

# California schoolnews

Weekly Update

January 3, 2024

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## School Board Recognition Month



January is **School Board Recognition Month**, a time to salute the more than 5,000 California school **district and county office of education board members** — the largest group of elected officials in the state — that **aid in supporting student success by establishing their local educational agency's mission, vision, policy priorities, budget and benchmarks**. CSBA has reached out to LEA communications professionals

to make it easier than ever to **recognize the hard work and dedication of your board of education by providing a [sample press release](#) to get the word out to local reporters, a [sample proclamation](#) for city officials and a [social media toolkit](#) to**

show appreciation for the LEA's board of education. [Learn more »](#)

To kickoff School Board Recognition Month, Fullerton School District trustee **Ruthi Hanchett is reminding peers statewide of the importance of their work and shares what inspires her in CSBA's latest What's Your Why? interview.** "I see public education as one of the best tools we have to make a difference, to raise people out of poverty and to correct injustice," Hanchett said. "What's Your Why?" is a series of video vignettes featuring school district and county office of education board members describing why they became trustees and why they continue to serve California public schools. [View Hanchett's and other videos from the "What's Your Why?" series »](#)

## Federal update: Children's Online Privacy Protection Act regulations



The **Federal Trade Commission (FTC) proposed significant changes** to the **Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA) regulations on Dec. 20** that include **new data security requirements and formalizing a school's ability to provide verifiable consent on behalf of parents.** The public will have 60 days to file comments after the [notice of proposed rulemaking](#) appears in the

Federal Register — likely sometime in January. The FTC last made changes to the COPPA Rule in 2013. [Learn more »](#)

### In other federal news:

- The **Federal Communications Commission's Wireline Competition Bureau on Dec. 21 approved a request** filed by the State E-Rate Coordinators' Alliance and the Schools, Health and Libraries Broadband Coalition **seeking to extend the comment and reply comment periods for the pending E-Rate WiFi Hot Spots proceeding.** The **new comment deadline is Jan. 16**, and the **new reply comment deadline is Jan. 29.**
- Action for Healthy Kids and the U.S. Department of Agriculture are currently **accepting applications for the Healthy Meals Incentive (HMI) Recognition Awards, which spotlight innovative strategies that school districts have used to serve meals that meet the 2020–25 Dietary Guidelines for Americans.** Districts that have made significant nutritional improvements to the quality of their school meals can [learn more and apply »](#)

## Register now for CSBA webinar on crisis response



**Clear and consistent communication is important for engaging and informing students, families and the community — and is**

## CSBA Webinar

especially critical in times of crisis. Join CSBA Jan. 23 at noon for an informative webinar on **best practices for crisis communications and strategies** to use when a large communications team is not a resource for your local educational

agency. Learn from experts in the field from LEAs across the state in Davis Joint Unified School District, Oxnard SD, Rosemead SD and the executive director of the California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA). A Q&A session with the panelists will follow the discussion. [Register »](#)

## State updates: Speed cameras in school zones



Under a **new pilot program, six cities** — Los Angeles, San Jose, Oakland, Glendale and Long Beach, and the City and County of San Francisco — **may use up to 33 cameras to enforce speed limits in school zones** and designated “safety corridors.” Authorized under [Assembly Bill 645](#), the pilot **aims to deter speeding, which has contributed to collisions killing or injuring children and others** near schools throughout

the state.

According to the National Transportation Safety Board, **speeding accounts for nearly a third of all traffic fatalities**. In California, **traffic fatalities and serious injuries increased by more than 15 percent from 2020 to 2021**. Among the more than 4,000 Californians who lost their lives in traffic collisions that year, over 1,000 were pedestrians and cyclists. According to the National Highway Traffic and Safety Administration, a **pedestrian struck at 20 miles per hour has a 90 percent chance of survival**. That number drops to 20 percent if the car is traveling at 40 miles per hour.

## Millions of eligible children disenrolled from Medicaid following pandemic policy rollback



**Children account for nearly 40 percent of the 10.6 million Medicaid disenrollments** reported by states as of Nov. 14, according to the [Kaiser Family Foundation](#), which tracks state Medicaid data. As of September 2023 in California, **nearly 704,000 people have been disenrolled, 21 percent (more than 151,000) of whom were children**.

School-based health centers have been recognized for increasing access to care among underserved communities and in rural areas. For many of the millions of students receiving school-based health services, schools are the first — and sometimes only —

option to receive health care. And **with at least 70 percent of students who access mental health services also doing so in a school-based setting, expanding access is even more critical as demand continues to rise.** A recent change in **California's Medi-Cal program authorizes schools to bill Medi-Cal for services provided to all Medi-Cal eligible students, not only those with an individualized education programs.**

Of the more than 2 million children disenrolled across 21 states, **about 70 percent occurred as a result of procedural reasons,** including outdated contact information or because people failed to complete renewal packets on time. **Schools — which already have access to families' contact and home address information — can help students renew their coverage through reminders via letters, text messages, social media and other communications to make children and families aware of the change in public health policy that may render them ineligible due to a lack of proper paperwork.** [Learn more on the CSBA blog »](#)

## Comprehensive performance audits for your district's bond funds

### *Annual Proposition 39* **PERFORMANCE AUDITS**

CSBA believes that a performance audit of bond funds should be comprehensive enough to assess the **best use of taxpayer money and provide recommendations for improvements based on best practices in procurement and construction.** CSBA partners with Total School Solutions in providing **comprehensive performance audits to assist our members** in improving their bond-funded facilities programs.

Please contact Susan Lendway at 707-422-6393 to request a proposal for your performance audit. [Learn more »](#)

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

## Virtual events

### Board Presidents Workshop

Jan. 11 | [Register](#)

Feb. 7 | [Register](#)

### Executive Assistants Certification Program

Jan. 12-March 15 | [Register](#)

### Orientation for New Trustees

Jan. 18 | [Register](#)

## Sponsors

The logo for aalrr, with the letters 'a', 'a', 'l', 'r', 'r' in a dark blue serif font, and the letter 'l' in a light green color.

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

The logo for SYNETIC TECHNOLOGIES, featuring a stylized white 'S' with two arrows pointing in opposite directions, followed by the text 'SYNETIC TECHNOLOGIES' in white capital letters on a dark blue background.

## The Brown Act

Jan. 22 | [Register](#)

## Student Board Member Trainings

Advocacy and Engagement | Jan. 29 |

[Register](#)

Transition Planning, Legacy Building, and  
Next steps | April 15 | [Register](#)

## Institute for New and First-Term Board Members

Jan. 30-31 | [Register](#)

## Student Board Member Governance Q&A and Networking

Feb. 12 | [Register](#)

March 4 | [Register](#)

## MIG Course 1: Foundations of Effective Governance/Setting Direction

Feb. 21-22 | [Register](#)

## MIG Course 4: Human Resources/Collective Bargaining

Feb. 26-March 18 | [Register](#)

## In-person events

### MIG Course 1: Foundations of Effective Governance/Setting Direction

Jan. 20 | Monterey | [Register](#)

### MIG Course 4: Human Resources/Collective Bargaining

Feb. 3 | Sunnyvale | [Register](#)

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

Feb. 10 | Monterey | [Register](#)

## The Brown Act

Feb. 20 | Riverside | [Register](#)

## Coast2Coast Federal Advocacy Trip

April 8-10 | Washington, D.C. | [Register](#)



[View complete calendar](#)



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