

California School News Weekly Update  
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# California schoolnews

weekly update



February 25, 2015

## Upcoming Events

### Education Insights: Legal Update Webcast

**Superintendent Contracts and  
Search Process**

[March 11 - Online](#)

### Legislative Action Day

[March 10 - Sacramento](#)

### Board Presidents Workshop

[March 14 - San Diego](#)

### Institute for New and First-Term Board Members

[March 6-7 - Fresno](#)

[March 13-14 - San Diego](#)

[April 17-18 - Redding](#)

### The Brown Act

[March 6 - Fresno](#)

[March 13 - San Diego](#)

### County Board Governance Workshop

[March 7 - West Sacramento](#)

### MIG Course 1: Foundations of Effective Governance/Setting Direction

[March 13 - San Diego](#)

### MIG Course 2: Student Learning/Policy

[March 14 - San Diego](#)

[March 21 - San Bernardino](#)

### MIG Course 3: School Finance

[March 13 - San Diego](#)

[April 18 - Rancho Cucamonga](#)

## News

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## Attend CSBA's Legislative Action Day on Tue., March 10

**Register by 5 p.m. Thursday for pre-event webinar and event**

Registration closes at 5 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 26, for both Legislative Action Day and the pre-event live webinar, which will be broadcast this Friday, Feb. 27, at 10 a.m. Meet CSBA in Sacramento along with hundreds of board members from across the state as we make our voices heard. Our state assembly members and senators need to hear from you about the harmful impact of the budget reserve cap on your district and why it must be repealed. The need for adequate funding must also be communicated, along with pushing for a school facilities bond and increased funding to support CCSS implementation. There is much work to be done and we cannot do it without you. "This is an opportunity to demonstrate the important work that school board members do on a regular basis," CSBA CEO & Executive Director **Vernon M. Billy** said in a video, personally inviting governance leaders to participate in the event. "Given the Legislature's schedule, Tuesday is one of the best days for you to be in Sacramento lobbying your legislators and the leadership about the issues that are important to CSBA and important to you locally," he added. The pre-event webinar on Feb. 27 will provide an outline of the key issues along with helpful tips on conducting successful meetings. You can also find issue-briefing materials in the My CSBA member-only portal on Thursday, Feb. 26. **Register today for Legislative Action Day!** For more information about the event, including FAQ, visit the [Legislative Action Day Web page](#).

## LAO releases 2015-16 Budget: Prop 98 Education Analysis

**Report agrees with proposed \$500 million for adult education, rejects CTE program**

The Legislative Analyst's Office recommends the state Legislature improve some of Gov. Jerry Brown's Proposition 98 proposals and reject others. Gov. Brown's budget includes \$7.8 billion in Proposition 98 funding increases for schools and community colleges. The new LAO report, **2015-16 Budget: Proposition 98 Education Analysis**, agrees with the proposal to provide \$500 million for adult education,

**MIG Course 4: Human Resources/Collective Bargaining**

[March 14 - San Diego](#)

[May 2 - Riverside](#)

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

[March 14 - San Diego](#)

[May 15 - San Diego](#)

**Board Self-Evaluation and Superintendent Evaluation**

[April 28 - Sacramento](#)

[May 4 - San Jose](#)

**CSBA Training for Executive Assistants**

[April 28 - Sacramento](#)

[May 4 - San Jose](#)



while recommending Gov. Brown incorporate some proposed workforce funding into the adult education program. The LAO report recommends rejecting the proposed Career Technical Education program and suggests that the proposed Technology/Internet Infrastructure program be rethought. There are also recommendations for the LCFF, county offices of education, and education mandates. For the mandates, the LAO supports paying off mandates with the \$1.1 billion in ADA funding as proposed by the Governor. Gov. Brown's proposed \$7.8 billion in funding includes "\$5 billion for programmatic increases and \$2.8 billion for retiring outstanding obligations." [Read the LAO report.](#)

**Foster Youth Toolkit to help districts meet needs of foster youth**

*Toolkit covers foster youth education rights, includes enrollment tools*

Published by the Alliance for Children's Rights, a new [Foster Youth Education Toolkit](#) aims to "assist school districts in meeting the promise of LCFF for our foster youth, ensuring they receive the full benefits of laws designed to protect them," according to a statement about the toolkit on the [Alliance for Children's Rights website](#). The toolkit is divided into five sections that provide comprehensive information on the education rights of foster youth along with step-by-step procedures and tools to help districts engage in best practices for foster youth education. The tools provided can be used by any school district, but can also be adopted to fit local conditions. CSBA, CCSESA and other statewide organizations support the toolkit. Questions about the toolkit can be directed to CSBA Senior Director of Policy & Programs, [Teri Burns](#).

**Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments available starting March 10**

*Resources available to assist LEA staff*

Starting March 10, 2015, the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments will be available to LEAs with testing windows that open on March 10. Resources, including the Online Test Administration Manual and checklists for LEA CAASPP coordinators, are available to support LEA staff in preparing for and administering the assessments. All resources are available on the [CAASPP website](#). Also, resources are available to assist LEA staff who communicate with parents and guardians about the Smarter Balanced Assessments. A parent notification letter in English or Spanish can be downloaded from the Students & Parents tab of the [CDE CAASPP System Web page](#). Also, a [Factsheet for Parents](#) and a [Smarter Balanced Fact Sheet](#) are available on the Parents & Students tab of the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium [Web page](#).

