

# California schoolnews

Weekly Update

October 14, 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: USDA extends critical nutrition waivers through end of school year](#)
- [CSBA's What's New for 2021 report is now available](#)
- [Q&A with incoming California State University Chancellor Joseph Castro](#)
- [October newsletter features COVID-19 and civics education, previews virtual AEC](#)
- [Report examines how well schools served English learners during spring closures](#)
- [Registration now open for California Association of Black School Educators virtual conference](#)
- [Save with the GO Bond Refunding Pool](#)

## COVID-19 update: USDA extends critical nutrition waivers through end of school year



The United States Department of Agriculture on Oct. 9 **announced** that it is **extending flexibilities to allow free meals to continue to be available to all children throughout the entire 2020–21 school year.**

Originally set to expire at the end of the calendar year — a dangerous scenario advocated against by CSBA and many other advocacy groups — the USDA was authorized to extend these waivers in the federal continuing resolution. Through June 30, 2021, the USDA is extending waivers that: **allow Summer Food Service Program and Summer Seamless Option meals to be served in all areas and at no**

**cost; permit meals to be served outside of the typically required group settings and meal times; waive meal pattern requirements, as necessary; and allow parents and guardians to pick up meals for their children.**

The California Department of Education announced it will provide additional information about the waivers in an [Oct. 20 School Nutrition Town Hall webinar](#).

### In other COVID-19 developments:

- The U.S. Department of Education released new guidance on [Providing Equitable Services to Students and Teachers in Non-Public Schools under CARES Act Programs](#). The document **revises previous guidance to align with court decisions that struck down an order directing a larger share of CARES Act money to private schools** than private schools receive under the typical Title I funds allocation process.
- The CDE recently updated its [Arts Education Guidance](#) for the 2020–21 school year to supplement California Department of Public Health regulations with details around how to safely provide arts education when schools reopen. The document **provides suggestions that may assist arts programs in providing safe, quality, standards-aligned instruction in both remote and in-person learning environments.** [Read more on the CSBA blog »](#)

## CSBA's What's New for 2021 report is now available



CSBA's What's New for 2021 is a **compendium of new laws signed by Gov. Gavin Newsom that will have an impact on public education in California.** This detailed report is a direct extension of the advocacy and policy analysis work of the CSBA Governmental Relations team during a 2019–20 legislative session for the history books. The resource contains a **summary of each new law with a link to the full text of the measure, along with CSBA's position,**

Education Code sections affected, which CSBA sample board policies will be impacted and other key details. [Download the report today »](#)

## Q&A with incoming California State University Chancellor Joseph Castro



California State University, Fresno President Joseph Castro was **appointed chancellor** of the CSU system on Sept. 23, making him the first Mexican American to hold the position, as well as the first California native to oversee the 23-campus, 482,000-student university. As the head of Fresno State since 2013, **he has been recognized nationally for recruiting students from diverse backgrounds.** Currently, CSU students are 43 percent Latino, 22 percent white, 15 percent Asian and 4 percent Black. **To recognize his new position and to honor Latino Heritage Month, CSBA recently spoke with Castro about his historic**

**appointment, his goals for the university system and the expansion of ethnic studies requirements.** [Read more on the CSBA blog »](#)

## October newsletter features COVID-19 and civics education, previews virtual AEC



The October edition of *California School News* is now available to read online, featuring a **wide range of important COVID-19 updates and insights, a message from CSBA President Xilonin Cruz-Gonzalez on the importance of civics education and a preview of the virtual 2020 Annual Education Conference.** The AEC spotlight offers a Q&A with General Session speaker Jason Dorsey, president of the Center for Generational Kinetics, in which he addresses why knowledge about multiple generations can lead to workplace success and harmony. **Registration is open for AEC through Nov. 24.**

[View the newsletter »](#)

## Report examines how well schools served English learners during spring closures



Californians Together has released a **report examining the quality of instruction provided to English learners in the state's schools during the spring** when schools were suddenly shuttered due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The organization reviewed 79 school districts' COVID-19 Operation Written Reports to **help local educational agencies with mid- and long-term planning based on what did and didn't work in the spring.** CSBA President Xilonin Cruz-Gonzalez, who is also deputy director for Californians Together, contributed to the report. By reviewing what went right and what areas need

improvement from the spring, we can build a better plan for distance learning that serves all students," Cruz-Gonzalez said. [Read more on the CSBA blog »](#)

## Registration now open for California Association of Black School Educators virtual conference



Registration is now open for the California Association of Black School Educators' 2020 virtual conference, set for Nov. 12–13. With a focus on the strategies from **CABSE's Blueprint for Educational Equity**, the fourth annual event will feature **keynote speakers and workshop sessions to inform district policies and practices to positively impact student achievement and advance educational equity.** [Learn more and register »](#)

Save with the GO Bond Refunding Pool



For more than 30 years, California school districts and community college districts have **saved time and money by issuing tax and revenue anticipation notes (TRANs) through the California School Cash Reserve Program Authority sponsored by CSBA**, the largest pooled TRAN financing in the nation. The GO Bond Refunding Pool follows in this tradition by allowing districts **to unlock taxpayer savings by driving down costs** through an easy-to-use shared financing platform. [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

**Masters in Governance Course 3**  
Oct. 27-28 | **Sold out**

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

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

\*All Masters in Governance courses through Nov. 14, 2020 are sold out.

[View complete calendar](#)

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