COVID-19 update: California pauses proposed COVID-19 student vaccine mandate

Following news on April 14 that a bill requiring student vaccinations against COVID-19 has been shelved, the California Department of Public Health announced that evening that it will postpone the regulatory process used to...
require COVID vaccinations for public and private school attendance. The requirement, which was expected to go into effect for the 2022–23 school year on July 1, 2022, will not be implemented until after full federal Food and Drug Administration approval and no sooner than July 1, 2023. The department’s decision takes into consideration that full approval for the vaccine for individuals of all ages within the 7–12 grade span has not yet been granted by the FDA. Read more on the CSBA blog »

Hone your governance skills at CSBA's 2022 Leadership Institute

The state of public education has never been more critical — and your leadership has never been more essential. Harness your talent, reignite your sense of purpose and hone your governance skills at CSBA's 2022 Leadership Institute in Los Angeles, July 22–23. This professional development opportunity offers an intimate setting to engage with keynote speakers, collaborate with counterparts across the state and enhance leadership skills in sessions dedicated to community engagement, board meeting management, district governance, budgeting and crisis communications — crucial skills for our current environment. Learn more and register today »

Preparing for universal transitional kindergarten

As part of the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing’s work to develop the Preschool through 3rd grade (PK-3) Early Childhood Education (ECE) Specialist Credential, a new set of preparation program standards, which describe quality and effectiveness expectations and are used for accreditation, has been drafted. A survey for public input regarding the draft standards is available. The deadline for responding to the survey is April 26, 2022. Respondents should be knowledgeable about early learning and development and includes ECE practitioners, Multiple Subject Credential Holders teaching grades PK-3, school administrators with PK-3 grades at their site, ECE and multiple subject teacher educators from two- and four-year institutions of higher education, as well as others from communities of interest in the field, are encouraged to respond. Take the survey »

▪ The California Department of Education’s Early Education Division is hosting weekly universal prekindergarten (UPK) office hours on
**Wednesday afternoons for local educational agencies** so that attendees can ask questions and receive technical assistance about UPK implementation. The first 15 minutes will be a quick review of UPK and the latest developments. Registration will be limited to 500 participants per session and will be open to all regions of California. Registration for each week’s office hour opportunity will open the Friday afternoon before each Wednesday’s event. [Learn more and register »](#)

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**Federal update: Funding announced for Secure Rural Schools Program**

President Joe Biden and the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Forest Service on April 15 [announced](#) an investment of more than $238 million to support public schools, roads and other municipal services through the [Secure Rural Schools Program](#), which will deliver payments to 742 eligible counties in 41 states and Puerto Rico. **California will receive nearly $30 million for 39 counties** and the school districts within those counties that are impacted by federal forest lands. The program was reauthorized for fiscal years 2021 through 2023 by the [Bipartisan Infrastructure Law](#).

CSBA has worked closely with the National Forest Counties and Schools Coalition over the last few years to reauthorize the Secure Rural Schools program. [Learn more »](#)

**In other federal news:**

- The U.S. Department of Education on April 14 released its [inaugural equity action plan](#) as part of the Biden-Harris Administration's continued commitment to advancing racial equity and support for underserved communities through the federal government. This plan aligns with President Biden’s executive order, [Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government](#). The plan builds on processes already in place and implements new strategies to **ensure the advancement of equity as it works to promote student achievement and ensure the nation’s education system meets the demands of today’s global economy.** To deal with both ongoing recovery efforts from the pandemic and begin to remedy long-standing disparities that underserved students and communities face in achieving equal education opportunities, the department is announcing a series of plans to incorporate equity throughout its operations and mission to meet the needs of every learner. [Learn more »](#)

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**Legislative update: CSBA members to advocate in Washington, D.C.**
CSBA's inaugural Coast2Coast Federal Advocacy Trip is next week on April 25–27 in Washington, D.C. In partnership with the Association of California School Administrators (ACSA), 150 CSBA and ACSA members will travel to the nation's capital for two days of meetings with members of Congress and their staff on Capitol Hill as well as with prominent pollsters, journalists and representatives from the executive branch.

California governance leaders will come together for a day of policy briefings and talks by special guests before heading out to advocate with decision-makers in Washington in support of special education funding, improved access to mental health services, child nutrition, broadband access, cybersecurity, Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER) flexibility, social security, solutions to ongoing teacher shortages and long-term support for the Secure Rural Schools program.

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

Local educational agencies are a major piece of the puzzle in both preventing and reporting child abuse, as all LEA employees are “mandated reporters” of child abuse or neglect as found in California Penal Code Section 11165.7. Research has shown that school-based prevention programs increase a child's knowledge, self-protection skills and the likelihood of telling a trusted adult about abuse. Nationally, education personnel were second only to legal and law enforcement personnel in the list of professionals who made a report about child abuse or neglect, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Read more on the CSBA blog »

Let Total School Solutions help with your Facilities Master Plan

Do your facilities support your educational and programmatic goals? A Facilities Master Plan provides a district with vital information regarding current and future needs for student housing, quality of existing facilities, and facilities renovation and expansion requirements to meet the district’s educational and programmatic goals. The master plan also assists the district in identifying funding needs for
capital improvement and developing financing options. Total School Solutions facilities master plans include accurate projections regarding enrollment, careful determination of school site capacity, educational specifications to ensure programmatic needs are served, a detailed need assessment, and conclusions and recommendations about the availability and timing of financing and funding. 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 CSBA blog.

Virtual events

MIG Course 3: School Finance Part 1 and Part 2
April 29-30 | Register

MIG Course 3: School Finance Part 1 and Part 2
May 3-4 | Register

MIG Course 4: Human Resources/Collective Bargaining
May 5-6 | Register

MIG Course 3: School Finance Part 1 and Part 2
May 12-13 | Register

MIG Course 4: Human Resources/Collective Bargaining
May 13-14 | Register

Governance with an Equity Lens
Aug. 27-Oct. 22 | Register

In-person events

2022 Leadership Institute
July 22-23 | Los Angeles | Register

View complete calendar