

California schoolnews

Weekly Update

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In this Issue

- State update: Legislature celebrates School Board Recognition Month
- New CSBA publications: 2023 Year in Review; *What's New for 2024* report
- Communicating before, during and after a crisis: Expert tips for LEAs
- IQC approves revisions to local instructional materials adoption guidance
- CSBA Delegate Assembly election: Ballots due March 15
- Read the latest edition of *California School News* online now
- Reduce costs, streamline compliance and simplify procurement with Golden State Technology Solutions

State update: Legislature celebrates School Board Recognition Month



Two legislative resolutions declaring January School Board Recognition Month have been adopted by members of California's Legislature. Both [House Resolution 60](#) and [Senate Resolution 53](#) were adopted unanimously.

“School Board Recognition Month is an ideal time to recognize and celebrate the

Californians serving on school district governing boards and county boards of education who help guide the education of pupils in kindergarten and grades 1 to 12,

inclusive, and **who prepare these pupils for the opportunities and challenges of the 21st century and beyond,**" the resolutions state. "The [Assembly and Senate] hereby declares the state's appreciation to every school board and school board member in California and **recognizes their dedicated commitment to serving the needs of pupils in our communities by proclaiming the month of January 2024 as School Board Recognition Month;** and be it further resolved that the [Assembly and Senate] of the State of California **urges all community members to join in recognizing the dedication and hard work of local school board members and to work with local school board members to create an education system that meets the needs of all of our children.**"

In other state news:

- California's **First Partner Jennifer Siebel Newsom** wrote a letter to education leaders to inform them of opportunities available through the [California Farm to School Incubator Grant Program](#). [Read the letter »](#)

New CSBA publications: 2023 Year in Review; *What's New for 2024* report



As January comes to an end, **CSBA is looking back at the accomplishments made on behalf of school district and county board of education members in 2023 and ahead at the new laws impacting K-12 education in 2024.**

The [2023 Year in Review](#) shares the ways in which the association supported boards through legislative victories, policy guidance, **original research, trainings, communications, legal representation and more.** Some highlights include securing \$1.7 million in grant funding from the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative to expand CSBA's pilot workforce housing project, the return of the CSBA Roadshow, and advocacy wins in Sacramento, Washington, D.C. and in courts across the state. [Read the Year in Review »](#)

The *What's New for 2024* report provides a comprehensive list of new legislation signed into law in 2023 that impacts TK-12 education in California. Many of the laws in this report are bills that CSBA adopted a specific position on and actively lobbied for or against. Also included are bills CSBA monitored closely throughout the year to assess impact on public schools, but on which the organization did not adopt a formal position. [Read the *What's New for 2024* report »](#)

Communicating before, during and after a crisis: Expert tips for LEAs

A Jan. 23 **CSBA webinar** featured expert tips from local educational agency leaders on best practices for crisis communications before,



during and after a safety incident. Whether handling a social media, email or other anonymous threat, or the presence of a trespasser or suspicious object on a school campus, **every LEA — no matter its location, size or resources — should have plans in place to address crisis situations.**

“Our schools are under more pressure than I’ve ever seen before and quite honestly, we’re dealing with things that are born out of new technology, so we’re hearing about things that are posted to social media anonymously,” said Trinette Marquis, executive director of the California School Public Relations Association. “Is it a real threat? We don’t know, but we always have to treat it as if it is. There are so many more incidents and the worst thing about that is it gets in the way of student learning.” **Preparation and practice are two elements that LEAs can master pre-emergently.** [Read a full recap on the CSBA blog](#) »

IQC approves revisions to local instructional materials adoption guidance



The **Instructional Quality Commission (IQC)** met on Jan. 24 to consider recommendations on the revised **Guidance for Local Instructional Materials Adoptions**, determine various leadership and committee positions and approve 2024 goals.

