ESP Alumni Advocating for SB 1023 Foster Youth Education Funding for Post-secondary Education, California Community Colleges.

On Friday May 16, 2014, students and I met with Senator Steinberg consultants regarding the SB 1023 Education Funding for Foster Youth Education through categorical funding to California Community Colleges. Mr. Steinberg is our District Senator and a lead Co-sponsor for SB1023. We met with Senator Steinberg Pro-Staff Erin Gabel and Lynn Lorber who are the Pro Tem and Committee Staff directly staffing SB1023. The meeting began at 11:00 am and concluded shortly after 12:00pm. Students spoke of their individual college experiences, ESP, campus supportive services, accomplishments and their individual pursuits. I provided an overview of the prior Enriched Scholars Program (ESP) services and the continued efforts to up hold the California State Initiative (FYSI) to support foster youth in postsecondary education; meeting the needs of foster youth who attend Cosumnes River College.

In Sacramento County, Cosumnes River College was the first college to have a program geared specifically meet the needs of foster youth on campus; funded through a onetime grant in 2008-2012. Post grant funding years the resources declined significantly to minimal impacting the program services to student on campus. Sustainable funding is vital and necessary for community colleges to provide unique services for foster youth in Higher Ed and is why supporting SB1023 is important.

Below are the students who attended the May 16th meeting:

1. **Kou Her**, is an Alumni of Cosumnes River College, Enriched Scholars Program (foster youth academic support services). Kou Her obtained an Associate of Arts in Automotive Technology and currently works for Miata Chevrolet in Elk Grove CA.

2. **Armone Clemmons**, is an Alumni of Cosumnes River College, Enriched Scholars Program (foster youth academic support services). Armone obtained an Associates of Arts in Human Services, then transferred to California State University of Sacramento, where he completed his Bachelors of Arts in Social Work. Armone is currently enrolled a Maters Social Work program at CSUS.

3. **Shalanda Allen**, is an Alumni of Cosumnes River College, Enriched Scholars Program. Shalanda obtained an Associates of Arts in Liberal Arts & Behavior Sciences. Shalanda attends California State University of Sacramento and is pursuing a BA in Early Child Hood Education.

4. **David Williams Jr.**, is an Alumni of Cosumnes River College, Enriched Scholars Program. David obtained his Associates of Arts in Liberal Arts & Behavior Sciences and Associates of Arts in Social Sciences. David has been accepted to California State University of Sacramento for fall 2015 term.

**PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE SB1023 PASSED**

**SEPTEMBER 29, 2014: APPROVED BY GOVERNOR BROWN.**

**SHORT-FALL, EVEN THOUGH SB1023 PASSED, FUNDING HAS NOT BEEN ASSIGNED TO SUPPORT SB1023 INITIATIVES**