

California schoolnews

Weekly Update

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Education Legal Alliance sues State Board of Education for violations of the charter appeal process



CSBA's Education Legal Alliance filed a lawsuit against the California State Board of Education on Jan. 10 seeking to enforce the limited role of the State Board of Education in all charter appeals established by AB 1505 while supporting the Napa Valley Unified School District's position in its litigation related to the Mayacamas Charter School petition. **The litigation involves the SBE decision to reverse the denial of the Mayacamas Charter petition by both Napa Valley USD and the**

Napa County Office of Education per the terms of **Assembly Bill 1505**, a charter school reform bill signed into law in October 2019. **CSBA was actively involved in the legislative process leading to the enactment of AB 1505, which resulted in the establishment of a new framework for transparency and delegation of authority related to charter schools, including the charter authorization and appeal process, and limited the authority of the SBE to reconsider charter petition appeals.** The SBE is scheduled to approve a charter school number assigned to Mayacamas Charter on the second day of its [Jan. 19–20 meeting](#).

“It’s disheartening to see the State Board of Education disregard not only the law but also the work of stakeholders on all sides of the charter issue that produced the carefully crafted reforms sought by authorizers and charter proponents in AB 1505,” said **CSBA CEO & Executive Director Vernon M. Billy**. “**A key provision of this bipartisan legislation was that local authorizers — both school districts and county offices of education — could more closely consider the impact of a charter school on a local community and tailor their decision-making processes regarding petitions and renewals accordingly. The SBE undermined this agreed-upon principle, overstepped its authority and sidestepped the law in reversing the denials of the petition by the local governing boards.**” [Read more on the CSBA blog »](#)

CSBA webinar explores Governor’s 2023–24 January Budget Proposal



On the heels of Gov. Gavin Newsom’s introduction of the 2023–24 Budget Proposal on Jan. 10, **CSBA on Jan. 11 held a [webinar](#) to review the proposal and discuss its impact on local educational agencies.** The Governor’s announcement came at a time when the state is anticipating a \$22.5 billion deficit, resulting in some cuts or delays to spending following years of budget surpluses. TK-12’s portion of Proposition

98 in 2023–24, for example, decreased from \$98.3 billion in the Budget Act of 2022–23 to \$96.8 billion in Newsom’s proposal.

In preparation for what is shaping up to be a challenging budget cycle, **CSBA is focusing on key budget priorities including increased funding for learning recovery, mental health services, staff recruitment and retention, implementation of transitional kindergarten (TK), cybersecurity and internet infrastructure, and pension relief, among other topics.** CSBA CEO & Executive Director Vernon M. Billy reminded the audience that there are many new members of the Legislature, something CSBA will be mindful of in its advocacy. “I think **if we keep that in mind, keep the focus on our priorities and getting more funding into schools and maintaining what we have, we’re going to be able to be very effective this year in protecting the things that are important to you at the local level,**” he said. [Watch a recording of the webinar](#) | [Read the full recap on the CSBA blog](#)

Register now for Legislative Action Week 2023



Join **CSBA March 14-16** for the flagship virtual legislative advocacy event connecting local school board members with members of the California Legislature. Recognized as one of the leading statewide educational advocacy events of the year, CSBA's **Legislative Action Week** plays a key role in influencing vital budget and legislative issues. Over three days, attendees will have the chance to meet

virtually with the Senators, Assemblymembers and staff who represent their district or county office of education and shine light on the most pressing issues facing their schools and students. CSBA staff will do everything from scheduling virtual meetings to providing advocacy training and talking points — all trustees have to do is log on. Please contact Teresa Machado at tmachado@csba.org with any questions. [Learn more](#) | [Register now](#)

School Board Recognition Month: Gustine Unified School District trustee Zachery Ramos



While January marks School Board Recognition Month, **CSBA celebrates the work of dedicated trustees year-round** through its **School Boards in Action** campaign. The multi-platform effort allows trustees to share the experiences of their districts alongside anecdotes from their personal lives. Components of the campaign have included online ads, commercials on streaming radio services, board member profiles

in *California Schools* magazine, video interviews, monthly features in the *California School News* newsletter and 5 Questions interviews on [CSBA's blog](#).

