

California schoolnews

Weekly Update

November 25, 2020

Opt-in to receive texts about important education events and COVID-19 developments by texting CSBA4Kids to 52886.

In this Issue

- [COVID-19 update: LAO analysis shows state revenue higher than expected](#)
- [CSBA webinar shines a spotlight on current inequities and avoiding future pitfalls](#)
- [IQC moves Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum with edits to State Board](#)
- [New CSBA briefs examine STEM educator recruitment, training and retention](#)
- [APISBMA Annual Meeting features discussion on ethnic studies](#)
- [GASB reporting solutions for public agencies with fewer than 100 members](#)

COVID-19 update: LAO analysis shows state revenue higher than expected



A **new analysis** from the Legislative Analyst's Office finds that **California's economic recovery has exceeded predictions** and revenues have been significantly higher than assumed in June. The LAO now estimates that General Fund tax revenues are up more than \$4 billion in 2019–20 and nearly \$34 billion in 2020–21 relative to the June 2020 budget's estimates. With these increases, **the minimum**

Prop 98 guarantee is up \$1.6 billion in 2019–20 and \$13.1 billion in 2020–21 as compared with the June budget plan.

The revenue increase strengthens CSBA's advocacy, which has, since the beginning days of the pandemic, called for additional resources from the state to support students and help schools cope with the impact of COVID-19. **CSBA is advocating** that these funds be used for **eliminating existing deferrals** to local educational agencies; **providing schools with additional funding and logistical support** for personal protective equipment, deep cleaning, COVID-19 testing and other measures needed to support the health and safety of students, staff and community; **allocating several hundred million dollars toward student broadband access** in 2020–21; and providing funds to **districts that are experiencing enrollment growth** not covered in the budget trailer bills. [Read more on the CSBA blog](#) »

In other COVID-19 developments:

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention **removed a statement from its website emphasizing "the importance of reopening America's schools."** The link where the document resided now redirects to [updated guidance for schools](#) that shares greater detail about transmission risk, stating: **"The many benefits of in-person schooling should be weighed against the risks posed by COVID-19 spread."** The CDC last week also updated its guidance on [quarantining students](#) who may have been exposed to the virus and [released new guidance for school nurses](#) on issues such as contact tracing and symptom screening.
- The Annenberg Institute at Brown University **launched** a new initiative focused on **building access, infrastructure and support for high-quality K-12 tutoring programs across the country to address concerns about student learning loss as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.** The [National Student Support Accelerator](#) will fund a variety of tutoring sites throughout the U.S., provide tools and networking opportunities to support high-quality programming, and study how the programs impact COVID-19-related learning loss and long-term academic success. While still in a developmental phase, the initiative will launch across six pilot sites in districts in California, Texas, Rhode Island and Colorado. Each of the six pilot sites is supported by a \$100,000 grant that the district has matched and supports about 150 to 1,000 students.

CSBA webinar shines a spotlight on current inequities and avoiding future pitfalls



In a Nov. 19 CSBA webinar, **“Equitable Support for California Students During the COVID-19 Crisis: Strategies for School Board Members,”** education practitioners and researchers shared insights on strategies to close the digital divide, providing support to vulnerable students such as English learners, and resisting the urge to push students who have fallen

behind into remediation. “English learners are going to need enrichment, acceleration, better and deeper opportunities,” said panelist Leslie Hamburger from WestEd. “The reason they’re suffering right now is because the learning experiences that they are having are not robust enough, or deep enough,” Hamburger said. [Watch the webinar recording](#) | [View the slide deck](#)

IQC moves Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum with edits to State Board



In its November meeting, the Instructional Quality Commission reviewed written and verbal public comment, California Department of Education edits and edits from IQC commissioners to **move forward a third draft of the Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum.**

The IQC moved forward edits approved during the meeting as well as those suggested by the CDE for incorporation into the third draft. **One**

final 45-day public review period will follow once the edits are incorporated, expected in early December. Those edits will be received directly by the State Board of Education, which will review the third draft at its January meeting. The process to get to this point **has been contentious,** with a total of 56,986 public comments during the two review periods. During the IQC meeting, members of the public spoke for two hours, presenting their opinions on issues from placement to misrepresentation. [Read details about the meeting on the CSBA blog](#) »

New CSBA briefs examine STEM educator recruitment, training and retention



Establishing and maintaining a **pipeline of highly trained educators in science, technology, engineering and mathematics is critical in the implementation of the Next Generation Science Standards.** Accomplishing this can be difficult, however, as many local educational agencies face a shortage of STEM teachers in their region or the funds to

train and retain those they recruit. A **pair of new CSBA briefs** explore the challenges that LEAs face in these areas, and potential actions that governance teams can take to ensure that all students have access to rigorous STEM curriculum and high-quality teachers. [Read these briefs and more](#) »

APISBMA Annual Meeting features discussion on ethnic studies



The Asian Pacific Islander School Board Members Association is hosting a **Virtual Annual Meeting on Dec. 7, 2020, 4–5:30 p.m.** in place of its traditional AEC Breakfast meeting. The meeting will feature a conversation on ethnic studies. The meeting, **“Ethnic Studies for K-12 Education,”** will feature keynote speaker **Karen Korematsu,** founder and executive director of the Fred T.

Korematsu Institute, followed by a panel discussion on ethnic studies and breakout rooms for smaller group interaction. [Learn more and register](#) »

GASB reporting solutions for public agencies with fewer than 100 members



The Governmental Accounting Standards Board 75 program helps districts and county offices of education that offer non-pension retirement benefits to **comply with Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statements No. 74 and No. 75 at a fraction of the cost of a full actuarial valuation.** If your public agency has less than 100 plan members, it may be eligible. [Learn more »](#)

COVID-19 resources

Stay up to date with the latest news and resources related to COVID-19 on [CSBA's dedicated webpage](#) and with articles frequently posted on the newly redesigned [CSBA blog](#).

Virtual events

2020 Annual Education Conference
Dec. 3-4 | [Register here](#)

Masters in Governance for County Offices of Education Course 1: Foundations of Effective Governance / Setting Direction
Dec. 8 & 10 | [Register here](#)

MIG COE Course 2: Policy & Judicial Review / Student Learning & Achievement
Feb. 16 & 27, 2021 | [Register here](#)

MIG COE Course 3: Facilities & Finance / Charter Schools
March 20 & 27, 2021 | [Register here](#)

MIG COE Course 4: Community Relations & Advocacy / Governance Integration
April 17 & 24, 2021 | [Register here](#)

*All 2020 in-person events have been cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

[View complete calendar](#)

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