June 1, 2022

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Legislative update: CSBA-sponsored bills pass key hurdle

May 27 marked the Legislature’s “House of Origin” deadline, the do-or-die date by which all bills must
be passed out of the house in which they were introduced to move forward.

Among this year’s success stories is CSBA-sponsored bill Assembly Bill 2933 (O-Donnell, D-Long Beach), which passed out of the Assembly on a vote of 75 to 0. AB 2933, which would reverse decades of underinvestment and fully fund home-to-school transportation, now moves to the Senate.

Three other CSBA-sponsored bills also moved forward:

- **Senate Bill 1061 (Laird, D-Santa Cruz):** Increases the integrity of special elections for school board vacancies and reduces the financial impacts on schools. **CSBA Position: Sponsor. Approved by the Senate 28-9.**

- **AB 2584 (Berman, D-San Mateo):** Requires school board recall efforts to meet standards for accuracy and truthfulness and reduces the financial impact of special elections on districts. **CSBA Position: Sponsor. Approved by the Assembly 58-19.**

- **AB 2034 (O'Donnell, D-Long Beach):** Expands access to school-based health and mental health services by improving the Local Education Agency Medi-Cal Billing Option Program reimbursement process. **CSBA Position: Co-sponsor. Approved by the Assembly 76-0.**

California Office of Emergency Services releases school safety and preparedness resources and best practices

California Homeland Security Advisor Mark Ghilarducci and State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond issued a joint letter to local educational agencies on May 25 following the shooting at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas. The letter includes numerous federal, state and local resources and best practices to support school safety and preparedness compiled by the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES). Read the full joint letter on the Cal OES website and find additional information on the California Department of Education’s Project Cal-STOP page.

COVID-19 update: CDC and CDPH update guidance

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on May 27 updated its “Operational Guidance for K-12 Schools and Early Care and Education Programs to Support Safe In-Person...
Learning.” The guidance states that it “can help K-12 school and ECE program administrators support safe, in-person learning for K-12 schools, and keep ECE programs open, while managing the spread of COVID-19. Based on the COVID-19 Community Levels, this guidance provides flexibility so schools and ECE programs can adapt to changing local situations, including periods of increased community health impacts from COVID-19.”

The California Department of Public Health on May 27 released the “Preliminary Testing Framework for K-12 Schools for the 2022–2023 School Year,” which provides a list of current and anticipated updates to COVID-19 testing operations for K-12 schools. The California Testing Task Force will hold a discussion group on the testing framework today, June 1, at 2 p.m. Register here »

CSBA Climate Change Task Force report now available

CSBA Climate Change Task Force Report: Recommendations and strategies for California public schools to address the climate crisis is now available on the CSBA climate change resources page. CSBA’s Climate Change Task Force — composed of 13 school and county board trustees and two student representatives — published this report in late May. CSBA’s Board of Directors approved the formation of the Climate Change Task force in late 2019 in response to the myriad challenges and threats posed to California’s schools, students and families by global climate change, and the degree to which the issue is of substantial concern to education leaders, school staff and students.

The report contains a public education perspective of why climate change must be addressed and a set of recommendations from the task force for supporting local educational agency efforts to address climate change — including more equitable access to funding for LEAs for facilities updates and other programs to address local environmental issues. It also examines local strategies to address climate change, ways to bring the public school voice into the broader climate conversation and an examination of environmental justice and equity. The report concludes with “California schools in action,” a series of examples of programs and innovations undertaken by LEAs from throughout the state. Read the report and find additional resources »

Leadership Institute speaker to address policy change in support of students

Join CSBA at the 2022 Leadership Institute from July 22–23 in downtown Los Angeles for this professional development opportunity focusing on strengthening leadership skills in
the midst of this chaotic time in K-12 public education. “Leadership in a time of chaos, change and opportunity” will feature dynamic speakers including Dr. Victor Rios, associate dean of Social Sciences and professor of Sociology at the University of California, Santa Barbara. Rios, who delivered a moving and well-received address at CSBA's 2021 Annual Education Conference and Trade Show, works with school districts around the state to develop programs for struggling students.

In advance of her Leadership Institute appearance, Rios greets registrants in a short video. “At the Annual Education Conference in December we talked about the impact a teacher can have in changing a student’s life,” he said. “Now, let’s get into what we can do at the policy level to support and enhance those impactful teachers, create ecosystems of care and put hose in place to support even more students at all our school sites.” Register for Leadership Institute »

Summer MIG Alumni Book Club is open for registration

Graduates of CSBA's Masters in Governance program have the knowledge and skills to build and support an effective governance structure. Through the MIG Alumni Association's Summer Book Club, trustees have another opportunity to connect and collaborate with colleagues from across the state as they continue with their professional development. This year's topic, generational diversity, will include work with Lynne Lancaster, co-author of The M-Factor: How the Millennial Generation Is Rocking the Workplace. Learn more and register »

Assembly Democrats settle power struggle over speakership

It appears that Democrats in the state Assembly have chosen their next leader — but for the time being, things will remain much the same.

Rumors swirled late last week that Assemblymember Robert Rivas (D-Salinas) had secured the votes to oust current Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon (D-Lakewood). The Assembly paused its regular session early in the afternoon on May 31 for a lengthy, closed door caucus meeting and six hours later Speaker Rendon and Assemblymember Rivas...
issued statements on the results. They announced that while Rivas has secured the support of a majority of the caucus to become the next speaker, Speaker Rendon will remain in his post for “at least the rest of this legislative session.”

No timeline was announced as to when the transition between the two assemblymembers would occur. Recognizing that this is the second year of a two-year legislative session, if the vote occurs before the 2021–22 Legislative Session adjourns it will be taken by the current membership of the Legislature. If the vote is taken in the upcoming 2022–23 Legislative Session, Rivas will have to secure the support of many of the large class of new assemblymembers to secure the speakership.

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 and the California Association of School Business Officials, 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 CSBA blog.

Virtual events

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

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