

California schoolnews

Weekly Update

October 26, 2022

In this Issue

- California assessment results show declines, hope for intervention efforts
- Legal update: CSBA-sponsored bills AB 2584 and SB 1061 provide election reforms that will benefit LEAs
- CSBA officer candidates
- School Boards in Action: 5 questions with San Ramon Valley USD board president Ken Mintz
- Workforce housing momentum builds as CSBA launches workshop with UCLA and UC Berkeley
- October issue of *California School News* available online
- Custom-designed PPE products, document management and printing services

California assessment results show declines, hope for intervention efforts



State and national assessment data released on Oct. 24 confirms the decline in results that were expected in the first full administration of these tests since the COVID-19 pandemic sent the world into turmoil.

California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP), also known as **Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments**, [data for](#)

the 2021–22 academic year show the impact of the pandemic on student achievement, with less than half of students (47 percent) meeting or exceeding standards for English language arts (ELA) — a 4-percentage point drop from 51 percent in 2018–19, before the public health crisis. The rate of students who met or exceeded math standards fell 7 percentage points from 40 percent to 33 percent between 2018–19 and 2021–22. However, some results hint that efforts to support academic recovery, such as expanded learning opportunities, are helping.

The release of the [National Assessment of Educational Progress \(NAEP\)](#) showed the largest declines in math scores on record, and a less drastic though still worrisome drop in reading scores. The rigorous standardized assessment, also known as “the nation’s report card,” is administered by the National Center for Education Statistics to a nationally representative sample of students in grades 4 and 8. Declines spanned the political and demographic makeup of states, making it difficult to conclude the role the length of pandemic-related campus closures played in student performance, officials said.

“California education leaders were prepared to see lower test scores due to the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, from remote schooling to keeping students and staff healthy when in-person instruction resumed statewide in the 2021–22 school year. While California fared better than other states in mitigating learning loss as measured by test scores, the depth of the decline is disturbing,” said CSBA President Dr. Susan Heredia. **“These sobering results underscore the importance of dedicating substantial resources toward learning recovery — one possible reason why California’s scores dropped less than those in most other states.** Nationwide results show us that declines occurred everywhere — regardless of how long students participated in virtual or in-person schooling. It is our responsibility to communicate this data and its implications transparently and use it to drive continued innovation and targeted interventions at the local level that help struggling students. Fortunately, there is plenty of research on how to do that, including through small group teaching, one-on-one tutoring, expanded learning programs and more.” [Read more about the results on the CSBA blog »](#)

Legal update: CSBA-sponsored bills AB 2584 and SB 1061 provide election reforms that will benefit LEAs



On Sept. 29, Gov. Gavin Newsom signed two **CSBA-sponsored** election reform bills, **Assembly Bill 2584** (Berman, D-Menlo Park) and **Senate Bill 1061** (Laird, D-Santa Cruz). **AB 2584** provides needed reforms to the recall process for local elected officials, and **SB 1061** ensures that voters are aware of the cost of special elections to elect board members.

AB 2584 provides a number of reforms to modernize the recall process, including:

- Increasing the number of signatures required for a notice of intention to circulate a recall petition;
- Providing that the statement of reasons for the recall or the answer are not exempt from criminal or civil liability for false, slanderous or libelous material included in

recall petitions;

- Allowing a voter to file a writ or request for injunction of the statement of reasons or answer are false, misleading or inconsistent with the statutory recall requirements;
- Requiring the estimated cost of a recall election to be stated on the recall petition; and
- Allowing recall petitions to be consolidated with regular elections held within 180 days of the order for the recall election.

SB 1061 similarly requires the estimated cost of special elections to fill board vacancies to be provided in petitions to call for a special election, calculated on a per-pupil basis. SB 1061 also allows special elections to fill board vacancies to be consolidated with a regular or previously scheduled special election if that election is scheduled within 180 days of the order for an election to fill the board vacancy. [Read more on the CSBA blog »](#)

CSBA officer candidates



Pursuant to Standing Rule 222, C (11), the Candidate Review Committee interviewed the first round of candidates on Aug. 27, via Zoom meeting platform. Candidates interviewed were Albert Gonzalez of Santa Clara Unified School District for the office of President-elect, and Bettye Lusk of Monterey Peninsula USD for the office of Vice President. The Candidate Review Committee recommends Bettye Lusk for the office of Vice

President.

