

California School News Weekly Update
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California schoolnews

weekly update



November 19, 2014

Upcoming Events

**CSBA Annual Education
Conference and Trade Show**
 Dec. 14-16 - San Francisco

Board Presidents Workshop
 Dec. 13 - San Francisco
 Jan. 24 - Sacramento
 Mar. 14 - San Diego

**Institute for New and First-Term
Board Members**
 Jan. 23-24 - Sacramento
 Jan. 30-31 - Anaheim
 Feb. 6-7 - Burlingame
 Mar. 6-7 - Fresno
 Mar. 13-14 - San Diego
 April 17-18 - Redding

The Brown Act
 Jan. 23 - Sacramento
 Jan. 30 - Anaheim
 Feb. 6 - Burlingame
 Mar. 6 - Fresno
 Mar. 13 - San Diego

**MIG Course 1: Foundations of
Effective Governance/Setting
Direction**
 Feb. 6 - Burlingame
 Feb. 21 - Rancho Cucamonga
 Mar. 13 - San Diego

**MIG Course 2: Student
Learning/Policy**
 Feb. 7 - Burlingame
 March 14 - San Diego
 March 21 - San Bernardino

MIG Course 3: School Finance
 Feb. 6 - Burlingame

News

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Final LCFF spending regs, revised LCAP template adopted by SBE

Regulations aim for clarity, student involvement

The California State Board of Education adopted final spending regulations for LCFF and a revised LCAP template at its meeting on Nov. 14. The CDE called the new rulings a major milestone for transparency and accountability. The regulations and template are a part of California's school funding formula that has been in place since 2013. The newly adopted regulations aim to make the LCAP/LCFF process clearer and easier to understand. The regulations also require that school districts include student feedback on development of their LCAPs through student surveys, forums and meetings. Previously, the involvement of parent groups was required, but not student groups. "Approving the LCFF regulations and template now provides the necessary certainty to allow governing boards to continue updating and developing their LCAPs," said CSBA CEO and Executive Director Vernon M. Billy. The Nov. 13 - 14 SBE meeting also included a comprehensive report on Common Core State Standards implementation, SBE approval of full implementation of the Smarter Balanced summative assessments for Spring 2015, SBE approval of the State Implementation Plan for the Next Generation Science Standards for grades K-12 and presentations by students from the Association of Student Councils on student engagement in LCAP development. [Watch the archived webcast](#) of the meeting on the SBE's website. Read [CSBA's full story](#) about the meeting.

2014 Golden Bell Award winners announced

62 winners in 15 categories

CSBA's Golden Bell Awards program, now in its 35th year, is renowned for showcasing outstanding educational programs throughout California. By seeking out and recognizing sustainable, innovative and exemplary programs, promoting models that have made a difference for students and sharing information about effective educational strategies, the Golden Bell Awards program serves to boost confidence in public education. This year, the judging panel reviewed 242 entries in 19 categories and awarded 62 winners in 15 categories. Eleven of these winners received a total of \$14,000 in

[March 13 - San Diego](#)

[April 18 - Rancho Cucamonga](#)

MIG Course 4: Human Resources/Collective Bargaining

[Feb. 7 - Burlingame](#)

[March 14 - San Diego](#)

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

[Feb. 7 - Burlingame](#)

[March 14 - San Diego](#)

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monetary awards from Golden Bell sponsors. [Read about the winning programs](#), and join the celebration at the official awards ceremony and luncheon at the conclusion of CSBA's Annual Education Conference and Trade Show (AEC) in San Francisco on Tuesday, Dec. 16.

New 'one-stop-shop' for school planning, budgeting *Online tool helps districts develop customized LCAPs*

[The Center for Equitable Education Spending](#), launched by Pivot Learning Partners on Nov. 6, is a comprehensive Web-based suite of school planning and budgeting resources. School and district leaders, policymakers and community members can use the free resources to develop and align plans and budgets, improve engagement in local decision-making and use resources more equitably with the goal of closing the achievement gaps. "The Center provides the tools and support that are essential for district and site leaders to allocate fiscal, human and infrastructure resources necessary for meeting their teaching and learning needs," [said Carla Hulce](#), Pivot's chief education programs officer. "The Center offers the only known comprehensive suite of resource allocation services that specifically focus on community engagement and equity," said Pivot CEO, Dr. Arun Ramanathan. The website's offerings include a tool for step-by-step development of the LCAP and SPSA, an open source guidebook for LCAP implementation and additional supports for developing goal-driven budgets.

