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In this Issue

- State update: CDPH releases 2024–25 health guidance for schools
- New instructional continuity plan requirement for LEAs
- Legislative update: Governor signs bills into law, including AB 1955
- Legal update: Court issues decision in case about certificated employee pay
- Register for the CSBA County Board Member Services Conference before the early bird rate is gone
- State Board moves ahead on English learner identification, Dashboard changes and more
- Training opportunity: Ensure you're in compliance with Assembly Bill 2158
- Safe breathing-zone delivered directly to districts

State update: CDPH releases 2024–25 health guidance for schools

As families and local educational agencies prepare for back to school season, the **California Department of Public Health on July 11 published its 2024–25 Public Health Guidance for TK-12 Schools and Child Care Settings to Support Safe In-Person Services and Mitigate the Spread of**



Communicable Diseases. The guidance contains information on general prevention strategies to reduce the spread of communicable diseases — such as influenza, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), norovirus and COVID-19 — as well as coordination with local public health officials and education partners.

Many of the strategies included in the guidance may also aid in protecting against environmental factors like allergens, pollutants and wildfire smoke.

According to the California Department of Education, there are **no major changes to communicable disease mitigation measures or recommendations for school health operations and coordination with local health jurisdictions year-to-year. Some language and terminology that appears in the guidance has been simplified to help schools better communicate health information to their communities.** Topics covered in the guidance include general considerations; vaccinations; optimizing air quality; use of face masks; maintaining good hygiene; managing symptomatic individuals; reporting diseases and responding to outbreaks; cleaning facilities; and testing for respiratory infections. [Read the guidance »](#)

New instructional continuity plan requirement for LEAs



California **school districts and county offices of education are required by July 1, 2025, to establish continuity plans to ensure students are provided instruction when natural disasters or other states of emergencies make in-person classes impossible.**

As learning at K-12 campuses across the state has been disrupted by a pandemic and natural disasters like wildfires and flooding in recent years, the decision to mandate local educational agencies to include instructional continuity plans with their comprehensive school safety plans was solidified as part of the education omnibus budget trailer bill ([Senate Bill 153](#)) approved by Gov. Gavin Newsom in late June.

While CSBA opposed an earlier version of the bill, the Governmental Relations team's advocacy resulted in a final product that better reflects LEAs' best interests. [Read more on the CSBA blog »](#)

Legislative update: Governor signs bills into law, including AB 1955



Earlier this week **Gov. Gavin Newsom announced that he signed an array of bills into**



law. Among the many pieces of legislation was **Assembly Bill 1955** (Ward, D-San Diego), titled the Support Academic Futures and Educators for Today's Youth (SAFETY) Act. Sponsored by the California Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Legislative Caucus, **the bill is mostly**

declaratory of current law, meaning that it further clarifies existing state statute and case law.

The bill builds off existing state statute and state and federal case law relating to a student's right to privacy by reiterating that **no local educational agency or their employees may disclose any information related to a pupil's sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression to any other person without the pupil's consent** unless otherwise required by state or federal law. It also **prohibits LEAs from taking punitive action against an employee or contractor for supporting a student in the exercise of those rights.**

Lastly, it requires the California Department of Education to update and/or develop resources and supports LEAs may use to serve LGBTQ students, their families and surrounding communities. The bill will go into effect on Jan. 1, 2025.

Legal update: Court issues decision in case about certificated employee pay



The California Court of Appeal recently issued a **decision in *George v. Susanville Elementary School District* interpreting the certificated salary-uniformity provisions of Education Code Section 45028.** In this case, district teacher Susan George left the district after obtaining 12 years of teaching experience but was later rehired after teaching for two years in another district. Upon rehire, George was not given

credit for these two years of experience because the collective bargaining agreement only granted credit for out-of-district experience to "new unit members."

