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Darline P. Robles, Ph.D., *superintendent*

July 14, 2009

TO: Superintendents
Board President
Assistant Superintendents of Business Services
Assistant Superintendents of Curriculum and Instruction
Directors of Facilities
Emergency/Disaster Services Coordinators

FROM: Darline P. Robles, Ph.D., Superintendent

SUBJECT: The Great California ShakeOut

The Los Angeles County Office of Education is partnering with the Earthquake Country Alliance (ECA) to promote The Great California ShakeOut, an earthquake training drill that will be held on Thursday, October 15, 2009.

The public drill — starting at 10:15 a.m. — is designed to inspire residents statewide to get ready for the eventuality of big earthquakes and help prevent disasters from becoming catastrophes.

On ShakeOut day millions of people, including students, will practice “Drop, Cover and Hold On” and other safety procedures. It will be the largest earthquake drill in U.S. history, surpassing a similar exercise held last fall across Southern California.

Because campuses are required to conduct annual earthquake drills, I encourage all school districts to get involved in this year’s ShakeOut. Firefighters, police officers and other emergency responders will participate in the drill, along with individuals, families, businesses and many other organizations.

I also encourage educators to develop and promote their own ShakeOut activities and events, such as providing emergency preparedness information to parents and presenting classroom lessons. There are numerous instructional correlations with the earth sciences standards, particularly for 6th-graders.

Please see the attached informational flyer on The Great California ShakeOut. For additional information about ShakeOut, including activity updates and how districts and schools can register as participants, visit the official website at: www.ShakeOut.org

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Attachment

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