

California School News Weekly Update

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California schoolnews



weekly update



August 26, 2015

Upcoming Events

2015 CCBE Annual Conference
[Sept. 11 - Monterey](#)

One System: Reforming Education to Serve All Students
[Sept. 22 - Online](#)

2015 CCSA Fall Workshop
[Sept. 11 - Emeryville](#)

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](#)
[Oct. 10 - Visalia](#)
[Oct. 16 - Hayward](#)

MIG Course 3: School Finance
[Sept. 25 - Anaheim](#)
[Nov. 7 - Visalia](#)
[Nov. 13 - Sacramento](#)

MIG Course 4: Collective Bargaining / Human Resources
[Sept. 26 - Anaheim](#)
[Nov. 14 - Sacramento](#)

MIG Course 5: Community Relations & Advocacy / Governance Integration

News

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REALIZE THE POWER OF PARTNERSHIP.

Gov. Brown to sign CAHSEE exemption for class of 2015

SB 725 removes exit exam requirement for 2015 graduates following July cancellation

This week, Gov. Jerry Brown is expected to sign [Senate Bill 725](#) (Hancock, D-Oakland). Once the bill is signed into law, students of the class of 2015, who have met all other requirements for graduation from grade 12, will be exempt from the requirement to pass the California High School Exit Exam and can receive their high school diploma. With the passage of this legislation imminent, school district leaders should be prepared to issue diplomas to students who have met the necessary requirements for graduation in 2015, but have not passed the CAHSEE. SB 725 moved quickly through the Legislature on an urgency basis in response to the Department of Education's decision to abruptly cancel the July offering of the CAHSEE. With the cancellation of the July test, an estimated 5,000-plus graduating students statewide were left unable to meet the final graduation requirement. A separate CSBA-supported bill, SB 172 (Liu, D-La Cañada Flintridge), is also moving through the Legislature and would suspend administration of the CAHSEE through the 2017-18 school year, removing the test as a graduation requirement for students graduating in that time frame and allowing the test to be re-evaluated. Read the full story in the forthcoming issue of California School News, CSBA's monthly newsletter.

SB 799, by Sen. Hill, introduced in Legislature ***CSBA-sponsored reserve cap legislation is in Assembly***

Following the public announcement at an [Aug. 18 press conference](#) on the West Steps of the Capitol, Senate Bill 799 was officially introduced to the Legislature on Thursday, Aug. 20. Authored by Sen. Jerry Hill (D-San Mateo) and co-authored by 16 bipartisan members of the Senate and Assembly, SB 799 would fix the reserve cap by reforming several key elements of the original budget trailer bill SB 858. These reforms include significantly increasing the size of the cap, clarification that it will apply only to general fund and reserve fund unassigned balances, and exempting small school districts (2,501 ADA or less). The bill was amended on Aug. 20 and is currently in the

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Assembly awaiting assignment. The bill will be back to the Senate for a concurrence vote in the coming days. A new radio ad also began airing in statewide markets on Aug. 18, and editorials favoring a fix of the cap have run in outlets such as the [Sacramento Bee](#), [San Francisco Chronicle](#), [Contra Costa Times](#) and [Marin Independent Journal](#). CSBA members are encouraged to support SB 799 by visiting www.fixthecap.com to learn more about the bill and to contact Legislators to voice support.

ELA files amicus to protect districts from improper local assessments

Local assessment district had attempted to levy illegal assessment on school district

CSBA's Education Legal Alliance [filed an amicus brief](#) last week to assist Manteca Unified School District in challenging Reclamation District 17's attempt to levy an assessment on the school district. Manteca successfully challenged the assessment in Superior Court, relying on Water Code section 51200's exemption of school districts from such assessments. In its appeal, RD 17 relied on Proposition 218's restrictions on the ability of local governments to exempt other local governments from such assessments. The ELA's brief takes the position that Proposition 218 only restricts the ability of local governments and not the Legislature from exempting other local governments from assessments, which leaves Water Code section 51200 untouched. The ELA supports Manteca in this matter because this case directly impacts the roughly 70 school districts located within a reclamation district's boundaries. [Read more about the case and the ELA's position](#) on CSBA's website.

