



FIRST-CLASS EDUCATOR

Jack O'Connell

State Superintendent of Public Instruction
State of California
California State University, Fullerton
(1973, History)

» Taught at his high school alma mater and served on the Santa Barbara County School Board.

» Elected to the 35th State Assembly District in 1982; re-elected by wide margins thereafter, once garnering both the Republican and Democratic nominations.

» Elected to the 18th State Senate District on the central coast in 1994 and won re-election in 1998.

» Became State Superintendent of Public Instruction in 2002 and re-elected in 2006 to lead California's public school system and Department of Education; known as a tireless advocate for students who has the ability to forge consensus on contentious issues.

» Working to improve student achievement in high schools by authoring legislation creating the high school exit exam, and facilitating partnerships between schools, businesses, communities, and philanthropies.