

California schoolnews

Weekly Update

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Legislative update: Early trends in election results



Just over a week has passed since the Nov. 8 general election, and **while results are still trickling in, there are already some notable highlights for education.** While polls closed on Nov. 8, county elections officials have 30 days from the date of the election to certify results. **This election year saw one quarter of Senate seats turning over and 22 Assemblymembers choosing not to run again — where the final chips may fall is still in question, but some early returns offer insight.**

A major theme in Assembly races was intraparty contests as opposed to the more traditional Democrat versus Republican races. While there is set to be significant turnover, Democrats look to increase their hold on their 60 seat super-majority by four votes. Republicans will likely hold on to 16 of their 19 seats. However, at least six seats remain a toss-up and are still too close to call.

In the Senate, seven of the 20 Senators up for re-election could not run again and another three chose not to seek re-election. As of now, it appears likely that the Democrats may increase their majority by one seat to 30, with Republicans holding on to eight and at least six races that are too close to call.

Fifteen state Legislature races (11 in the Assembly and four in the Senate) featured current or former school board members as candidates. As of now, results indicate that nine of those candidates (all incumbent legislators) will win their races, with three (one incumbent and two newcomers) still too close to call. [Read more on the CSBA blog »](#)

Legal update: Board members now subject to "pay-to-play" campaign contribution restrictions



School district and county office of education board members are now subject to the “pay-to-play” campaign contribution restrictions previously applied only to appointees of state and local agency boards and commissions and agency heads. **The restrictions, disclosures and recusal requirements imposed by Senate Bill 1439 (Glazer, D-Orinda) apply to elected members, successful candidates and to**

superintendents and will affect the approval of all contracts except labor agreements, contracts that are competitively bid and personal employment contracts.

Beginning Jan. 1, 2023, SB 1439 requires that:

- A board member may not accept, solicit or direct a campaign contribution of more than \$250, including to a ballot measure committee, from a party or participant involved with a non-exempt contract while the contract is pending and for 12 months after the final decision.
- Any board member who received a campaign contribution of \$250 or more from a party or participant within the previous 12 months must disclose the contribution, and if not properly returned, cannot participate in making the decision.

Attorneys with the Fair Political Practices Commission have recommended that officials be restricted from taking part in a decision in 2023 based on a qualifying contribution received in 2022 and from accepting a qualifying contribution in 2023 if a contract was considered by the board in 2022. [Learn more on the CSBA blog »](#)

AEC Second General Session features experts discussing education's pressing issues



Join CSBA CEO & Executive Director Vernon M. Billy during the Second General Session at CSBA's Annual Education Conference and Tradeshow for a panel discussion with statewide leaders as they dissect key state and federal education issues facing schools and impacting students. The session, taking place on Friday, Dec. 2 from 1:15 to 3 p.m., will include two panels. **"Beyond the Numbers: An Inside Look**

at Education Funding" will feature California Association of School Business Officials CEO Tatia Davenport and Fiscal Crisis & Management Assistance Team CEO Mike Fine. **"The State of the State: A Pivotal Moment in Time for Public Schools"** will feature Billy in conversation with School Services of California President and CEO John Gray, EdSource CEO Anne Vasquez, Association of California School Administrators Executive Director Edgar Zazueta and Capitol Advisors President and Partner Kevin Gordon.

Topics will include mental health supports, community schools, staffing shortages, declining enrollment, the November election's impact on public schools, future challenges and opportunities for boards and more. The panel will also discuss recent assessment scores and how they can be used to inform systemic changes and aid in student learning recovery. [Learn more and register »](#)

School Boards in Action: 5 Questions with Visalia USD board member Jacqueline A. Gaebe



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. **Visalia Unified School District board member Jacqueline A. Gaebe discussed the district's use of in-person and online tutoring to aid in learning recovery, current morale, the development of a**

media team, goals as a trustee and her family's four pets (including one dog, one cat and two pygmy goats). [Read the interview »](#)

Fall edition of *California Schools* magazine online now



CSBA research on how local educational agencies are using COVID relief funds; a historical look at *Kennedy v. Bremerton School District* and prayer in schools; and a snapshot of suburban schools' struggles and



solutions are subjects explored in the fall 2022 issue of *California Schools* magazine. Other topics include the importance of continuous

learning for effective governance, how to leverage annual organizational meetings, a look at CSBA's successful advocacy for home-to-school transportation funding and a conversation with California Community Colleges' interim chancellor.

Nordhoff High School's Golden Bell Award-winning dance program, located in Ojai Unified School District, is profiled, as well as California State University, Bakersfield's Black Educator Teacher Residency Program. [Read *California Schools* »](#)

State updates: Teacher Residency Grant Program deadlines; Universal preK communications materials



Key deadlines for state grants to create or expand local educational agencies' teacher residency programs via the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing's [Teacher Residency Grant Program](#) are fast approaching. **The application period for Teacher Residency Capacity Grants, which will award a maximum of \$250,000 per eligible applicant, ends at 5 p.m. on Nov. 18.** Additionally, **Teacher**

Residency Expansion Grant applications are due by 5 p.m. on Jan. 27, 2023, and the next request for Teacher Residency Implementation Grant applications is expected to open in February. The Learning Policy Institute has put together a [one-page document](#) with more information.

Communication materials that LEA leaders may find useful for universal preK implementation are available now from the California Department of Education. Materials include a [two-page sheet](#) with key information about the preK vision in California and a [presentation](#) that offers a high-level overview of universal preK for LEAs as well as community-based partners on delivering the state-funded service and program structures. Items including a social media toolkit with messaging and ways to present relevant information to families and the community as well as newsletter/eblast templates will be available on the UPK California's Great Start page in the future. [Learn more »](#)

Coverage you need to ensure student and district safety



Accidents happen. Are your students covered? To help members best address insurance-related issues, **CSBA has joined forces with California's leading provider of student accident and sickness insurance.** Myers-Stevens & Toohy is a full-service administrator based in Southern California that has worked closely with public K-12 schools for over 35 years. **CSBA's sponsored catastrophic injury**

coverage is affordable and can be extended to cover all school activities, including travel to and from home and school. [Learn more »](#)

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

Virtual events

MIG COE COURSE 1 Foundations of Effective Governance/Setting Direction
Jan. 27-28 | [Register](#)

Executive Assistants Certification Program - Kappa Cohort
Feb. 2-May 11 | [Register](#)

Executive Assistants Certification Program - Iota Cohort
Feb. 10-April 21 | [Register](#)

MIG COE Course 2: Student Learning & Achievement/Policy & Judicial Review
Feb. 24-25 | [Register](#)

In-person events

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

County Board Governance Workshop
March 10-11 | Sacramento | [Register](#)

2023 Coast2Coast
April 24-26 | Washington, D.C. | [Register](#)

[View complete calendar](#)

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