit from the \$250,000 yearly grant that will total \$1.25 million over the five-year period.

Working in collaboration with the Centinela Valley Union High School District and the UCLA Community Learning Center, the SBWIB will provide a variety of services to students including academic enrichment, job training, character development and conflict resolution training. GED classes will also be provided for parents.

"We are very excited to be able to help the District address this lingering problem that is harming our young people and undermining their future," noted Jan Vogel, SBWIB Executive Director. "This community-based collaborative is committed to creating an environment where these young people can be educated and better prepared to enter the workforce of the future," he concluded.

In recent years, Leuzinger High School has experienced up to 27 percent truancy rates amongst a student body that averages nearly 3,000 students annually.