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# California schoolnews

## Weekly Update

July 7, 2021

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### Education budget trailer bill breakdown



CSBA has put together a summary of the 2021–22 education omnibus budget trailer bill ([Assembly Bill/Senate Bill 130](#)) following its July 5 introduction by the Legislature. **The bill, which gives California schools more detail on what they can expect from the 2021–22 Budget Act, is set to go to a vote on July 8.**

Budget trailer bills address remaining points of disagreement and topics needing further clarification from the annual budget act. **This year's budget trailer bill is especially significant since it addresses a number of important and unresolved issues from the state budget and determines how to allocate the remainder of 2021–22 funds stemming from higher-than-expected state revenues and an infusion of federal monies.** Some topics covered in the summary include independent study, universal TK implementation, expanded learning opportunities grant funding, ethnic studies, broadband and teacher recruitment, retention and development.

"We appreciate that the budget trailer bill contains much needed clarification on the state budget that was adopted at the end of June and that it addresses many areas of need in K-12 education. At the same time, the heavy reliance on one-time funding to create new programs and expand old ones — especially the use of short-term funds for long-term staffing and programmatic purposes — presents major sustainability concerns," said CSBA President Dr. Susan Heredia. "This legislation expands transitional kindergarten and after-school programs while dramatically increasing the scope of independent study with new requirements and expectations, making it more challenging for schools to provide virtual learning opportunities for students in the coming school year."

[Read the summary »](#)

### Legislative update: Follow-up measure to late start law put on hold



**Senate Bill 328** (Portantino, D-Pasadena), the follow-up legislation to the bill that created the “late start” law in 2019, was not set for hearing by the Assembly Education Committee. This action effectively means that the bill is now a two-year bill and will likely not be considered for the rest of this year. CSBA had taken an “Oppose Unless Amended” position on the bill. The

amendments CSBA was seeking were to delay implementation of the current late start requirement of July 1, 2022, by two years; further clarification of what a rural school district is; and a definition of a middle or junior high school and high school for purposes of the late start requirement. CSBA was also seeking an amendment to remove ambiguous language prohibiting a local city or county from adopting any ordinance interfering with a local educational agency’s ability to comply with the requirement.

**The delay of the bill raises implementation questions for the existing late start legislation.** CSBA is evaluating what the impacts may or may not be and will provide further information as it assesses this development.

## COVID update: \$3 billion in American Rescue Plan funds to benefit youth with disabilities



On July 1, the **U.S. Department of Education announced the release of \$3 billion in American Rescue Plan funding to support infants, toddlers, children and youth with disabilities. Of that, California will receive roughly \$301 million.** The money will help nearly 8 million infants, toddlers and students served under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and adds to the ARP

Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief allocation of \$122 billion in state funding for K-12 schools that the Department of Education announced earlier this year. **A [fact sheet with tips on how IDEA funds within the American Rescue Plan can be used by states is now available.](#)**

“We know that COVID-19 and disruptions in access to in-person learning over the last year have taken a disproportionate toll on America’s children with disabilities, who, far too often amid the pandemic, experienced challenges in receiving the services and supports that they were entitled to,” U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona said in a statement. **“It’s long past time that the federal government makes good on its commitment to students with disabilities and their families,** and today’s announcement is one of many steps the Biden-Harris Administration has taken to support students with disabilities.” [Learn more »](#)

### In other COVID-19 developments:

- **The College Board’s Opportunity Scholarships program can help students stay on track with the college planning process. Members of the class of 2022 are eligible to apply now.** The program was created to help prepare students for college and reward them while doing so. It is open to high school juniors and seniors who meet all eligibility requirements and encourages them to complete six key steps including building a college list, practicing for the SAT and completing the FAFSA. [Learn more »](#)

