

CSBA's Education Legal Alliance

# Fighting for public schools

since 1992



## // Who we are

The California School Boards Association's Education Legal Alliance is a consortium of school districts, county offices of education, and Regional Occupational Centers/Programs that have voluntarily joined together for the past 29 years to create a powerful force to pursue and defend a broad spectrum of statewide public education interests before state and federal courts, state agencies and the Legislature.

## // What we do

- » Initiate litigation on issues of statewide importance, such as Proposition 98 funding
- » File amicus briefs and letters supporting school districts and county offices of education on issues of statewide importance to public schools
- » Advocate for education-related legislation
- » Provide information to members on ELA issues

## // How we work

An advisory committee of experienced school law attorneys assists in providing legal analysis and recommendations for ELA involvement to the Steering Committee.

ELA involvement is reviewed by a broad-based Steering Committee consisting of school board members, superintendents, and statewide education leaders.

## // Recent activities

### **Hundreds of Millions of Dollars Saved for School Districts:**

In recent years, the ELA settled three lawsuits brought against the State — *CSBA v. Cohen I*, *CSBA v. Cohen II*, and *CSBA v. Bosler* — resulting in repayment of \$686 million to California public schools for underpayment in prior years. The ELA will continue to fight to ensure public schools receive all the funding they are entitled to, and to block any manipulation of Proposition 98 funds.

**Amicus Support:** The ELA's amicus work ensures courts understand the impact their decision will have on districts and county offices of education throughout the state, including:

- » *Brennon B. v. West Contra Costa USD*: protecting LEAs against excessive damages awards under the misapplication of the Unruh Act, which aims to protect individuals from discrimination by "business establishments"
- » *CP V Walnut v. Fremont USD*: ensuring LEAs can assess appropriate developer fees to build and modernize school facilities
- » *Crawford v. Commission on Professional Competence of Jurupa USD*: protecting LEAs' ability to make appropriate school staffing decisions when staff display immoral conduct
- » *Gordon v. LAUSD*: fighting unreasonable attorney's fees in special education litigation against LEAs

## **THANK YOU** for your support!

Your annual contribution to Education Legal Alliance ensures that we can continue this vital work. For more information about your membership, please contact the CSBA legal department at **(800) 266-3382** or [legal@csba.org](mailto:legal@csba.org).

