

California School News Weekly Update
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California schoolnews

weekly update



July 15, 2015

Upcoming Events

**Student Accident Insurance:
Best Practices to Protect Families
in Your District**

[Aug. 12 - Online](#)

2015 CCBE Annual Conference

[Sept. 11 - Monterey](#)

2015 Back-to-School Webcast

[Sept. 15 - Online](#)

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

[Sept. 11 - Hayward](#)

[Sept. 19 - Visalia](#)

[Sept. 25 - Anaheim](#)

**MIG Course 2: Student Learning &
Achievement / Policy & Judicial
Review**

[Sept. 26 - Anaheim](#)

MIG Course 3: School Finance

[Sept. 25 - Anaheim](#)

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

[Sept. 26 - Anaheim](#)

**MIG Course 5: Community
Relations & Advocacy /
Governance Integration**

[Sept. 26 - Anaheim](#)

Note: Registration is open for all 2015 MIG courses. Visit CSBA's [Training & Events](#) page to register for fall and winter courses not listed above.

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REALIZE THE POWER
OF PARTNERSHIP.

CDE issues reminder about CAASPP summary results release plan

Recommends LEAs distribute results after CDE releases statewide results

The California Department of Education recently issued a reminder to LEAs about the CDE's release plan for the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress summary results. The CDE plans to publicly release statewide results in mid-to-late August because final results of the Mathematics and English Language Arts/Literacy assessments that were administered as part of the CAASPP system will not be ready until that time. Although some states have already released, or may release, preliminary 2014-15 Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments, the CDE recommends LEAs avoid releasing results until the CDE releases statewide results. "We believe releasing preliminary results would confuse and possibly mislead the public," states the CDE in a July memo to LEA CAASPP coordinators. "Releasing results together will provide members of the public with the context they need to understand this new era of testing," the memo continues. "We plan to update LEAs about our release plans as they become final and look forward to working closely with LEAs." District officials may [email the CAASPP office](#) with questions about this topic.

Local press conferences on reserve cap held last week

Inland Empire and Bay Area school officials urge legislators to fix the cap

Last week, two press conferences occurred urging California legislators to take action to fix the cap on school district reserves. The first was held in the Inland Empire on July 7, at the University of Redlands, coinciding with the university's Summer Institute on Leadership for Educational Justice. Representatives from Corona-Norco, Eitwanda, Romoland, Menifee and Alvord school districts all spoke on the issue, with the [Fontana Herald News](#) and [Highland Community News](#) both running editorials. The second event was held July 9, at the San Francisco Unified School District offices, with members of SFUSD, Berkeley, San Mateo Union High, San Bruno



Park and Redwood City school districts attending and speaking. Media results from the July 9 event included an extensive editorial in the [San Francisco Chronicle](#), as well as coverage in the [Contra Costa Times](#). An additional press event is scheduled for August 18, in Sacramento. Find out more about the reserve cap on CSBA's [Repeal the Reserve Cap website](#).

CSBA developing County Office Sample Board Policy Manual

Project to be completed soon

CSBA, in consultation with CCBE, is developing a new County Office of Education Sample Board Policy Manual that will reflect the most relevant and up-to-date county board policies and bylaws. This year-long effort will be completed in the coming months and will help county boards of education to simplify and expedite the adoption of local policies. Please watch for more updates about this important new project. You may [contact Naomi Eason](#) with any inquiries.

Showcase student talent at CSBA's annual conference *Applications due by this Friday, July 17*

Got talent? CSBA's AEC Planning Committee is seeking performers of all ages that represent districts of all sizes to perform at the 2015 CSBA Annual Education Conference and Trade Show, in San Diego. Performances will take place during the General Sessions on Thursday, Dec. 3, and Friday, Dec. 4. AEC brings together thousands of members of California's education community, offering an excellent opportunity to recognize student successes in the arts and showcase California talent. Proposals from bands, choral groups, soloists, thespians and other student performers are welcome. The student entertainment application deadline is Friday, July 17. Applications should be in letter form, and include a group description on district letterhead and an audio or video sample of the proposed performance, preferably in digital format or via link, to [Dia Moua](#).

CDE launches drought response Web page *Includes best practices, resources for school districts*

To help school districts do their part to conserve water during one of the worst droughts in California's history, the California Department of Education's School Facilities and Transportation Services Division has developed a [Drought Response Best Practices and Resources Web page](#). The page provides outdoor best practices, building/facilities and communication best practices, tips for incorporating water conservation into classroom curriculum and a list of additional resources. Districts may consider these strategies to help them meet the mandatory water use reductions implemented by the [State Water Resources Control Board](#) in May. Districts are urged to evaluate strategies based on their climate, existing conditions and any water reduction efforts they have already completed. "Typically, the majority of water use is for irrigation of landscaping and playfields, so a focus on outdoor areas may yield the largest savings," reads a message on the Web page. As centers of the community, schools are in a unique position to lead by example and to educate the public on water conservation. As part of this, districts are invited to participate in the CDE's new Twitter campaign by sharing best practices and using the hashtag [#WaterWiseSchools](#).

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Events, Training and Opportunities



Observe summer learning programs in action *Register for Superintendent Summits*

The Summer Matters campaign is hosting school leadership summits in districts statewide. These superintendent-hosted site visits are designed for superintendents, school board members and senior district staff to observe successful summer programs. During these one-day site visits, attendees will get hands-on experience in understanding the activities and projects that truly engage students during summer learning programs. Participants will gain insight into how communities are collaborating with districts, county offices and nonprofit partners to build high-quality programs. Visits take place in the morning until 1:00 p.m. Specific times and locations will be sent after attendees RSVP. Remaining dates and locations are: July 16, Gilroy Unified School District; July 21, Carpinteria Unified School District. To reserve a spot, fill out and submit the online [Summer Matters — Superintendent Summits form](#). To learn more about summer learning visit the [CSBA fact sheet](#).

Register now for Better Together: California Teachers Summit

Free opportunity to hear from renowned speakers and experts

Across the state, California teachers are driving innovation in the classroom and shaping students' futures. To support their critical work, a coalition of California education institutions is inviting teachers to come together on July 31 to build powerful networks, share successful classroom practices and access effective resources to implement the California Standards. Register today at no cost for Better Together: California Teachers Summit to be a part of this exciting opportunity to hear from nationally renowned speakers and participate in dynamic sessions led by teachers, for teachers. The summit is being held at 33 college campuses across the state, and this unprecedented event is expected to draw 22,000 teachers from across the state. Learn more by [visiting the information site](#) and/or [distribute the informational flier](#) to school sites and teachers.

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Smart Assessmentsm Energy Plan *A Roadmap to Securing Proposition 39 Funding*

CSBA partners with Ameresco, the largest independent energy services company in North America, to provide the Smart Assessment Energy Plan. This program will provide your district with all of the necessary components required to apply for and receive your designated Proposition 39 funding and will also identify all available additional discretionary funds. Your district will receive a complete energy roadmap along with a step-by-step implementation plan to help maximize Proposition 39 funds, so you can make informed decisions on operating your facilities in the most cost-effective and energy-efficient manner. For more information, [visit Smart Assessment online](#) or call 800-500-6711.

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

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