CSBA President statement on Texas school shooting

"We are devastated by the massacre that occurred at Robb Elementary School in..."
Uvalde, Texas, killing 21 people, including 19 students and two teachers. Our children have had to bear so much in recent years and it’s heartbreaking to see their trauma compounded by such an incredibly violent and lethal act,” said CSBA President Dr. Susan Heredia. “We grieve for all those affected by the shooting, particularly the friends and families of the deceased and those who witnessed this tragedy. We are also distraught when we think of the youth across the country with no direct connection to the crime who will nonetheless be impacted by its sinister nature. As a nation, we simply must do a better job of caring for, protecting and nurturing the most vulnerable members of our society.”

CSBA knows that reports of violence at schools can be troubling for students, especially for younger children who struggle to understand how an act like a shooting could take place at school and may fear for their own safety as a result. While there is no foolproof method for addressing such a difficult topic, there are many resources available to help educators, parents and guardians speak with their children after a school shooting and manage their distress. Please see below for some especially useful resources as well as guidance for school board members, school administrators and educators on practices that promote school safety. View resources »

### Legislative update: Tell the Legislature to protect key wins for schools in this year’s budget

Legislative leaders and the Newsom Administration are currently negotiating the 2022–23 state budget and your legislators need to hear your support for the issues that matter most for schools this budget cycle. Gov. Gavin Newsom’s May Budget Revision included exciting wins for schools and your voice is needed to make sure the Legislature signs on to include those wins in the final budget. CSBA’s advocacy was reflected in the Governor’s proposed increase of $2.1 billion in ongoing Proposition 98 General Fund to the Local Control Funding Formula base funding for school districts and his adoption of the CSBA and Association of California School Administrators’ (ACSA) proposal to provide fiscal protections for schools that experienced significant attendance declines due to the delta and omicron surges. Help us fight off those who are working to remove these priorities from the budget and replace them with their own.

We also ask that you raise your voice in favor of repairing the state’s decades-long underfunding of home-to-school transportation, mitigating the increasing burden posed by school employer pension contributions, and providing dedicated funds for transitional kindergarten facilities. It’s critical that the Legislature hears from local education...
leaders about the importance of protecting these wins and going further to address key school needs on transportation, pensions and TK facilities. Click here to email your Legislators now »

CSBA-sponsored AB 2933 passes Assembly Appropriations Committee following press conference

CSBA-sponsored Assembly Bill 2933 unanimously passed out of the Assembly Appropriations Committee on May 19 following a press conference held by CSBA and Assemblymember Patrick O’Donnell in support of the bill a day prior. A third reading of the proposed legislation was slated to take place in the Assembly on May 25 when the bill will go to the Assembly Floor for a vote.

AB 2933 would hit the brakes on decades of underinvestment and fully fund home-to-school transportation. The May 18 press conference, which took place at Westmore Oaks K-8 School in West Sacramento’s Washington Unified School District, detailed why funding updates are needed. “California’s home-to-school transportation program has been unbelievably frozen for 40 years. For 40 years there has not been an increase in funding for the transportation system that gets kids to school and gets them educated. It’s time to change that,” said O’Donnell, the bill’s author. Today, California ranks last nationally in home-to-school transportation with roughly one in 10 students taking a bus to school and most school districts and county offices of education only offering busing to those in special education programs. The event also featured CSBA Assistant Executive Director of Governmental Relations Dennis Meyers, Washington USD Superintendent Cheryl P. Hildreth and a local student who shared a firsthand account of the benefits of school busing programs. Read more on the CSBA blog »

CSBA flags CALPADS issues with California Department of Education

In response to concerns raised by members in early May, CSBA and the Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) submitted a letter to Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond and the California Department of Education concerning issues in the California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS) system. CALPADS is an essential database that is used to maintain individual-level data including student demographics, assessments, course data, discipline, staff assignments and other data for state and federal reporting. “Our members report experiencing significant challenges with CALPADS in recent weeks, to the extent that some consider the system as it currently stands
“unusable,” wrote CSBA CEO & Executive Director Vernon M. Billy and incoming ACSA Executive Director Edgar Zazueta. “The issues are impacting a wide variety of systems from student information, special education and child nutrition to CAASPP and Smarter Balanced testing.”

