



Get to know

California School Boards Association





Who we are

- A collaborative group of virtually all of the state's more than 1,000 K–12 public school districts and county offices of education, as well as many regional occupational programs.
- A nonprofit, member-driven organization that supports school governance teams—board members, superintendents and senior administrative staff—and helps them fulfill their complex leadership role. We provide a broad range of advocacy, information and support services.
- A way for California schools to have a significant impact on education policy and law at the state and federal levels.
- The only statewide organization representing the school board/governance perspective in strengthening and promoting public education and ensuring high levels of student achievement.



What we do

Governmental Relations

CSBA is a strong voice in Sacramento and in Washington, D.C. Our advocates analyze all legislation affecting K–12 public education. Armed with this analysis, they represent the unique perspective of local school governance teams to the state Legislature, governor, Congress, the White House and appropriate state and federal agencies.

Communications

CSBA helps the public and the media understand the role of school boards and the importance of local school governance. We also support the association's legislative advocacy and policy efforts and publish books and reports on current education issues.

We keep our members informed through the CSBA Web site, weekly e-news blast, monthly *California School News* newsletter and quarterly *California Schools* magazine, and now Facebook and Twitter.

Policy Analysis and Research

CSBA is at the forefront of public policy analysis and research, providing thorough examinations of education issues. We anticipate issues, develop comprehensive strategies to address them and produce balanced, factual reports and advisories for our members.

We also advocate the school governance perspective to state regulatory agencies and influence decisions by the state Board of Education and the Commission on Teacher Credentialing.

Board Development

CSBA offers many leadership development opportunities—regionally and statewide—to governance teams on a range of critical education issues. Recently, we've added many online events so school governance team members and staff can receive training without having to travel great distances and in some cases, learn at their own pace.

We also conduct research and development related to school governance, and provide tools and training to board members so they may successfully govern public schools. Through our two-year Masters in Governance program, board members and superintendents learn skills to support an effective governance structure. We also offer individual consulting services and work with boards to empower them to become highly effective governance teams.

CSBA is the only organization that offers critical and timely education information from the governance perspective.

Governance Technology

On the cutting edge of technology, CSBA offers two valuable services:

AgendaOnline is our electronic board meeting agenda service. It's a Web-based application that allows development of and access to board meeting agendas, supporting documents and minutes.

GAMUT Online™ is our unparalleled policy information service. It offers easy access to CSBA's more than 800 legally researched sample board policies, regulations and bylaws, as well as the Education Code, Title 5 and other relevant state and federal code sections.

Policy Development

CSBA offers a variety of services to help keep your policy manual current. With a policy development workshop, staff and board representatives work with CSBA consultants to customize a legally compliant policy manual. For maintenance of policy manuals, rely on our service which provides policy updates three times a year and ongoing consulting and word processing assistance. Coupled with GAMUT Online™, Manual Maintenance eliminates paper and printing costs and lets you access your policies through the Internet. Also available is our Policy Audit Program, in which a consultant reviews your policy manual, checks for mandates and other important legal requirements and recommends necessary action.

Financial Services

CSBA's Finance Corporation offers four low-cost, hassle-free financing programs. We help districts/county offices build schools, deal with short-term cash flow problems and even buy photocopiers and lawnmowers.

District Services

CSBA's District Services Corporation offers more than 15 programs to assist districts/county offices maximize resources, generate additional income, save time and money and make compliance easy.

Outreach

CSBA is involved in a number of activities that help governance teams better serve their schools and their diverse student populations. CSBA's Student Issues Conference Groups support districts/COEs in improving student achievement and close achievement gaps. In addition, CSBA reaches out to our diverse membership through groups such as the Small School Districts Council, the Superintendents Advisory Council, the California County Boards of Education and the ethnic school board member associations. We also support urban districts as they address the challenges of governing large school systems.

Education Legal Alliance

CSBA's Education Legal Alliance initiates and supports litigation in cases of statewide significance in the courts and before state agencies. Over the years, the Alliance has both saved and gained schools literally millions of dollars and protected the governance role of the board.

