

California schoolnews

Weekly Update

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Legislative update: Legislative Action Week: Additional budget advocacy



As district and county board members across California prepare to meet with their state legislators during **CSBA's virtual Legislative Action Week March 14-16**, CSBA is highlighting some of the top issues attendees will be discussing with their representatives. With budget projections on the downturn, **CSBA is urging the Legislature to remain focused on sustaining existing programs, rather than creating new**

categorical programs. It is encouraging to see that Gov. Gavin Newsom's Budget proposes to sustain revenues for many large, transformative programs that require multi-year efforts to ensure success, such as transitional kindergarten, the Community Schools Grant Program, the Expanded Learning Opportunities Program, universal meals and

many others created during the pandemic. However, **some new one-time proposals have been introduced concurrently with a proposed \$1.2 billion reduction to the Arts, & Music and Instructional Materials Discretionary Block Grant that CSBA anticipates will create challenges for many districts.**

CSBA urges the Newsom Administration and the Legislature to not create any new categorical programs, which would limit eligibility for many districts at the expense of discretionary funds that would otherwise benefit all. With limited funding available this year, CSBA advocacy will emphasize the imperative to stay focused on existing commitments to ensure successful implementation of large programs undertaken in recent years.

Federal updates: New Title IX guidance to support equal opportunity in athletics



On Feb. 17, the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights released new resources to support equal opportunity in athletic programs consistent with Title IX. The documents are available to help students, parents, coaches, athletic directors and school officials evaluate whether a school is meeting its legal duty to provide equal athletic opportunity regardless of sex. An [overview resource](#) provides examples of the kinds of situations that could, depending upon facts and circumstances, raise Title IX concerns at any education level. Another offers [information specific to K-12 schools](#) and communities. [Learn more »](#)

Other federal updates:

- The U.S. Department of Agriculture released guidance on Feb. 16 regarding Summer 2023 Pandemic EBT (P-EBT) funding. Children will still be eligible for P-EBT benefits for summer 2023, but “assuming that the public health emergency expires on May 11, 2023, as the Administration currently anticipates, summer 2023 P-EBT benefits will not be available to [Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program] SNAP-enrolled children in child care. In addition, all funds must be distributed by the end of fiscal year 2023, which is Sept. 30, 2023.” [Learn more »](#)

CSBA webinar explores basics of trauma-informed education



During CSBA's Feb. 21 webinar “Trauma-Informed Education: What governance teams need to know,” experts shared principles and strategies of equity-centered, trauma-informed education that trustees can use in their local



educational agency to support staff, students and families. While many resources related to trauma-informed education are designed for

administrators or classroom educators, **this forum was designed with the board member role in mind. From policy-setting to resource allocation, governance teams can support trauma-informed education.**

The event's moderator, **bestselling author** and educator Alex Shevrin Venet, **explained the complexities of trauma, and noted the importance of universal, proactive, whole-school shifts when seeking to address it** among students. Panelists Oriana Ides, a school mental health training specialist at the Center for Applied Research Solutions and a field coach for the School Crisis Recovery & Renewal Project; Patrick Harris II, an award-winning middle school educator and dean of students at The Roeper School in Michigan; and Rep. Angela Arsenault (D-Vermont), who chairs the Champlain Valley School District Board of Directors, **highlighted the need to include staff and other stakeholder voices in decision making around creating trauma-informed policies, addressing the needs of students and families**, and more. [View a recording of the webinar](#) | [Read the full recap](#)

Winter magazine available online



The winter edition of **California Schools** is now available to read online! The issue includes **deep dives into the innovations local educational agencies have already made in embracing California's status as the first to offer universal school meals; the critical role K-12 facilities play in society and how districts are using COVID funds to address ever-evolving, longstanding needs;** and how state and local

efforts to expand and improve dual enrollment opportunities is improving the college-going rate and opportunities for underrepresented students.

CSBA President Susan Markarian and 2022 Board Member of the Year Joanna Paun of Petaluma City Schools share their insights; CSBA legal staff **analyzes what a recent court case scrutinizing board members' use of social media means for trustees;** and guest columnists discuss **key considerations when expanding school behavioral and mental health services and cybersecurity tips for protecting an LEA's data, among other topics.** And don't miss the CSBA Governmental Relations team's **annual look at how state senators and assemblymembers voted on key legislation impacting public schools.** [Read the full issue »](#)

Schools' efforts to support African American students explored on CSBA blog



Throughout the month of February, CSBA



celebrated **Black History Month on its [blog](#)** by highlighting efforts throughout the state to address the well-documented barriers and systemic racism facing African American students throughout their educational journeys, such as lack of access to resources, quality learning materials and qualified teachers,

and disproportionate punishment.

- **Long Beach Unified School District and Fresno USD programs provide high school students opportunities to tour Historically Black Colleges and Universities and/or earn up to 12 college units free of cost** via live virtual classes from HBCUs to expand students' ideas of what prospects await them after graduation. [Read more on the CSBA blog »](#)
- An early look at a yet-to-be-released study demonstrates the **cyclical relationship between school climate and teacher recruitment and retention. A positive climate can improve a school's ability to recruit and retain qualified, diverse educators, while having these educators can improve school climate,** researchers found. [Read more on the CSBA blog »](#)
- **Berkeley USD has ramped up efforts to support Black students via its African American Success Framework, a three-year plan to rectify equity gaps through systematic change targeting “educational, social and developmental disparities for the district’s African American students.”** The framework is part of the district’s overall efforts to support African American students and their families. [Read more on the CSBA blog »](#)

Keep your classroom air safe with R-Zero disinfection



CSBA has partnered with R-Zero, a pioneering biosafety company dedicated to reducing the spread of infectious disease, **to help ensure the safest, most hygienic spaces possible for students and staff.** R-Zero's hospital-grade UV-C disinfection system, **Arc, is proven (via independent third-party lab testing) to destroy 99.99 percent of surface and airborne pathogens** — including coronavirus, seasonal flu,

staph and norovirus — in the average classroom in less than seven minutes. A sustainable and eco-friendly disinfection solution, UV-C reduces chemical consumption and exposure. Arc is eligible for CARES Act, ESSER I and II funds and is currently enabling safety and restoring trust across more than 50 schools in California. [Learn more](#)

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

Sponsors



Virtual events

Equity Network Alumni event: When They See Us

March 2 | [Register](#)

Legislative Action Week

March 14-17 | [Register](#)

MIG Course 3: School Finance Part 1 and Part 2

March 14-15 | [Register](#)

Cultural Competence in the Context of America

March 28 | [Register](#)

MIG Course 4: Human Resources/Collective Bargaining

March 28-29 | [Register](#)

In-person events

County Board Governance Workshop

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

MIG 1: Foundations of Effective Governance/Setting Direction

March 23 | Santa Cruz | [Register](#)

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

March 24 | Santa Cruz | [Register](#)

2023 Coast2Coast Federal Advocacy Trip

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

[View complete calendar](#)

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