

California schoolnews

Weekly Update

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State update: Response and recovery efforts from storm damage to schools



The **California Department of Education Emergency Services Team** joined the **California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES)** to coordinate and elevate the needs of California schools in response to **recent winter storms**. School closures due to power outages, flooding and evacuation warnings were reported by nearly 400 schools that affected

more than 100,000 students across 19 counties. **For technical assistance or support for disaster-related impacts, report directly through the [CDE School Emergency Reporting System](#) or email emergencyservices@cde.ca.gov.** To receive credit for the loss of instructional time in the event of a closure due to qualifying emergency conditions, local educational agencies may submit a [Request for Allowance of Attendance Due to Emergency Conditions \(Form J-13A\)](#). For more information on recovery resources, please refer to the [CDE School Disaster and Emergency Management web page](#).

In other state news:

- The **deadline to order at-home COVID-19 tests is Feb. 29.** A Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments waiver is not required to participate in the at-home testing program. **Tests should be prioritized for those who are uninsured, underinsured, have poor access to medical care or who are at high risk for severe disease.** [Learn more »](#)

Register for the 2024 CSBA County Board Governance Workshop



The [2024 County Board Governance Workshop](#) is a two-day training opportunity designed to give county board members the confidence and tools to implement their next objectives.

The workshop will offer eight specialized sessions to support in-depth county-focused learning, from understanding the budget to the county board's role in reviewing expulsion appeals. Specific sessions include "Transitional Working Group: The

Road Towards Expanded County Services" featuring Monterey County Office of Education trustee John McPherson and Butte COE trustee Mike Walsh, "Charter School Renewals: It's a 365 day thing" and "Understanding the County Budget: Tips for New and Seasoned Board Members." **County trustees can expect to gain in-depth county-focused learning opportunities at this workshop.** Join CSBA March 8-9 at the Embassy Suites in Sacramento. [Learn more and register »](#)

What's Your Why? with Warner USD Board President Melissa Krogh



In CSBA's latest "What's Your Why?" video, Warner Unified School District Board President Melissa Krogh explains how the support that educators provided in her childhood inspires her to serve now and pay it forward to the next generation of students. "In my school years, I found adults that were willing to support me and put me on a good path, and I wanted to be able to

give back to that system that created a good person out of me, and I want to be able to help provide those supports for our students in whatever opportunity I can,” Krogh 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 Krogh’s and other videos from the “What’s Your Why?” series »](#)

Governor open to placing a school facilities bond on the November 2024 general election ballot



During the presentation of his January Budget, Gov. Gavin Newsom announced cuts and delays to needed one-time school facilities funds — reducing School Facility Program funding from \$875 million to \$375 million, and continuing for another year a delay of \$550 million for in Preschool, Transitional Kindergarten and Full-Day Kindergarten Facilities Grant Program. However, **included in the budget summary is language**

stating that the “Administration expects to enter into negotiations with the Legislature on their education facilities bond proposals to reach agreement on a bond proposal to be considered in the November 2024 election.” This is the first public announcement by the Governor that the Administration is open to putting a school facilities bond on a statewide ballot.

There are **two school bond legislative measures under consideration by the Legislature for the November 2024 ballot**. Assembly Bill 247 (Muratsuchi, D–Torrance and Fong, D–Alhambra), would place a \$14 billion TK–14 bond; Senate Bill 28 (Glazer, D–Orinda) proposes a \$15 billion K-12 and Higher Education Facilities Bond. The significant difference between the two is that SB 28 would provide facilities funding for the California State University and University of California systems. One of these bills could become the legislative vehicle used to place a school facilities bond on the ballot. CSBA will be advocating for its passage and keep member informed about advocacy opportunities.

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 »](#)

Federal update: Specialized Secondary Programs grant applications



The **High School Innovations and Initiatives Office** announced applications were open for the 2024–25 **Specialized Secondary Programs (SSP)** grant on Feb. 1. The grant provides start-up funds for the establishment of a new specialized program or school to provide advanced instruction and training in high technology fields and in the performing arts for students in grades 9-12. The Legislature

intends for SSP to benefit the state economy by having programs located in close proximity to areas in which these industries are located. Funding is available for planning and implementing new programs. [Learn more »](#)

Commission on Teacher Credentialing launches PK-3 credential; adopts revised teaching standards



The **Feb. 8-9 meeting** of the **California Commission on Teacher Credentialing** opened with the culmination of years of work with the announcement of the approved **PK-3 Early Childhood Education (ECE) Specialist Instruction Credential**. Commission-accredited

institutions have been able to apply to bring the instruction program to their schools since early 2023, and now those programs can be approved and start implementing the new credential. During the meeting, **commissioners adopted the revised California Standards for the Teaching Profession (CSTP) and approved a new option for certifying subject matter competence**. The standards describe the set of knowledge, skills and abilities characteristic of accomplished professional practice at the level expected of effective veteran teachers.

Continuing a long-running conversation about lowering barriers to teaching credentials, staff presented two options for meeting the subject matter competence requirement for candidates in integrated undergraduate teacher preparation programs. One solution was to extend the option to begin the daily whole class instruction portion of their student teaching after completion of four-fifths or 80 percent of the subject matter preparation program to all eligible integrated undergraduate teacher credentialing candidates without taking the California Subject Examinations for Teachers (CSET). The second option, which was approved by the

CTC, was to remove the requirement to meet subject matter competence prior to daily whole class instruction for all integrated undergraduate programs, and **instead allow the program to set the timeline and a process for verifying that candidates are subject matter competent** prior to being recommended for their preliminary teaching credential. [Read the full recap on the CSBA blog »](#)

Assistance with state eligibility and funding applications

Assistance with **STATE ELIGIBILITY & FUNDING APPLICATIONS**

The State Facilities Funding Programs are complex and ever changing. **Total School Solutions (TSS) provides assistance with all aspects of the funding process from the initial establishment of eligibility to the closeout audit process.** TSS professionals meet with agency representatives to determine the needs of specific projects and assist in optimizing benefit from the programs. TSS staff expertise can

help secure additional funding for districts that had not previously been identified. [Learn more »](#)

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

Virtual events

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](#)

Student Board Member Governance Q&A and Networking

March 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](#)

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Student Board Member Trainings

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

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

April 19-20 | [Register](#)

In-person events

The Brown Act

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

Recentering Governance Practices with an Equity Lens

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

2024 CSBA County Board Governance Workshop

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

MIG Course 3: School Finance

March 9 | Monterey | [Register](#)

What Executive Assistants and Board Presidents Need to Know About the Brown Act

March 11 | Castro Valley | [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](#)

April 6 | San Bernardino | [Register](#)

April 20 | Fowler | [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](#)



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