Second round nominations closed on Oct. 20, and there were no new candidates nominated for either office. [Learn more and read the candidate statements »](#)

School Boards in Action: 5 questions with San Ramon Valley USD board president Ken Mintz



In CSBA's continuing effort to highlight the hard work and effective practices of boards during these challenging times, the association's 5 Questions blog series shares the experiences of board members around the state. **San Ramon Valley Unified School District board President Ken Mintz discussed professional development opportunities, which center on goals from the SRVUSD data dashboard that**

connect to the district's strategic directions; academic supports for students; the communications and community relations plan recently approved by trustees; and coming to the end of a career as a school board member that totals 18 years. [Read](#)

Workforce housing momentum builds as CSBA launches workshop with UCLA and UC Berkeley



Teams from a select cohort of four school districts in rent-burdened communities around the state met at **Selma Community Housing** in Los Angeles recently for the launch of a pilot CSBA workshop series designed to help convert existing school property into employee housing. The Education Workforce Housing (EWH) Workshop Series, funded by a grant from the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative, **builds**

upon the ground-breaking research collaboration between **UCLA cityLAB**, **UC Berkeley Center for Cities + Schools** and CSBA into best practices and opportunities to develop housing using land owned by LEAs. *[Education Workforce Housing in California: Developing the 21st Century Campus](#)* and its companion **handbook** provide a much-needed guide to navigate the complexities involved in affordable housing development as more LEAs refuse to wait for municipalities to take action.

At the Los Angeles workshop, **each team shared details about their projects, collaborated on the challenges ahead and walked away with materials and tools to conduct geospatial analysis on potential housing sites and begin the process of consensus-building around the vision for housing in their communities.** [Read a recap of the event »](#)

October issue of *California School News* available online



The October edition of *California School News* includes highlights from CSBA's report *[Beyond the Spreadsheets: Insights from California education leaders utilizing COVID-19 relief funding](#)*, a summary of CSBA advocacy wins at the close of the legislative year and a breakdown of NAEP long-term trend reading and mathematics assessment results. The issue also provides recaps of recent California

Collaborative for Educational Excellence and State Board of Education meetings. It shares information on **Assembly Bill 181's changes to independent study, use of gender-neutral language by local educational agencies, Federal student aid and California Dream Act applications** and more. [Read *California School News* »](#)

Custom-designed PPE products, document management

and printing services



The PPE and Scanning program is a partnership with Crisp Imaging, which **offers scanning and archiving of documents and design, print, fabrication and installation for physical protection.** Scanning physical documents creates a digital barrier that is essential in promoting a touch-less environment. **This affords quick access to documents whether physically working in the office or remotely. The program**

provides local educational agencies with affordable, customizable options to support the safety of district staff, student and visitors alike. [Learn more »](#)

Stay up to date with the latest news and resources on the [CSBA blog](#).

Virtual events

MIG Course 4: Human Resources/Collective Bargaining
Nov. 2-3 | [Register](#)

MIG Course 5: Community Relations & Advocacy/Governance Integration
Nov. 15-16 | [Register](#)

In-person events

What Executive Assistants and Board Presidents Need to Know About the Brown Act
Nov. 14 | Woodland | [Register](#)

CSBA Annual Education Conference and Trade Show
Dec. 1-3 | San Diego | [Register](#)

[View complete calendar](#)

Sponsors

aalrr
Atkinson, Andelson
Loya, Ruud & Romo
A Professional Law Corporation

LS Lozano
Smith
ATTORNEYS AT LAW



WellnessTogether.org
School Mental Health



California School Boards Association | 3251 Beacon Blvd., West Sacramento, CA 95691
Phone: (800) 266-3382 | Fax: (916) 371-3407