

California School News Weekly Update
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California schoolnews

weekly update



July 16, 2014

Upcoming Events

Agenda Online Demonstration

July 18 - Online
 July 22 - Online
 July 24 - Online
 July 29 - Online
 July 30 - Online

Agenda Online Regional Demonstration

July 22 - Santa Rosa
 July 29 - San Jose

CCBE Fall Conference

Sept. 12-14 - Monterey

Back to School Webcast

Sept. 18 - Online

MIG Course 1: Foundations of Effective Governance/Setting Direction

Sept. 19 - San Jose
 Sept. 26 - San Diego

MIG Course 2: Student Learning/Policy

Sept. 20 - San Jose
 Sept. 27 - San Diego

MIG Course 3: School Finance

Sept. 19 - San Jose
 Sept. 27 - San Diego

MIG Course 4: Human Resources/Collective Bargaining

Sept. 20 - San Jose
 Sept. 26 - San Diego

MIG Course 5: Community Relations & Advocacy/Gov. Integration

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SBE approves LCFF permanent regulations, revised LCAP template

School board members, superintendents commended for thoughtful comments at July 10 meeting

The State Board of Education on July 10 voted unanimously to move ahead on the Local Control Funding Formula permanent spending regulations and the Local Control and Accountability Plan template after hearing testimony from school board members, CSBA and ASCA representatives, advocates, students, parents, and others. "We've come miles from January," observed SBE Member Sue Burr following the testimony. "We are very close on these proposals. The areas of disagreement are very narrow," she added. Responding to CSBA's call, more than 40 school governance leaders turned out to testify individually and in groups about their districts' early successes in engaging communities and improving and increasing services for unduplicated pupils under the current regulations. Others, including CSBA President Josephine Lucey—a Cupertino Union School District Board Member—and CSBA Staff Attorney Josh Daniels provided comments on the proposed revisions urging the State Board to remain focused on the goal of improving student outcomes and increasing transparency. Watch the video, [Californians seek transparency in local school funding](#), produced by California Forward, for footage of meeting testimony and on-site comments by Josephine Lucey, parents, advocacy groups and students on the need for transparency, equity and flexibility. You may [use this sample memo](#) to submit comments to the SBE during the 15-day public comment period—now through July 28. Following the comment period and a public meeting on July 22, the SBE will make any changes to the regulations and LCAP template and place them on its September 3-4 agenda. Please continue to watch for updates on CSBA's dedicated [LCFF Web page](#) under "State Board of Education." [Read the full story](#) about the SBE meeting on CSBA's website, and read [A Good Day for Civics Education](#), by CSBA Policy & Programs Officer Peter Wright, on the CSBA blog.

FCC approves new E-rate plan

Schools, libraries to receive additional Wi-Fi funding

Sept. 19 - San Jose
Sept. 26 - San Diego

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On Friday, July 11, the Federal Communications Commission **voted to approve** a new E-rate plan that includes a \$2 billion boost to local E-Rate services. The E-rate program supports telecommunications services in schools and libraries by providing low-cost Internet connections and services. The new plan was approved on a vote of 3-2. As approved, the plan will increase Wi-Fi funding to schools and libraries by \$1 billion a year over the next two years and set an annual “funding amount” for the following years. An additional \$3 billion will be redirected to provide and upgrade Wi-Fi services by eliminating inefficiencies in the program and phasing out support for non-Internet based services, like pagers. The proposal also attempts to maximize dollars through the use of incentives designed to encourage using consortia and bulk purchasing, as well as transparency on the charges for E-rate services. Finally, the plan calls for a “safety net” to protect priority funding for Internet connections in the event that funding is insufficient to approve all applications for broadband and Wi-Fi. The new E-rate framework is intended to go into effect for the 2015-16 school year. Read the **FCC’s Fact Sheet** on the E-rate program.

CSBA newsletter now in full-color, digital format *California Schools magazine also goes digital*

Beginning with the July issue, California School News is offered online in **full-color digital format** as well as in full-color print. The new digital format offers “flexibility for our readership to enjoy dynamic content from most Internet-enabled devices or to download a PDF and take it with them anywhere,” said Devin Crosby, assistant executive director of communications and information technology at CSBA. In addition to providing the more standard features, like page-view options (single-, spread- and full-page), page-flip, zoom and print capability, readers can search individual newsletters as well as all past issues for key words and phrases—now you can search for news on LCFF, find that quote from several issues back or look up references to a past- or current-session bill. Other tools let you share an issue or page with a colleague or on a social media site, create notes and mark pages as favorites. “Contents” lets you view each issue’s articles at-a-glance and go to one in a click, while “Settings” lets you enable or disable sound and animation. The new format is easy to navigate, but if you get stuck, the “Help” link provides clear, succinct guidance on tools and navigation. **Have a look at the July issue!** Starting in August, California Schools magazine will also be available in the new digital format.

CSBA continues to press for reserve cap repeal *Boards urged to adopt resolutions, meet with legislators*

As part of an ongoing effort by CSBA, ACSA, CASBO and other public education management representatives, CSBA is calling upon all governing boards to adopt resolutions and meet with their legislators urging a repeal of the trailer bill language that could eventually lead to school districts being required to spend their reserves and ending balances to dangerously low levels. CSBA has prepared **talking points**, a **sample press release**, and a **sample resolution** for immediate adoption. Boards are also encouraged to schedule meetings with local legislators between now and August 4—when the Legislature returns for its final month of session this year, which is scheduled to end August 31.

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Events, Training and Opportunities



Honor a legislator who honors public education

Legislative Awards Program nominations are now being accepted

The CSBA Legislative Awards Program, formerly known as Outstanding Legislator of the Year, is now open for nominations! Consider nominating a public official who should be honored for his or her commitment and living legacy to improving education in your district. The revamped and expanded awards program now lets you nominate members of California's congressional delegation as well as state and federal elected or appointed officials. CSBA regions and county school boards associations may also submit a nomination under the enriched program. Legislators may be nominated for recognition in one of five award categories. Awardees must have demonstrated leadership and strong commitment to public schools and support for the role that governing boards play in California public education. [Online](#) or postmarked nominations must be received by Friday, Sept. 12 to be considered. [Visit our website](#) for details, criteria and nomination forms.

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CSBA provides unparalleled advocacy, information and support services for school districts, county offices of education and ROCs/Ps.

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