**Report finds districts not doing enough to support foster youth**

*Districts must address the unique needs of foster youth*

When the California Legislature adopted the LCFF, it was a requirement that school districts address the needs of foster youth. Unfortunately, in a new statewide [report](#), major findings have shown a lack of district focus on addressing foster youth's unique needs. Some distressing findings in the report include: out of 64 school districts with more than 150 enrolled foster youth, only two districts identified baseline attendance rates for foster youth and only one out of those

same 64 districts identified a goal targeting foster youth expulsion rates. Support is necessary for the academic achievement of foster youth. These youth deal with a much different set of issues, such as trauma, moving from home to home and multiple school transfers. Because of this, they are less likely to graduate from high school than English Learners, students from low-income families, and students with a disability. To see if your district is one of the 64 districts in California with more than 150 enrolled foster youth and for more information on foster youth and recommendations for supporting their academic success, visit [Fix School Discipline](#) and then read the [report, Fostering Educational Success](#).

### **Education leaders discuss parent, family engagement *Discussion coincides with PTA's Take Your Family to School Week***

CSBA Past-president Josephine Lucey last Thursday joined other state and local education leaders in a discussion on the need for increased collaboration among families, educators and administrators to support student success and school improvement. The discussion, organized by National PTA and California PTA, was held in conjunction with National PTA's [Take Your Family to School Week](#) and was live-streamed on the Los Angeles County Office of Education's website. The panelists discussed effective ways that families and schools can work together to ensure successful implementation of major education reforms, including the LCFF, Common Core State Standards and the statewide student assessments. They also discussed current ways that districts and PTA are fostering student and parent engagement. The webcast will be archived on the [LACOE website](#) for later viewing.

## **Events, Training and Opportunities**

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### **March webcast to cover superintendent contracts and search**

***Register to watch from home or district or county office***

It's midway through the school year and you found out your superintendent will not be leading the district in the coming school year. What next? Grab your lunch and join our panel of legal experts as they walk you through the entire process of filling a superintendent vacancy and contract negotiations.

The webcast, moderated by CSBA General Counsel Keith Bray, will cover:

- What happens during the search process?
- What should be the objective of the contract with the new superintendent?
- What terms of the new contract should board members focus on?
- What happens during and after negotiations are complete?

All school board members are encouraged to join this webcast, scheduled for Wednesday, March 11, from noon to 1 p.m. Panelists include Roy A. Combs, Partner, Fagen Friedman & Fulfrost LLP; Marie Nakamura, Shareholder, Kronick, Moskovitz, Tiedemann & Girard; and

Dr. Steve Joel, McPherson & Jacobson LLC. [Register on CSBA's website.](#)

### **CSBA Delegate Assembly elections ballots mailed** ***Districts, COEs and candidates to be notified of results April 1***

Ballots for CSBA's 2015 Delegate Assembly elections were mailed to school districts and county offices of education in early February. Completed ballots should be returned to CSBA's office at 3251 Beacon Blvd., West Sacramento, CA 95691, and must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service no later than Monday, March 16, to be considered valid. All districts, county offices of education and candidates will be notified of the results by April 1. Run-off elections will be conducted in the case of a tie. The [Delegate Assembly](#) meets twice each year. It sets CSBA's general policy direction and fulfills a critical governance role within the association. Delegates act as liaisons between CSBA and local board members in their regions, and they also meet with the other delegates and the CSBA director in their regions. Delegates serve two-year terms that begin April 1. All new and re-elected delegates are eligible to take part in the May 16-17 Delegate Assembly in Sacramento. For further information, please contact CSBA Leadership Services Department at 800-266-3382.

### **Mark your calendar!** ***Golden Bell Awards applications accepted beginning March 23***

CSBA will accept applications March 23 through June 26 for the 2015 Golden Bell Awards program. Now in its 36th year, the Golden Bell Awards promote excellence in education and school board governance by recognizing outstanding programs and governance practices of school boards in school districts and county offices of education throughout California.

CSBA is looking for applicants that show:

- key governance practices that support, sustain and inspire the creation and continuance of exemplary education programs
- sustainable, innovative or exemplary programs that have been developed and successfully implemented by California teachers and administrators
- educators who invest extra energy and time to make a demonstrated difference for students
- models with positive student outcomes
- commitment to ensure that the needs of all students are met

Get recognition and celebrate a program you feel deserves this honor! Winners will be showcased at the 2015 CSBA Annual Educational Conference and Trade Show. For additional information on guidelines and applications, please [contact CSBA](#).

## **Member Services**

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### **Need temporary cash?**

CSBA proudly works with Piper Jaffray & Co., Dale Scott & Company and Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP to provide the [California Cash Reserve Program](#). This program helps school districts and county offices of education with temporary cash flow needs by creating an

additional cash reserve to the general fund. Participants issue Tax and Revenue Anticipation Notes through a streamlined, pooled process. Ask about our low borrowing costs, flexible use and repayment process, and easy, efficient administration today. [Visit our website](#) or [contact Maria Thomas](#) at 800-266-3382, ext. 3304.

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

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