

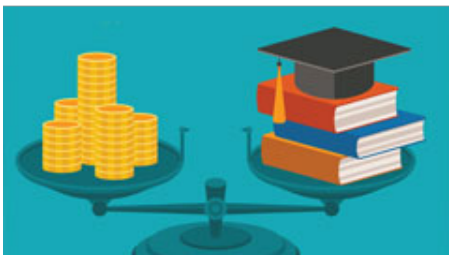


March 27, 2024

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Legislative update: CSBA submits response to Governor's proposed budget, Prop 98 concerns



Recently, **CSBA** submitted a **letter** to **Gov. Gavin Newsom** and the **Legislature** raising its **objection to a new "funding maneuver" proposed by the Governor in his January Budget**. Due to delayed taxes being filed in November in response to executive actions made at the federal and state levels, the state adopted a budget using estimated state budget revenues. As

a result, the Proposition 98 Guarantee for the 2022–23 was funded \$8 billion above what it should have been. **If the Governor’s plan is adopted, the state would fund the \$8 billion in the 2022–23 fiscal year via a loan guaranteed against projected future state general fund revenues.**

CSBA argues that the recalculation of prior-year enacted funding, resulting in a “loan” to Prop 98 as non-Prop 98 funding, and a manipulation of the operative test year are a new interpretation of Prop 98 that defies past practice and the standard understanding of the proposition. CSBA’s letter raises its objection to this proposal on the grounds that **it would undermine the spirit, statutory and constitutional requirements enshrined in Prop 98.** The concern is that **the proposal would set a worrisome precedent, which if adopted could be used by future governors and Legislatures to avoid complying with the Prop 98 funding guarantee.** Specifically, CSBA is advocating the Legislature reject the proposed “funding maneuver” and ensure any efforts to reduce or alter education funding is in alignment with the statutory and constitutional provisions of Prop 98. [Read the letter](#) | [Learn more](#)

Workshops supporting small districts’ budgeting are underway



Small school district boards have a unique perspective when it comes to setting budget priorities and making financial decisions. **CSBA and School Services of California are hosting in-person workshops specially designed to support small and rural district boards in understanding the requirements of various funding opportunities and how to strategically access and maximize limited resources to best**

meet the needs of students in a small school district. Accountability requirements of restricted programs, including federal and competitive grant opportunities, will be reviewed. Participants will also explore strategies used successfully by some small school districts, such as multi-funded staff and pooling resources with other districts.

The **next workshop is April 6 in San Bernardino**, followed by a final **event in Fowler** on April 20. [Learn more and register »](#)

CSBA releases budget template to help governance teams communicate school finances



California’s local educational agencies face an uncertain and complex financial landscape as they plan their 2024–25 budgets. Significant state, federal and local factors are converging at the same time to potentially cause major budgetary problems for many LEAs.

To help address this looming storm, **CSBA's Research and Education Policy Development department created a budget template, "The Forecast is for Storms – Considerations for LEA budgeting in an uncertain fiscal climate," to help governance teams communicate these intricate factors to their communities.** These dynamics include ever-increasing state budget deficit projections, the end of federal pandemic relief aid and persistent declining statewide enrollment. Governance teams can add their district's specific fiscal details to build a shared understanding by being open and transparent with communities on the complexity of the situation. [Read more on the CSBA blog »](#)

Register for webinar explaining what the *O'Connor-Ratcliff* decision means for trustees



On March 15, the United States **Supreme Court developed a new and more restrictive test for determining when public officials can be held liable for First Amendment violations related to management of their social media accounts** when it handed down [its decision in *O'Connor-Ratcliff v. Garnier*](#).

On **April 12, CSBA General Counsel Kristin Lindgren-Bruzzone and F3**, one of CSBA's gold affiliate law firms, **will explain this new test** — which largely upholds plaintiff's arguments in an [amicus brief](#) filed by CSBA's Education Legal Alliance (ELA) in support of Poway Unified School District Board President Michelle O'Connor Ratcliff — **and what it means for local educational agency trustees moving forward.** [Register now »](#)

Federal update: Biden signs FY 24 budget for Education Department



President Joe Biden [signed the fiscal year 2024 budget](#) for the U.S. Department of Education and other agencies on March 23. The [measure](#) provides **\$79.1 billion for the Education Department** and includes slight increases for Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Title I-A, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) State Grants, level funding for Preschool Development Grants, and a combined increase of nearly \$1 billion for the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) and Head Start. Foresight Law + Policy, a national education law firm, **compiled details on these and other programs compared to FY 2023 funding in a comparison chart** [here](#).

Other federal news:

- The U.S. Department of Education wrote a [letter](#) to chief state school officers on March 22 to ask each state to **commit to three key actions that can help more students attend and engage in school each day** and lay a foundation for progress. [Read the letter »](#)

What's Your Why? with Benicia USD board member Gethsemane Moss



In CSBA's latest "What's Your Why?" video, **Benicia Unified School District board member Gethsemane Moss** notes the importance of putting the right systems and policies in place to support students. **"We have to remember that they're our future," Moss said. "And they're the ones we hope to fill our shoes one day."**

"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 Moss' and other videos from the "What's Your Why?" series »](#)

Maximize your budget, lower administrative costs and streamline the procurement process



Since 1998, BuyBoard has been providing local educational agencies with increased purchasing power, lower administrative costs and compliance with legal requirements. **BuyBoard vendors have been awarded contracts for products and services through a competitive procurement process, thereby giving members the opportunity for bulk discounts, combined with the ease of online shopping.** Find everything

from classroom teaching aid supplies and equipment and furniture to custodial supplies and equipment or field lighting products. [Learn more »](#)

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

Virtual events

MIG Course 3: School Finance Part 1 and

Sponsors



Part 2

April 3-4 | [Register](#)

Executive Assistants Certification Program - Xi cohort

April 11-June 21 | [Register](#)

Student Board Member Trainings

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

Ethics Assembly Bill 2158

April 16 | [Register](#)

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

April 19-20 | [Register](#)

May 31-June 1 | [Register](#)

In-person events

Small School District Financial Workshop

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](#)

Ethics Assembly Bill 2158

May 8 | West Sacramento | [Register](#)

[View complete calendar](#)



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