A graduate of the **Gustine Unified School District**, [trustee Zachery Ramos](#) **discusses** the status of **The Traveling Library**, an organization he started as a high schooler to provide free books to children; his life-long love of science and engineering; how the district engages families, teachers and school site administrators to improve everything from classroom to district operations; and how funding is being used to support student wellness. [Learn more about his and other trustees' stories »](#)

Sudden cardiac arrest in student athletes: What are schools' responsibilities?



There is renewed attention on how quickly the health of athletes can change following the on-



field collapse of NFL player Damar Hamlin on Jan. 2, when the Buffalo Bills safety suffered sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) during a game. The incident has left many families wondering **what protocols are in place to prevent student athletes from experiencing similar situations**

and what plans are to potentially save their child's life should they go into cardiac arrest.

Under [Education Code §35179.6](#), school districts must have at least one automated external defibrillator (AED) for each school that participates in an interscholastic athletic program, and ensure that the AED(s) are available to athletic trainers, coaches and authorized persons during practices, games and matches. The AED must be maintained and tested regularly. Any expected users (such as coaches) are required to undergo CPR and AED training as well as training on SCA. Coalinga-Huron Unified School District has information and resources regarding SCA [on its website](#). The California Department of Education has [resources](#) including a **free SCA prevention training, fliers and fact sheets, FAQs and more** available for local educational agencies. To view related policies, subscribers of CSBA's [GAMUT Policy and Policy Plus](#) can access sample Board Policy/Administrative Regulation 5141 - Health Care and Emergencies and AR 6145.2 - Athletic Competition. [Read more on the CSBA blog »](#)

Federal updates: Special Education Parent Information Centers grants available



On Jan. 12, the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services invited **applications for the Special Education Parent Information Centers grant program, which provides funding to assist parents of children with disabilities to receive training and information to help them improve outcomes for their children.** Funds totaling \$2.94 million will be used to establish and operate five parent technical

assistance centers and are contingent upon the availability of funds and quality of applications. **Applications are due by March 28.** [Learn more »](#)

Convert property ownership into an active asset

**Property
Planning**
Solutions



Property Planning Solutions by DCG Strategies aims to **help school leaders explore the ways in which their real estate assets can be leveraged to secure additional funding for district initiatives, equip students with the education and experiences they need to be successful, invest in deferred facilities maintenance and**

capital improvements, reduce cost and liability from holding closed or grossly underutilized sites, bolster general fund reserves and even attract new staff. School leaders and board members can gain access to real estate experts that work to align a local educational agency's priorities with the realities of the real estate market. Services include real estate consulting, property planning, strategic asset management, educator housing development and real property brokerage services. [Learn more »](#)

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

Virtual events

Institute for New and First-Term Board Members

Jan. 24-25 | [Register](#)

Feb. 14-15 | [Register](#)

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](#)

2023 Governance with an Equity Lens

Feb. 4-May 6 | [Register](#)

MIG Course 1: Foundations of Effective Governance/Setting Direction

Feb. 6-8 | [Register](#)

Executive Assistants Certification Program - Iota Cohort

Feb. 10-April 21 | [Register](#)

The Brown Act

Feb. 10 | [Register](#)

MIG COE Course 2: Student Learning & Achievement/Policy & Judicial Review

Feb. 24-25 | [Register](#)

Board Presidents Workshop

Feb. 23 | [Register](#)

Feb. 28 | [Register](#)

Sponsors



Orientation for New Trustees

March 1 | [Register](#)

MIG COE Course 3: Finance

April 1 | [Register](#)

MIG COE Course 4: Charter Schools

April 15 | [Register](#)

**MIG COE Course 5: Community Relations
& Advocacy/Governance Integration**

May 5-6 | [Register](#)

In-person events

Orientation for New Trustees

Feb. 21 | Sacramento | [Register](#)

March 8 | Redding | [Register](#)

County Board Governance Workshop

March 10-11 | Sacramento | [Register](#)

Board Presidents Workshop

March 18 | Rancho Cucamonga | [Register](#)

2023 Coast2Coast Federal Advocacy Trip

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

[View complete calendar](#)