LCFF State Priorities Snapshot provides vital data on schools

Report includes data on achievement, engagement and climate

[The California Local Control Funding Formula State Priorities Snapshot](#) is a new online reporting tool that makes available three years of data on schools in three state priority areas: student achievement, student engagement and school climate. School board members, education stakeholders and members of the public can use the Snapshot to get information on school demographics, Advanced Placement exam results, the number of a school's suspensions and expulsions, participation in career technical education programs and other topics in an easy-to-understand format. The California Department of Education developed the Snapshot to graphically display LCFF data collected by the state and allows users to pull reports on an LEA or school as well as detailed reports that cover data at both the school and student-group level. State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson [announced the tool](#) last week. [Access the Snapshot](#) on the CDE's website.

SB 200 and AB 1101 define school district residency to include children of live-in workers

Bills limit residency investigations

Senate Bill 200 and Assembly Bill 1101, which deal with school district residency, were recently signed into law. The two bills expand residency laws to include live-in workers and limit the practices school districts can use to conduct residency investigations. SB 200 was authored by Senator Ricardo Lara (D-Bell Gardens) and requires school district residency criteria to include students whose parents or

legal guardians live three or more days per school week at their place of employment within a district's boundaries. Authored by Assembly Member Susan Bonilla (D-Concord), AB 1101 requires districts that conduct residency investigations to adopt policies that prohibit the use of surreptitious photography or video recording of students. For more information on these two bills that go into effect Jan. 1, 2016, [contact CSBA Legislative Advocate Nancy Chaires Espinoza](#). CSBA members who subscribe to Gamut online or Manual Maintenance Services will receive updates to these policies in Dec. 2015. For more information about CSBA's policy services, contact [CSBA's Member Services Department](#).

Events, Training and Opportunities

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CSBA's Back-to-School Webcast airs Sept. 15 *Guest panelists announced – register today!*

CSBA's annual [Back-to-School Webcast](#) will stream live on Tuesday, Sept. 15, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Start the school year off with a comprehensive briefing on the latest and most important education issues facing your governance team in the 2015-16 school year. Topics include: the state budget (teacher support and professional development, preschool wraparound care and the identification of homeless students); the LCAP rubric; adoption of the Next Generation Science Standards, social science standards and English language arts standards; ESEA; and math misplacement. Plus, CSBA governmental relations experts and guest panelists will provide the latest on the reserve cap, teacher evaluations and other education legislation. The guest panelists are Gina D. Dalma, special advisor to the CEO on public policy, Silicon Valley Community Foundation, and Leanne Wheeler, education programs consultant for the California Department of Education's Turnaround Office. Watch the webcast from the comfort of your home or office and engage with presenters via the chat screen. [Register now for this free webcast](#).

Legislative Awards Program nominations due Sept. 11 *Honor a legislator who supports public education*

For the past 29 years, CSBA has honored current members of the state Senate and Assembly who work actively to improve public schools, support local school board governance and exercise leadership in the legislative arena. Now, the Legislative Awards Program (formerly known as Outstanding Legislator of the Year) also allows for members of California's Congressional Delegation to be honored. CSBA encourages all boards to participate in this program by nominating a member of the California State Legislature, the California Congressional delegation, or a federal/state elected or appointed office for a CSBA 2015 Legislative Award. There are five award categories. Nominees must be from within district boundaries. Nominations must be postmarked by Sept. 11, 2015, to be considered. You can find [nomination categories and forms](#) and awards criteria on CSBA's website. Or, [submit an online nomination](#).

Member Services

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Qualified Zone Academy Bond program for schools
Interest-free financing available for qualifying projects

CSBA offers the only 100-percent turnkey Qualified Zone Academy Bond (QZAB) program in California. QZAB program bonds allow schools to borrow funds for school rehabilitation and renovation projects and receive a return on investment as a credit against federal tax liability. With help from the nation's leading QZAB firm, McLiney And Company, CSBA provides everything schools need during the application process, including full assistance in handling all federal and state requirements. If your bond is funded, you may qualify for a zero-percent interest rate, and there is no cost to you unless your QZAB is approved and funded. QZAB is a temporary program, requiring reauthorization by the federal government. The federal government has renewed the program for 2014-15, but California will only receive approximately \$49 million this year (compared to the \$200 million made available in 2013-14). It is expected to go fast, so don't wait long to apply! For more information, [visit us online](#) or contact Alest Walker at 800-266-3382, ext. 2603.

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

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