In response to the letter, CDE staff spoke with CSBA and ACSA leaders about the issues and solutions that CDE is implementing, and updated local educational agencies in a May 20 letter. Acknowledging that the issues were affecting the submission of data for end-of-year reporting, the CDE announced that the opening of the submission window has been shifted to May 26, 2022, and the initial certification deadline of July 31, 2022, has been lifted and CDE will “continue to assess the need to extend the final Aug. 26, 2022, deadline in the coming weeks.” The letter also contained information about a new federal penalty the state is facing if at least 95 percent of students do not complete statewide assessments. Read more on the CSBA blog »

School Boards in Action: 5 Questions with Maimona Afzal Berta, Franklin-McKinley School District

CSBA knows the challenges school communities continue to face and the hard work school boards across the state are putting in to ensure students receive the academic and social-emotional supports they need. District and county offices of education have implemented innovative solutions to address a host of challenges. CSBA is proud of the work of California’s district and county board trustees and is continuing to highlight the ways districts have addressed recent challenges as well as their plans for the future through the School Boards in Action initiative.

Franklin-McKinley School District trustee Maimona Afzal Berta recently participated in our 5 Questions series, sharing the district’s learning recovery strategies, summer programming plans, professional development opportunities and community engagement as well as her 3-year-old foxhound’s special connection to the district. Read more on the CSBA blog »

Start planning your Leadership Institute itinerary

CSBA’s 2022 Leadership Institute is around the corner. Taking place July 22-23 in Los Angeles, attendees can start planning their itinerary now to make the most of the "Leadership in a time of chaos, change and opportunity" event. In addition to keynote presentations by Dr. Victor Rios, associate dean of Social Sciences and professor of Sociology at the University of California, Santa Barbara, and Dr. Natalie Stavas, a physician at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, a schedule of sessions is available to view online now. Some breakout session topics include governing effectively in...
difficult times, prioritizing board member mental health, financing an equitable education and crisis communications. Learn more and register »

Register now for CCBE’s Annual Conference

The 2022 California County Boards of Education Annual Conference is happening in-person at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Monterey Sept. 9-11. Registration is now open with an early rate available through Aug. 5. The CCBE Annual Conference is a unique opportunity for county board leaders to come together at a time when domestic policies and global trends are combining to shape students’ futures. Join county board members, superintendents, and educational partners from across the state to gain valuable knowledge and information in five key areas: advocacy and community engagement; equity and opportunity in rural California; county board core; funding, finance, and human capital; leadership through shared governance; and wellness, safety, and learning. New this year, a conference session devoted specifically to serving the unique needs of rural school districts.

As the role of county offices of education continues to evolve, CCBE’s Annual Conference is dedicated to providing COE board members with the tools and information to empower them to be effective elected education leaders. This year’s sessions will address governance during challenging times, with a focus on the unique responsibilities that differentiate county school board members from school district board members. This in-person conference provides the opportunity to meet and share ideas with fellow county board members from other regions and to leave with new ideas for serving students. Register now »

State Board Report: Community schools grants approved

The California State Board of Education convened May 18 for its first in-person session in two years to discuss items on community schools grant allocations, physical education flexibilities and more.

Gov. Gavin Newsom included in the May Budget Revision an additional $1.5 billion in one-time Proposition 98 General Fund to expand access and meet demand for the California Community Schools Partnership Program (CCSPP), which has far exceeded what was provided in the 2021 Budget Act. “The enthusiasm from the field is palpable,” said Board President Linda Darling-Hammond.

The board continued moving ahead with the original $3 billion CCSPP funds, approved last year by the Legislature to establish new and expand existing community schools, by approving $635 million in planning and implementation
grants for about 265 school districts, county offices of education and charter schools. Nearly 200 local educational agencies with no existing community schools will receive $200,000 two-year planning grants in the first round. Priority was given to applicants with schools in which 80 percent or more of the total student population are included in the unduplicated student count and to LEAs serving rural and small schools. Read more on the CSBA blog »

**CSBA's Cash Reserve Program can help your LEA manage state deferrals**

The impact of the apportionment deferrals and the timing of expenditures versus state and federal stimulus payments could make it difficult to maintain positive cash flow during the school year. Now in partnership with California Association of School Business Officials, CSBA's Cash Reserve Program has provided local educational agencies a reliable and cost-effective short-term cash flow funding option for over 30 years. Participants issue Tax and Revenue Anticipation Notes (TRANs) through a streamlined, pooled process. Learn more today about how the Cash Reserve Program can offer you low borrowing costs and flexible repayment terms, with easy and efficient administration. 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 4: Human Resources/Collective Bargaining  
June 1-2 | Register

MIG Course 4: Human Resources/Collective Bargaining  
June 9-10 | Register

MIG Course 5: Community Relations & Advocacy/Governance Integration  
June 10-11 | Register

MIG Course 5: Community Relations &
Advocacy/Governance Integration
June 23-24 | Register

The Brown Act
June 14 | Register

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

In-person events

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

California County Boards of Education (CCBE) Annual Conference
Sept. 9-11 | Monterey | Register

View complete calendar