George sued the district, claiming that its refusal to recognize her two years of teaching elsewhere violated Section 45028's salary-uniformity requirements by treating her differently than other teachers with the same experience. Although the trial court agreed with the district, the Court of Appeal sided with George, ordering that she be credited with an additional two years of experience on the salary schedule. **Following this decision, CSBA urges members to diligently analyze the schedule placement of all new and returning hires for compliance with Section 45028.** And, if there is any doubt, members should contact CSBA's [Legal Services team](#), or legal counsel, for assistance. [Learn more about this case on the CSBA blog »](#)

Register for the CSBA County Board Member Services

Conference before the early bird rate is gone



The CSBA County Board Member Services Conference is almost here. **From Sept. 13-15 in Monterey, county board leaders can come together and discuss local and statewide successes and challenges, gain resources, share their experiences navigating an ever-evolving education system, and make life-long connections with colleagues.**

Attendees will have access to panels on politics, social justice and human trafficking; a keynote address on effective governance at the county board level; breakout sessions and skills classes on a variety of subjects; networking lunches; an advocacy and legislative leadership masterclass led by CSBA Governmental Relations staff. The event also includes designated times for the CSBA Region 14 Caucus Meeting and Transitional Working Group updates.

Registration is available at a discounted rate through Aug. 4, so make your plans now! [Learn more »](#)

State Board moves ahead on English learner identification, Dashboard changes and more



The **State Board of Education** took action on several crucial items during the first day of its July 10–11 meeting related to a new science metric for the California School Dashboard, eligibility criteria for Local Control Funding Formula support determinations, assessment alternatives to identify English learners among the state's youngest students and more.

The board approved adding a science metric based on science assessment data to the **2024 Dashboard**, as well as addressing transitional kindergarten and long-term English learner students, among other changes related to new requirements in the **differentiated assistance eligibility criteria and student-level growth model data**. Several options related to adding a science indicator were discussed, including adopting a unit of measurement for the science indicator, deciding how to combine high school scores for the science indicator, and determining whether a participation rate will factor into the results. [Read a full recap »](#)

Training opportunity: Ensure you're in compliance with Assembly Bill 2158



Under Assembly Bill 2158, **school district and county office of education governing board members are now required by law to complete**



ethics training every two years during their service. The law goes into effect on Jan. 1, 2025, and requires trustees to finish ethics training by Jan. 1, 2026, unless their term ends before that.

CSBA developed its signature Ethics Assembly Bill 2158 training for local educational agency leaders. The training offers an overview of the various ethical responsibilities of board members imposed by California law — including financial conflicts of interest, gifts and Form 700 reporting — and information on how to effectively manage conflicts of interest and ethical dilemmas. **CSBA’s training is provided by licensed California attorneys** and, in addition to enhancing decision-making skills, meets AB 2158’s requirements for board members. **A certificate of completion will be issued for those who successfully finish the course.**

Upcoming virtual training opportunities include July 23, Aug. 14 and Oct. 10, or join CSBA in person in Monterey on Sept. 12. [Learn more and register »](#)

Safe breathing-zone delivered directly to districts



The quality of air in school buildings can affect everything from student achievement to absenteeism to teacher retention. **LifeWings Peak Performance provides the Safer Air Initiative to provide guidance and expertise on creating safe and healthy air in local educational agencies.** Through assessment, financial support and strategic planning, LifeWings can help LEAs tap into the hundreds of

millions of dollars in federal and state aid to ensure your students and staff can breathe freely. [Learn more »](#)

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

Virtual events

Ethics Assembly Bill 2158

July 23 | [Register](#)

Aug. 14 | [Register](#)

Oct. 10 | [Register](#)

How to apply to CSBA’s free workshop series on education workforce housing

July 23 | [Register](#)

Executive Assistant Omicron:

Sponsors



Governance 2A/2B

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

Student Board Member Training: Navigating Roles, Governance, and Legal Compliance

Aug. 19 | [Register](#)

MIG Course 1: Foundations of Effective Governance/Setting Direction

Aug. 26-Oct. 7 | [Register](#)

Student Board Member Training: Mastering Meeting Protocol and Stakeholder Engagement

Sept. 9 | [Register](#)

Executive Assistant Omicron: Job Mechanics 3A/23B

Sept. 12-13 | [Register](#)

In-person events

Masters in Governance Course 1: Foundations of Effective Governance/ Setting Direction

Aug. 17 | Visalia | [Register](#)

MIG Course 1

Aug. 24 | Ventura | [Register](#)

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

Sept. 7 | Ventura | [Register](#)

California School Board Ethics Pre- Conference Training

Sept. 12 | Monterey | [Register](#)

Key Elements of the Brown Act Pre- Conference Training

Sept. 12 | Monterey | [Register](#)

CSBA County Board Member Services Conference

Sept. 13-15 | Monterey | [Register](#)



[View complete calendar](#)