Development of successor alternate assessment underway for CAPA eligible students

Recently, the State Board of Education clarified the following information regarding alternative assessments: 1) The California Alternate Performance Assessment for English Language arts and mathematics will be eliminated; 2) California will be participating in the National Center and State Collaborative Phase II Pilot Test; and 3) the CDE will start examining options for the development of a successor alternate assessment. By going through pilot tests in the fall, NCSC is analyzing how test items perform under real conditions. This analysis will help in the development of the successor alternate assessment on the Common Core State Standards for all California students who are CAPA eligible. Meanwhile, the CDE will begin working with test contractor Education Testing Service to develop items for a state alternate assessment field test to be taken in the spring of 2015. All California students who are CAPA eligible will be part of this field test. The SBE will later determine whether the state will use the national or state test to replace the CAPA. Take note that these field tests are neither functional assessments nor academic assessments. No school or student-level data will be released. Analyses of the test results are in support of developing the successor alternative assessment. For questions or more information, contact English Language Proficiency and Alternate Assessments Office at 916-319-0784 or by [email](#).

Feeding Students, Not Trash Cans

CFPA fact sheet highlights best practices for optimizing consumption of school meals

Discarded food is a lost opportunity for improving student nutrition and is a waste of precious resources, states a new [fact sheet](#) from California Food Policy Advocates. Feeding Students, Not Trash Cans: Policies and Practices to Curb Food Waste in School Cafeterias highlights federal, state and local policies and regulations governing

how school meals may be shared or even saved for later consumption outside the lunchroom. In addition, the fact sheet provides best practices gleaned from case studies of three California school districts – Mountain View, Los Angeles and Oakland – that have developed successful, creative strategies for reducing waste and safely utilizing excess food. Find additional research and guidance on [CSBA's nutrition Web page](#).

Nutrition services director in El Monte wins National Healthy School Hero Award

Breakfast in the Classroom reaches all 14 schools in district

Action for Healthy Kids has named Dr. Robert Lewis, director of nutrition services for the El Monte City School District, a national 2014 Healthy School Award Hero for his work to fight childhood hunger and obesity and improve children's health and readiness to learn in school. He is one of 12 national, peer-nominated winners. With a \$40,000 Action for Healthy Kids School Breakfast Grant, awarded for the 2013-14 school year, Dr. Lewis succeeded in bringing [Breakfast in the Classroom](#) to all 14 schools in his district. In some instances, breakfast participation increased from 30 to 80 percent. "Students are actively involved in learning about healthy eating and they mentor other children," [Dr. Lewis said](#). More recently, Lewis' district created a 10-week curriculum for fourth and fifth graders called Operation Tone Up, which culminates with a physical fitness and nutrition contest to keep students engaged. Dr. Lewis' efforts are highlighted in the [CSBA video](#), Breakfast in the Classroom. See also [Starting a Breakfast after the Bell Program](#) – a joint publication of CSBA and the California Food Policy Advocates. Information about [2015-16 School Grants](#) for Healthy Kids will be available in February or March 2015.

Website helps parents understand California's education system

Ed100.org in English and Spanish, includes LCAP checklist

The California PTA, in partnership with Full Circle Fund, created an online resource to help parents learn how the state's education system works. Written by experts, including former deputy director at EdSource Mary Perry, [Ed100.org's](#) 10-chapter course gives parents the information they need to not only understand the rapid changes in education standards, school funding and local accountability, but to become effective advocates in their schools and districts. "Ed100.org is a crucial resource for parents stepping up to leadership roles – especially in this new era of greater family engagement and local control," [said PTA President](#) Colleen A.R. You. "Here are the issues that matter, in plain language." The curriculum can be completed at any pace on the user's computer or mobile device. The website, available in both English and Spanish, also provides discussion boards and education topics to encourage parents to connect with one another, as well as a [checklist](#) to guide them through effective participation in the LCAP development process.

Events, Training and Opportunities



Sharpen legal and advocacy skills at NSBA Advocacy Institute 2015

Registration for CSBA members opens next week

Register as early as next Wednesday for the National School Boards Association's Advocacy Institute 2015 in Washington, D.C. The institute runs from Feb. 1-3, 2015, at the new downtown Marriott Marquis and features keynote speakers such as well-known political consultant James Carville; author, television and radio host, and lauded political commentator, Mary Matalin; and Gwen Ifill, moderator and managing editor of "Washington Week" and co-anchor and managing editor for "The PBS Newshour with Gwen Ifill and Judy Woodruff." Attendees can expect to learn how to develop a winning strategy in Washington, tell their district's story, and expand their advocacy network. Other sessions will cover how districts can navigate the administration's efforts to drive local school board decisions, best strategies to establish better relationships with members of congress and ways to work with the media during crisis management. CSBA members must first register online through CSBA to attend the NSBA Advocacy Institute 2015. Look for a registration link in next week's blast.

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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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