

# The FISCAL REPORT an informational update

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## Ask SSC . . .

### Is There New Language for Teacher Evaluations?

- Q.** I understand there may be new language regarding teacher evaluations. Do you know of any?
- A.** Many thanks for your inquiry. There is a new law that provides an option for teacher evaluation for long-term successful teachers. AB 954 (Chapter 566/2003) sets forth what we call the “five year evaluation option.” This new law adds language to Education Code Section 44664 that allows for the following:

A certificated employee and his/her evaluator may mutually agree that the employee will be evaluated only once every five years *if*:

- The certificated employee has permanent status
- Has been employed by the school district for at least 10 years
- Meets the Federal definition of highly qualified
- Previous evaluations show that the employee meets or exceeds the standards

If either party wants to change the agreement, either may withdraw consent at any time. Evaluation processes are within the scope of negotiations, so this is a topic that may be on your next list of topics for negotiations. The bill takes effect January 1, 2004 .

—Carol Berg