During the session, IQC members approved recommendations to the State Board of Education for the proposed revised **Guidance for Local Instructional Materials Adoptions** document. A few of the **most significant requested edits to the guidance include additional references to Social Content Standards, California’s Education Code and pertinent legislation; additional calls for parent involvement throughout the processes; links to resources on dyslexia and supporting English learners; new figures, including an Instructional Materials Decision Tree; and more support, including a timeline, for starting and conducting the review process.** [Read more on the CSBA blog](#) »

CSBA Delegate Assembly election: Ballots due March 15



Ballots for this year’s CSBA Delegate Assembly, in subregions that have elections, were mailed to school districts and county offices of education by Feb. 1. **Completed ballots should be returned to CSBA’s West Sacramento office and must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service no later than Friday, March 15, to be valid. All districts, county offices of education and**

candidates will be notified of the results by April 1. Run-off elections will be conducted in the case of tie votes. All new and re-elected Delegates are eligible to attend the May 18-19 Delegate Assembly meeting in Sacramento. [Learn more about CSBA's Delegate Assembly and candidates for election »](#)

Read the latest edition of *California School News* online now



The latest issue of *California School News* includes a recap of the Governor's January Budget Proposal as well as highlights and photos from the 2023 Annual Education Conference and Trade Show. It also shares how CSBA made it easier than ever to recognize governance teams during School Board Recognition Month in January and details the launch of CSBA's AI Taskforce, upcoming workshops for small districts and the New Member Toolkit — intended to support trustees as they navigate their new role. **Visalia Unified School District's journey to becoming the 2023 Governance Team of the Year is featured, as are tips on developing and upkeeping a governance handbook from Lake Tahoe USD. Sacramento County Office of Education's creation of a student liaison position, the benefits of community engagement and legal and policy explainers on new laws related to childhood sexual assault and legislation aimed at combating overdoses on district premises are among other topics explored.** [Read *California School News* »](#)

Reduce costs, streamline compliance and simplify procurement with Golden State Technology Solutions



Golden State Technology Solutions enables local educational agencies to purchase hardware, software, training, consulting and cybersecurity services — all while saving time and money and freeing resources for student support. At a time when technology plays a greater role in schools than ever before, Golden State Technology Solutions demystifies the purchasing process and help school boards, county offices of education and business officials efficiently source technology service providers. Districts of every size will benefit from group purchasing power while saving resources commonly spent through the time-consuming Request for Proposals process. Golden State Technology Solutions is a partnership between CSBA, the California Association of School Business Officials (CASBO) and Carahsoft Technology Corp. to reduce costs, streamline compliance and simplify technology procurement for California public schools. [Learn more »](#)

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

Virtual events

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](#)

Governance with an Equity Lens

March 1-4 | [Register](#)

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

March 13-14 | [Register](#)

The Brown Act

March 26 | [Register](#)

MIG Course 3: School Finance Part 1 and Part 2

April 3-4 | [Register](#)

Student Board Member Trainings

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

In-person events

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

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

The Brown Act

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

Recentering Governance Practices with an Equity Lens

March 1-4 | West Sacramento | [Register](#)

Sponsors

The logo for aalrr, with 'aa' in blue, 'l' in green, and 'rr' in blue.

Atkinson, Andelson
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The logo for SYNETIC TECHNOLOGIES, featuring a stylized 'S' made of two curved arrows and the text 'SYNETIC TECHNOLOGIES'.The logo for burke, with 'burke' in a lowercase, sans-serif font and 'BURKE, WILLIAMS & SORENSON, LLP' in a smaller font below it.The logo for LINCOLN LEARNING, featuring a stylized building icon inside a hexagon and the text 'LINCOLN LEARNING'.

**2024 CSBA County Board Governance
Workshop**

March 8-9 | Sacramento | [Register](#)

MIG Course 3: School Finance

March 9 | Monterey | [Register](#)

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

March 16 | Sunnyvale | [Register](#)

**The Role of the School Board in
Achieving Equity Through Strategic
Budgeting**

March 22 | West Sacramento | [Register](#)

Small School District Financial Workshop

March 23 | Orland | [Register](#)

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

April 6 | Monterey | [Register](#)

Coast2Coast Federal Advocacy Trip

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

[View complete calendar](#)

