School Boards in Action: Addressing mental health in El Dorado County

As CSBA readies for the debut of phase two of its multimedia advertising campaign, School Boards in Action — which will showcase to the public a more personal side of trustees and their work in support of students through online ads, commercials on streaming radio services and video storytelling — the CSBA blog continues to highlight the work of members and their local educational agencies. Student mental health is top of mind for boards as schools move beyond the triage stage of the pandemic and into
Gov. Newsom proclaims State of Emergency regarding monkeypox

On Aug. 1, Gov. Gavin Newsom proclaimed a State of Emergency regarding the spread of the monkeypox virus in California. The Proclamation of a State of Emergency noted that monkeypox was first detected in California on May 25 and that the World Health Organization has determined that the multi-country monkeypox outbreak constitutes a public health emergency. According to the proclamation, there are more than 20,000 cases of monkeypox globally, 4,000 confirmed probable cases in the U.S., and 800 confirmed probable cases in California. The monkeypox virus, which typically presents with a rash that turns into pustules as well as other symptoms, can cause acute health impacts and, rarely, death.

The Governor’s proclamation allows his office and the California Department of Public Health to leverage existing infrastructure, including personnel, equipment and facilities to prepare for and respond to monkeypox. Specifically, this will assist the state with procuring and distributing monkeypox vaccines, including those provided by federal government under the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s National Vaccine Strategy. To ensure efficient vaccine distribution, the proclamation also suspends licensing, certification and training requirements for Emergency Medical Services personnel so that there are additional personnel to administer monkeypox vaccines and takes other action to ensure there are sufficient personnel statewide to administer vaccines.

It is important to note that the proclamation does not set any requirements for schools or other educational institutions, or any employers regarding the monkeypox virus. We may see additional guidance in the coming weeks or months from CDPH or Cal/OSHA obligating local educational agencies and employers to take action to address monkeypox. CSBA will keep members updated on any such developments.

Federal support for school-based mental health services

The Biden-Harris Administration on July 29 announced two new actions to strengthen school-based mental health services and address the youth mental health crisis. This week, the U.S. Department of Education will begin the process of distributing almost $300
Congress appropriated in fiscal year 2022 through both the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act and the FY22 omnibus to help schools hire more school-based mental health professionals and build a strong pipeline into the profession for the upcoming school year. The administration is also encouraging governors to invest more in school-based mental health services to improve the delivery of health care in schools and make sure children enrolled in Medicaid have access to comprehensive health care services, as required by law. Learn more »

U.S. Senate releases draft spending bills

The U.S. Senate on July 28 released its draft spending bill for fiscal year 2023. The omnibus package amounts to nearly $49 billion and an increase of 13 percent for federal K-12 programs. The provisions include:

- $20.13 billion for Title I, Part A, an increase of $5.5 billion over FY22.
- $15.3 billion for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part B State Grants, an increase of $1.975 billion.
- $954 million for the English Language Acquisition program, an increase of $123 million.
- Investments in parent and family engagement, including $45 million (an increase of $15 million) for Parent Information Centers under IDEA and $25 million (an increase of $10 million) for statewide family engagement centers.
- $12.03 billion for Head Start, an increase of $1 billion.
- $7.16 billion for the Child Care Development Block Grant (CCDBG), an increase of $1 billion.
- $445 million for the Charter School Grant Program, an increase of $5 million.
- $1.34 billion for 21st Century Community Learning Centers.

Compared to the House’s package, the Senate proposal provides more money for the Charter School Grant Program and school safety national activities but does not include the House’s proposal for school-based mental health services grants. The House is in the process of passing its own appropriations bills, which must be reconciled with the Senate version. The legislation released by the Senate will be used as the basis for negotiations after the passage of the House package.

Further discussions on budget will begin again when Congress returns from recess in September. If it is unable to reach agreement in early September, a continuing resolution will be needed to keep the federal government functioning for the new federal fiscal year starting Oct. 1. Read the Senate proposal summary »
Deadline approaching to submit 2022 Legislative Awards nominations

Time is running out to submit nominations for the 2022 Legislative Awards! The nomination window is open through Sept. 2, and CSBA wants to hear from you. Every year, CSBA honors current members of the California Senate and Assembly, as well as members of Congress, who actively work to improve our public schools, support local school board governance and exercise leadership in the legislative arena. School district and county boards can nominate leaders from their area in one of five categories:

- Outstanding Legislator (State or Federal)
- Outstanding Freshman Legislator
- Special Recognition
- Albert S. Rodda Lifetime Achievement Award
- Dede Alpert Award for Exemplary Education Leadership

Nominations must be received by Sept. 2, 2022. Learn more and make a nomination »

Enhance your governance skills with Masters in Governance

CSBA's Masters in Governance® program equips board members with the knowledge and skills to build and support an effective governance structure. MIG consists of five courses catered to district trustees covering topics such as school finance, community relations and advocacy, student learning and achievement and more.

In addition to reintroducing in-person MIG beginning Aug. 19 in Rancho Cucamonga, the program is also available in a virtual, interactive format, making it easier for trustees to attend no matter where in the state they reside. Feel confident and better prepared to address any governance issue by honing your skills with CSBA's governance experts. Learn more and register »
Public comment open: Proposed literary standards for Education Specialist Credential

Senate Bill 488, effective Jan. 1, 2022, specifies that preparation for candidates in preliminary programs for a Multiple Subject credential, Single Subject credential in English Language Arts, and Education Specialist credentials include effective means of teaching literacy and evidence-based means of teaching foundational reading skills. The bill stipulates that California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) standards and Teaching Performance Expectations (TPEs) must include the requirements identified in SB 488, be in alignment with the current ELA/ELD Framework adopted by the State Board of Education and incorporate the California Dyslexia Guidelines. The CTC is seeking feedback for the Education Specialist credential from reading and literacy experts and practitioners, preparation programs and faculty, and all interested parties regarding proposed draft literacy standards and TPEs. Learn more and access the survey »

Safer air for your LEA

The quality of air in school buildings can affect everything from student achievement to absenteeism to teacher retention. LifeWings Peak Performance provides the Safer Air Initiative to provide guidance and expertise on creating sage and healthy air in local educational agencies. Through assessment, financial support and strategic planning, LifeWings can help LEAs tap into the billions of dollars in federal and state aid to ensure your students and staff can breathe freely. Learn more »

Stay up to date with the latest news and resources on the CSBA blog.

Virtual events

MIG Course 1: Foundations of Effective Governance/Setting Direction
Aug. 23-24 | Register

Student Board Member Summer Training
Session
Aug. 24 | Register

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

MIG Course 2: Student Learning & Achievement/Policy & Judicial Review
Sept. 20-21 | Register

In-person events

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

Executive Assistants Certification Program
Sept. 12-13 | Santa Clara | Register

MIG 3: School Finance Part 1 & 2
Sept. 23 | Rancho Cucamonga | Register

MIG 4: Human Resources/Collective Bargaining
Sept. 24 | Rancho Cucamonga | Register

MIG COE COURSE 1 Foundations of Effective Governance/Setting Direction
Sept. 24 | Santa Clara | Register

View complete calendar