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Communication tips: End of ESSER funding



CSBA has created resources to help local educational agencies and their communities understand the historic infusion of pandemic-relief dollars known as the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund is soon to expire, and how the money aided in academic recovery and supported student well-being over the last several years. **CSBA Principal Research Manager Jeremy Anderson** breaks down the three rounds of funding and their respective uses in [this video](#).

In a new blog post and [video](#), CSBA Chief Communications Officer Troy Flint shares tips on communicating with local communities about the end of this historic funding. As LEAs begin to face tough choices about what they can afford without the one-time federal funds, it is important to communicate to all

stakeholders around the following areas: What the money provided for the LEA, context about the numerous financial challenges facing LEAs and information about how stakeholders can provide feedback on what should be prioritized as the funding expires. [Read the blog post »](#)

California School Dashboard update



While the **public release of the updated California School Dashboard will occur on Nov. 21**, local educational agencies were **granted access on Nov. 13-19 to preview their information** and ask questions related to the **new focus it places on supporting Long-Term English Learners (LTELs)**. LTELs, for purposes of the Dashboard, is defined as “a pupil who has not attained English language proficiency within seven years of initial classification as an English learner.” The new LTEL indicator will have a significant impact on results. **Based on early runs of the data, the California Department of Education reports seeing a very large impact with LTEL showing up in the top three student groups for differentiated assistance.** CSBA will be sending an analysis of the public release on Nov. 21 to members.

Register for Coast2Coast and exert your influence in the nation's capital



The winds of change are blowing in Washington, D.C., with **a new administration** set to take office in January, **a change in control of the Senate and leadership turnover** in both houses of Congress. With this new political landscape, the **2025 CSBA-ACSA Coast2Coast Federal Advocacy Trip from April 28-30, 2025, offers the perfect opportunity to get in on the ground floor.** If you don't take this opportunity to advocate for the needs of your school district or county offices of education — someone else will!

Coast2Coast provides district and county board members, superintendents and other staffers with an unparalleled opportunity to engage policymakers in the nation's capital. **Attendees will have the chance to network with prominent D.C. figures and engage in briefings with Capitol Hill decision-makers and influencers while spotlighting the most pressing education issues for California students.** The desire for strong, effective schools is overwhelmingly popular on both sides of the political aisle, so it's imperative that education leaders advocate for the resources, policies and conditions needed to sustain and improve California schools and prepare students for success in college, career and civic life. [Learn more and register »](#)

What's Your Why? with Adam Perez, Fontana USD



As a trustee for the Fontana Unified School District, Adam Perez believes that every student should be able to explore a range of possible careers to expand their horizons. **"I believe that students deserve the opportunity to have a variety of choices after they graduate. That's why I've been a huge proponent for career pathways,"** said Perez.

"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. [Watch Perez's and other What's Your Why? videos »](#)

State Board of Education finalizes LCAP template



During its **final meeting** of 2024, the California State Board of Education **adopted revisions to the Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) template for the 2025–26 year**, pushed back updates to student assessment reporting, and heard ideas from student leaders throughout the state to improve their outcomes and well-being. The board **adopted the Local Control and Accountability Plan template and instructions**

revisions, which include reporting on all planned expenditures using Learning Recovery Emergency Block Grant funds, identification of at least one metric to monitor the impact of each identified action or service, and more.

The board **discussed proposed revisions** to the reporting achievement level descriptors for the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments for English language arts/literacy and mathematics and the California Science Test that **align with the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium one-page brief, "Smarter Balanced Assessments: What Do the Scores Mean?"** The revisions proposed **would not impact the comparability of student assessment results from year to year** as they do not change the level of rigor in the assessments, **nor do they change the cut scores for each achievement level**, several board members noted. The board directed California Department of Education staff to gather more feedback from the field for further discussion in January. [Read more on the CSBA blog »](#)

Save with the GO Bond Refunding Pool

For more than 30 years, California school districts and community college districts have **saved time and money by issuing tax and revenue**



anticipation notes (TRANs) through the California School Cash Reserve Program Authority sponsored by CSBA and the California Association of School Business Officials, the largest pooled TRAN financing in the nation. The GO Bond Refunding Pool continues this tradition by allowing districts to **unlock taxpayer savings by driving down costs** through an easy-to-use shared financing

platform. [Learn more »](#)

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

Virtual events

**Masters in Governance Course 5:
Community Relations & Advocacy/
Governance Integration**

Dec. 18-19 | [Register](#)

**Student Board Member Training:
Understanding Budget and Resource
Allocation**

Jan. 13 | [Register](#)

**Masters in Governance Course 1:
Effective Governance/Setting Direction**

Jan. 15-16 | [Register](#)

In-person events

**2024 Annual Education Conference and
Trade Show**

Dec. 5-7 | Anaheim | [Register](#)

**Masters in Governance Course 1:
Effective Governance/Setting Direction**

Jan. 9 | Woodland | [Register](#)

**Masters in Governance Course 2: Student
Learning & Achievement/Policy & Judicial
Review**

Jan. 10 | Woodland | [Register](#)

**Masters in Governance Course 3: School
Finance, Parts 1 & 2**

Jan. 11 | Woodland | [Register](#)

[View complete calendar](#)



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