Foundation

The California School Boards Foundation is a 501 (c) 3 nonprofit, tax-exempt educational organization that provides support and training to school board members, conducts specialized policy analysis and research projects, and recognizes educational leadership and achievements. Aligned with the vision and mission of the organization, the current CSBF initiatives are student wellness, preschool for all, the education funding adequacy campaign and fostering effective governance.

California Schools Business Affiliate Program

The California Schools Business Affiliate Program provides a coordinated way for companies that work with schools to demonstrate their support for public education, as well as gain insight into the latest developments in education. Companies receive a variety of special opportunities, services and valuable information. Affiliate program revenue is directed to the CSBA Foundation and the programs and projects it supports.

Visit www.csba.org for more detailed information about all of the CSBA programs and services listed above.



Vision

The California School Boards Association envisions a state where the public schools are widely recognized as the foundation of a free and democratic society, where local citizen governing boards are fully vested with the means to advance the best interests of students and the public, and where the futures of all children are driven by their aspirations, not bounded by their circumstances.

Mission

Boards of education are entrusted by their diverse communities to ensure that a high quality education is provided to each student. CSBA promotes success for all students by defining and driving the public education agenda and strengthening school board governance at the district and county levels. To achieve this mission, CSBA will be the leader in providing:

- **Policy and political leadership on behalf of children and students**
CSBA conducts non-partisan research and policy analysis, and advocates aggressively for state and federal policies that are coherent and focused on providing educational opportunities for all students.
- **Comprehensive support for governance teams**
CSBA provides training, support, resources and inspiration to governing boards and superintendents to maximize their effectiveness in carrying out their critical leadership functions.
- **Direct services to districts and county offices of education**
CSBA provides high quality fiscal, policy, executive search and other services to school districts and county offices of education to assist them in meeting the needs of their students.
- **Education to our communities about public schools and school board leadership**
CSBA develops and implements communications strategies that increase the public's understanding about the value of public education and the importance of local school governance.

Adopted as modified June 29, 2008



How we're governed

Delegate Assembly

The Delegate Assembly is made up of approximately 270 board members who are elected by local boards in 21 geographic regions throughout the state. Delegates provide policy direction, elect officers and ensure that the association addresses the needs of its members.

Board of Directors

Elected by the members of the Delegate Assembly, the Board of Directors provides statewide, regional and constituency leadership; and has corporate responsibilities for the association. The board establishes the vision, mission and goals for the association and ensures that the association's activities and programs remain focused on those goals.

The 32-member board consists of 21 regional directors, two representing county boards (the current president of the California County Boards of Education and a county board member elected at large), four at-large directors (one each representing American Indian, Asian/Pacific Islander, Black and Hispanic constituencies), one representing the National School Boards Association and the Executive Committee.

Executive Committee

The committee is composed of the president, president-elect, vice president, immediate past president and executive director (ex officio). The officers are elected by the delegates at the Delegate Assembly meeting just prior to the CSBA Annual Education Conference and Trade Show and serve for one year in each position.



How to get involved

One of the most important aspects of CSBA membership is the opportunity to get involved in the association's governance and programs. You and your governance team are encouraged to actively participate. In doing so, you benefit your schools, your students and yourself. Below are just a few of the many ways you can get involved. Visit www.csba.org for more detailed information about each activity.

- Help craft the Policy Platform
- Join the Legislative Action Network
- Serve on a committee or task force
- Run for Delegate Assembly
- Become a Regional Director or Executive Committee member
- Participate in professional development
- Engage in the Student Issues Conference Groups
- Attend CSBA's Annual Education and Trade Show
- Adopt and promote Professional Governance Standards



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Contact us

There are many ways to reach CSBA. Let us know how we can help you fulfill your leadership role and ensure high levels of student achievement.

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Join the movement. Find us on Facebook.® Follow us on Twitter.

**Thank you for your membership in
the California School Boards Association!**

Note: As part of your membership, you may receive e-mail pertaining to education information, news, updates and marketing/promotional information. You may opt not to receive such information.