

Location: Sheraton San Diego Resort, San Diego, CA 92101

Program subject to change.

Tuesday, March 10, 2026 Masters in Governance COE Course 1 (Pre-Workshop)	
9:30 a.m.–10:00 a.m.	Masters in Governance Attendee Check-in
10:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.	Foundations of Effective Governance
12:30–1:15 p.m.	Lunch
1:15–4:30 p.m.	Setting Direction
4:30 p.m.	Adjourn

Wednesday, March 11, 2026 Governance Workshop	
8:30–9:30 a.m.	Governance Workshop Attendee Check-in
8:30–9:30 a.m.	County Member Connection Breakfast
9:30–9:40 a.m.	Welcome and Opening Remarks <i>Speakers: Dr Debra Schade, President, CSBA and Vernon M. Billy, CEO & Executive Director, CSBA</i>
9:40–9:45 a.m.	Workshop Overview <i>Speaker: Mike Walsh, Director, County Board Member Services, CSBA</i>
9:45–10:45 a.m.	Understanding the Foster Youth Services Coordinating Program: Roles, Impact, and Opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This workshop provides County Office of Education Board members with an overview of the Foster Youth Services Coordinating Program (FYSCP) and its role in supporting the academic success, stability, and well-being of students in foster care. Participants will learn about the purpose and requirements of the FYSCP, key services and supports provided to students in foster care, and how county offices collaborate with school districts, child welfare, probation, and community partners. <i>Speaker: Michelle Lustig, Ed.D., MSW, Program Director, Los Angeles COE, and Mindy Corless, MSW, Program Coordinator, Los Angeles COE</i>
10:45–11:00 a.m.	Break
11:00–11:15 a.m.	Micro-Training: Research in Action: Understanding Students Through Research <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Research and Education Policy Development (REPD) department provides research, policy analysis, and data-driven resources to support effective governance and student success. REPD briefs offer key insights into trends and issues affecting county student populations, helping leaders better understand and serve their communities. <i>Speaker: Naomi M. Eason, Ed.D., Chief, Research and Education Policy Development, CSBA</i>
11:15 a.m.–12:00 p.m.	Supporting Foster Youth: The County Board’s Role in Improving Outcomes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Join us for an engaging and interactive session on supporting foster youth in TK–12 education. Demontea “Tae” Thompson will share personal experiences and practical strategies to help educators, leaders, and policymakers better understand the challenges and opportunities these students face. The session includes a review of new foster youth research briefs, offering actionable insights and evidence-based practices that can be applied immediately.