## FAQs on Critical Race Theory and Ethnic Studies



Responding to requests from school board members statewide, **CSBA has produced a pair of FAQs on two pressing topics: critical race theory and ethnic studies.** As interest in ethnic studies and critical race theory builds, it is increasingly important for school trustees to have a basic familiarity with and understanding of these concepts. **These new FAQs offer information that can help**

**guide the sometimes difficult conversations on these issues.**

### **Critical Race Theory**

Attention to critical race theory (CRT) in mainstream and social media has propelled this formerly obscure topic into the public eye and placed CRT front and center at many school board meetings. **Facing questions, advocacy and protests related to CRT, local governing boards have requested information to assist trustees in responding**

to this surge of interest. CSBA's new [Critical Race Theory FAQ](#) provides background on CRT that can help guide these discussions.

#### ***Ethnic Studies***

As pending legislation on ethnic studies gains steam in the Legislature, many school districts and COEs are considering whether to adopt or to expand course offerings in this area. Additionally, the debate over critical race theory has bled into these discussions and created some confusion on the nature and purpose of ethnic studies. A new CSBA [Ethnic Studies FAQ](#) aims to clarify what ethnic studies is and how it fits in the context of California's K-12 schools.

## Register for the MIG Alumni Book Club



**Register for the Masters in Governance Alumni Book Club by July 9 at 1 p.m.** MIG graduates are welcome to join us this summer for our first MIG Alumni Association event, the Summer Book Club with Davis Campbell, co-author of *The Governance Core*. **The Summer Book Club provides the opportunity to collaborate with other MIG grads and discuss *The Governance Core* directly with**

**the author.** The book club will be hosted on Zoom on July 10 and 24 as well as on Aug. 7 and 28. Any questions can be sent to [training@csba.org](mailto:training@csba.org). [Register now »](#)

## Experience AEC in person or virtually



Registration for this year's Annual Education Conference and Trade Show is now open. **Experience AEC in person in San Diego Dec. 2–4 or virtually Dec. 9–10.** AEC is CSBA's premier continuing education program, serving to connect members with colleagues from across the state to discuss relevant and important education topics such as school funding, special education and distance

learning. **The 2021 event offers amazing speakers, enriched learning opportunities and a variety of networking opportunities.** [Learn more and register now »](#)

## Learn more about UV-C disinfection at upcoming webinar



More than 75 schools across California have incorporated hospital-grade disinfection practices into their daily cleaning protocols. **Join CSBA COVID-19 mitigation partner R-Zero to learn about UV-C disinfection in a June 15 webinar,** "Sustainably reduce risk with intelligent, hospital-grade UV-C disinfection." UV-C light is the gold standard in medical care facilities for reducing hospital-

acquired infections and **destroys over 99.99 percent of surface and airborne pathogens — including coronavirus, seasonal flu, staph and norovirus — in a 1000 sq. ft. classroom in less than seven minutes, without chemicals. Hospital grade UV-C disinfection is now financially accessible to school districts for the first time.** Eligible for CARES Act, ESSER I and II funding, R-Zero's UV-C disinfection device, Arc, now delivers the highest efficacy of any hospital-grade product on the market and at a fraction of the cost. [Sign up for the webinar »](#)

## Coverage you need to ensure student and district safety



Accidents happen. Are your students covered? To help members best address insurance-related issues, **CSBA has joined forces with California's leading provider of student accident and sickness insurance.** Myers-Stevens & Toohy is a full-service administrator based in Southern California that has worked closely with public K-12 schools for over 35 years. CSBA's **sponsored**

**catastrophic injury coverage is affordable and can be extended to cover all school activities**, including travel to and from home and school. [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

### **MIG Alumni Association Summer Book Club Series**

July 10 | [Register here](#)

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

July 26 and 28 | [Register here](#)

### **MIG Course 3: School Finance**

August 6-7 | [Register here](#)

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

August 19 and 21 | [Register here](#)

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

August 20-21 | [Register here](#)

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

August 23 and 25 | [Register here](#)

[View complete calendar](#)

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