

# California schoolnews

Weekly Update

January 6, 2021

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

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## COVID-19 update: Newsom unveils school reopening plan; federal stimulus package signed



Gov. Gavin Newsom on Dec. 30 unveiled a plan to incentivize the reopening of California public schools. The **“Safe Schools for All” plan contains a variety of funding and technical support measures to encourage local educational agencies to resume on-campus instruction**, with the stated goal of opening all

schools by early spring. Developed in partnership with the Legislature, the plan focuses on ensuring careful implementation and building confidence by **supporting schools to bring back the youngest children (TK-2) and those who are most disproportionately impacted first, then phasing in other grade levels through the spring** as conditions allow. This phased-in approach recognizes that younger children are at a lower risk of contracting and transmitting COVID-19, with core safety measures in place.

The plan is based on **eight principles**: funding, safety and mitigation, testing, PPE, contact tracing, vaccinations, oversight and assistance, and transparency and accountability. In just one example, the state says it will support frequent COVID-19 testing for all school staff and students, including weekly testing at schools in communities with high rates of transmission. **In order to become law, Safe Schools for All must be approved by the Legislature, which has delayed its initial convening from Jan. 4 to Jan. 11** due to the virus surge. [Read more on the CSBA blog »](#)

**In other COVID-19 developments:**

- **California schools will receive \$6.8 billion of the \$54.9 billion allocated for the nation's K-12 schools in the new federal stimulus package signed on Dec. 27.** The funding can be used to support reopening K-12 schools, facilitate continuity of learning, and measure and address the learning loss caused by a lack of in-person learning opportunities. The funding distribution will vary by district and be **allocated based on how much districts received in federal Title I funding last year.** EdSource has created [a database](#) with an estimate of how much funding each district will receive.
- In light of the ongoing disruptions caused by COVID-19 to program participants and the continued need for robust connectivity, **the Federal Communications Commission has extended its temporary waivers of the FCC gift rules applicable to the Rural Health Care and E-Rate programs to assist rural health care providers, schools and libraries affected by the pandemic through June 30, 2021.** This action will ensure that health care providers, schools and libraries can benefit from and solicit offers for improved broadband connections or equipment for telehealth or remote learning during the COVID-19 pandemic without violating FCC rules.

## This Friday: CSBA webinar will review Governor's January budget proposal



Tune in to CSBA's **webinar at 3 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 8, "The Governor's Budget: Implications for public education and school reopening,"** following Gov. Gavin Newsom's January budget proposal announcement. The Governor's Budget announcement is one of the biggest days on the political calendar — and this year it looms larger

than ever. **The panel will discuss how the Governor's budget proposal addresses COVID-19-related issues, state budget deferrals and cost-of-living increases. Will the proposal do enough to reopen schools safely?** [Register here »](#)

## CSBA salutes trustees during School Board Recognition Month



From the first public school house in **an old church in San Francisco** in 1850, **boards of education have grown to oversee more than 1,000 school districts and county offices of education in California.** From the four students in San Benito County's Panoche Elementary School District to the more than 600,000 students

in the Los Angeles Unified School District, trustees provide critical support for California's 6 million public school students.

**This January, during School Board Recognition Month, CSBA salutes local educational agency boards and encourages communities around California to do the same.** To help facilitate that, CSBA has created **a suite of sample materials** including a School Board Recognition Month Proclamation to be used by local and county officials, a news release and letter to the editor. [Download the materials »](#)

## Consortium for English Learner Success recommends best practices to serve ELs



There are **1.2 million English learners in California, representing 20 percent of the state's K-12 public school students.** In addition, 60 percent of California's children between the ages of 0-5 live in a household where a language other than English is spoken. **During the 2018–19 school year, nearly 90**

**percent of EL students in all grades did not meet English and math standards. It is essential that schools address the needs and provide opportunities of EL students.**

The Consortium for English Learner Success' **2020–21 Policy Agenda** highlights the needs and assets of Dual Language Learners (from birth to age 5, who are learning two languages at the same time) and EL students in California as a **framework for advocacy to improve their educational access, quality, and outcomes.** [Read the Consortium's 2020–21 Policy Agenda »](#)

## CA Surgeon General highlights need for cross-sector cooperation to support children and families



California Surgeon General Nadine Burke Harris released a report Dec. 9 to **help support communities to recognize and effectively address Adverse Childhood Experiences** — experiences that can include neglect, homelessness and witnessing violence in the home or community — which impact student

learning and success. Dr. Burke Harris noted **the report recognizes the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic's association with significant increases in ACEs, as well as California's wildfires and a national reckoning with racial inequities.**

*Roadmap for Resilience: The California Surgeon General's Report on Adverse Childhood Experiences, Toxic Stress, and Health* provides clear and equitable response solutions, models and best practices to be replicated or tailored to serve community needs. [Read more on the CSBA blog »](#)

## Streamlined superintendent hiring for LEAs



CSBA, in partnership with McPherson & Jacobson, L.L.C., offers the Executive Search Service to provide districts and county offices of education with a **streamlined process to meet their executive hiring needs.** From identifying possible candidates, to the selection of a qualified superintendent, **Executive Search Services**

**offers an extensive and comprehensive process that guides the board through this critical time with ease and professionalism.** [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

### Orientation for New Trustees

Jan. 9 | [Register here](#)

### 2021 The Brown Act

Jan. 15 | [Register here](#)

## Business Services



DANNIS WOLIVER KELLEY

Attorneys at Law



**Institute for New & First Term Board Members**

Feb. 2-3 | [Register here](#)

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

Feb. 16 & 27, 2021 | **SOLD OUT**

**MIG COE Course 3: Facilities & Finance / Charter Schools**

March 20 & 27, 2021 | **SOLD OUT**

**MIG COE Course 4: Community Relations & Advocacy / Governance Integration**

April 17 & 24, 2021 | **SOLD OUT**

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