	<i>Speaker: Demontea "Tae" Thompson, Executive Director, Together We Inspire</i>
12:00–1:15 p.m.	Networking Lunch
1:15–1:45 p.m.	<p>Micro-Training: Transfer Appeals: Roles, Rules & Relationships</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inter-district attendance laws and procedures will be reviewed in the context of transfer appeals. The session focuses on governance relationships between county and district boards, highlighting best practices and guidance for navigating the process with transparency, shared responsibility, and a student-centered approach. <p><i>Speaker: Matthew P. Juhl-Darlington, Attorney at Law, Dannis Woliver Kelley</i></p>
1:45–2:45 p.m.	<p>Transforming Foster Youth Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This panel brings together leaders from Seneca Family of Agencies, and Fostering Promise to explore how education systems, child welfare, and community partners can align to improve outcomes for foster youth. They will share how lived experience, governance leadership, and cross-system collaboration can drive lasting change. Trustees and superintendents will leave with concrete insights on their unique roles in shaping policies and partnerships that center student voice, stability, and long-term success. <p><i>Speakers: Ken Berrick, CEO, Just Advocates and Rising Social Strategies, Founder, Seneca and Trustee on the Alameda COE; and Andre Chapman, President and CEO, Fostering Promise.</i></p>
2:45–3:00 p.m.	Break
3:00–3:30 p.m.	<p>Micro-Training: Discipline Appeals: Governance in Practice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> When student discipline challenges arise, clarity and strategy matter. Explore the latest suspension and expulsion procedures, learn how county and district boards can work together effectively, and leave with practical guidance for fair, transparent, and student-focused decision-making. <p><i>Speaker: Matthew P. Juhl-Darlington, Attorney at Law, Dannis Woliver Kelley</i></p>
3:30–4:30 p.m.	<p>Legislative and Budget Advocacy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Join CSBA's Chief of Government Affairs Patrick O'Donnell and Legislative Director Chris Reefe as they provide an assessment of the current state of political affairs in the Legislature as the 2026 gubernatorial and midterm election approaches. Included will be an in-depth analysis of the Governor's proposed state budget, including the proposal to withhold \$5.6 billion in Proposition 98 funding, where things stand on discussions about modernizing the Local Control Funding Formula, and how it could all impact county offices of education. This will also include an overview of recent developments in child welfare policies and programs serving homeless youth and the role county offices of education can play in supporting some of the state's most at-risk students. A robust question and answer session will follow, time permitting. <p><i>Speaker: Patrick O'Donnell, Chief, Governmental Relations, CSBA; and Chris Reefe, Legislative Director, CSBA</i></p>
4:30–5:30 p.m.	<p>Mix, Mingle & Win: Networking Reception</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attend for a chance to win complimentary registration to upcoming CSBA events!
7:30 p.m.	<p>Movie Night</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possible Selves is a feature-length documentary that follows two foster youth, Alex and Mia, as they navigate high school and pursue college—an achievement reached by only 3% of adults who grow up in foster care. Offering a rare, first-hand look at the foster care experience, the film was made possible through special court approval and in partnership with First Star, a nonprofit supporting foster youth on the path to higher education.

Thursday, March 12, 2026

7:30–8:30 a.m.	Governance Workshop Attendee Check-in
7:30–8:30 a.m.	County Member Connection Breakfast
8:30–8:45 a.m.	Micro-Training: Golden Awards



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discover what makes a Golden Bell Award® program stand out. Hear from a reviewer and an award-winning county leader as they share insights on innovative programs, strong governance practices, and ideas you can apply in your own community. <p><i>Speakers: Sindy Biederman, Board Member, Napa COE, Jessica Speiser, Board Member, Santa Clara COE; and Amy Christianson, Board Member, Butte COE and Chief, Conference and Member Experience, CSBA</i></p>
8:45–10:00 a.m.	<p>Nothing About Us, Without Us</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This session explores how county offices of education can lead meaningful systems change for foster youth by centering student voice as a governance and leadership imperative. Using Riverside County Office of Education’s Foster Youth Success Initiative as a case study, participants will examine how data, cross-agency collaboration, and lived experience can inform policy and practice. Trustees and superintendents will leave with practical insights to ensure decisions affecting foster youth are made with them—not for them. <p><i>Speaker: Amanda Corridan, Chief Academic Officer, Riverside COE; Britnay Anderson, a foster youth and champion for student well-being; and student panel.</i></p>
10:00–10:15 a.m.	<p>Break</p>
10:15–10:45 a.m.	<p>Micro-Training: Rules of Order</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A focused micro-training from CSBA’s Chief Legal Counsel and former County Board member on the most common missteps county boards make when managing meetings — and how to use rules of order to ensure clarity, fairness, and effective governance. <p><i>Speaker: Bob Turek, CSBA Chief, Legal Services</i></p>
10:45–11:15 a.m.	<p>From Learning to Action: Turning Insight into Next Steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This concluding session provides participants with dedicated time to reflect on key insights from the workshop’s sessions on foster youth, legislation, and county office services, and to consider how these ideas translate into action at the local level. Through guided discussion and structured reflection, attendees will identify priorities, share feedback, and develop practical next steps to support foster youth and strengthen county-level governance and services. Participants will leave with clearer direction on how to apply what they’ve learned, engage in informed conversations with colleagues at home, and support ongoing improvement efforts within their county offices of education. <p><i>Speaker: Mike Walsh, Director, County Board Member Services, CSBA</i></p>
11:15–11:30 a.m.	<p>Closing Remarks and Evaluation</p> <p><i>Speaker: Mike Walsh, Director, County Board Member Services, CSBA</i></p>