



March 5, 2025

In this Issue

- [Last chance to register for virtual Legislative Action Week](#)
- [CSBA's latest magazine issue available online](#)
- [Federal update: Department of Education launches reporting portal](#)
- [State update: Immigration enforcement resources](#)
- [Save with the GO Bond Refunding Pool](#)

Last chance to register for virtual Legislative Action Week



Today, March 5, is the ***last chance*** to register for CSBA's virtual **Legislative Action Week**, taking place March 11-13. Join CSBA for this opportunity to **bring important educational issues directly to state representatives**. Attendees will meet virtually with the assemblymembers, senators and staff who represent their local educational agency and shine a light on the most pressing budget and legislative

issues facing their schools and students.

Attendees of this free event will be:

- Defending Proposition 98 to ensure that public education funding is protected

- Supporting legislation to help to address the state's teacher shortage, including greater support for education workforce housing
- Pushing back on the electric school bus mandate
- Opposing legislation that usurps a board's authority to make the final personnel decisions for classified staff

[Learn more](#) | [Register](#)

CSBA's latest magazine issue available online



The **winter edition** of *California Schools* shines light on an **issue every education leader should be aware of — human trafficking — and the role of schools in prevention**; checks in on how **California's ban on suspension for willful defiance is being implemented** and examines some best practices; and **delves into the state of school sports**, including new additions like girls flag football. The magazine also features an in-

depth interview with **CSBA President Dr. Bettye Lusk**, a **column on the unacceptable decades-long achievement gap by CEO & Executive Director Vernon M. Billy**, a roundup of U.S. Supreme Court cases that may affect education and more.

[Read the issue »](#)

Federal update: Department of Education launches reporting portal



Local educational agencies should be **aware of a new portal ([EndDEI.ed.gov](#)) launched on Feb. 27 by the U.S. Department of Education intended for parents, students, teachers and community members to submit reports of “discrimination based on race or sex in publicly-funded K-12 schools.”** The portal states that the “Department of Education will utilize community submissions to identify potential

areas for investigation.” While federal and state law already prohibit discrimination on the basis of race or gender, **the launch of the portal follows the department's Feb. 14 [dear colleague letter](#) to schools** asserting “racial discrimination that has become widespread in this nation’s educational institutions,” such as initiatives around diversity, equity and social justice, is illegal under Supreme Court precedent and could result in loss of federal funding if changes to comply with the law weren’t made.

It is not immediately clear that this will have any direct impact on California LEAs. **Initially, the portal is only a place for tips that could be used to “identify potential areas for investigation,” which does not indicate an immediate plan to withdraw federal**

funds. Further, it is not clear if there will be available manpower to conduct investigations triggered by reports to this website, especially if the Department of Education is dismantled as appears to be the current plan. While the implementation of this hotline may cause LEAs to take actions to avoid being targeted, it does not appear to create significant risk at this time. CSBA will provide updates if there are changes in this area.

Additionally, the department released a related [frequently asked questions document](#) on Feb. 28 acknowledging it cannot control the content of school curricula and stating it is not directing schools to restrict any First Amendment rights. Department officials said schools with programs “focused on interests in particular cultures, heritages, and areas of the world” are not illegal if they are open to all students regardless of race, “so long as they do not engage in racial exclusion or discrimination.” But schools cannot have affinity graduation ceremonies, administer or advertise scholarships and other opportunities offered by third parties based on race, or craft admissions essay prompts to require applicants to disclose their race.

In other federal news:

- **Linda McMahon was confirmed as U.S. education secretary** on March 3, gaining Senate approval in a 51-45 vote along party lines.

State update: Immigration enforcement resources



On Feb. 27, David Schapira, California Department of Education (CDE) chief deputy superintendent, sent a [letter](#) to all county and district superintendents regarding “resources to support school employees who may come into contact with federal agents who are conducting immigration enforcement activities.” In addition to its [webpage](#) on welcoming and supporting immigrant families, the CDE provided an

[immigration enforcement response document](#), “which is intended to be completed by officials at the local level who can add relevant local policies, regulations, and administrative contacts.”

In other state news:

- **The [2023 California Mathematics Framework implementation survey](#) is currently open.** To ensure the successful implementation of the framework, the CDE is developing professional learning opportunities, instructional resources, implementation videos and an online platform to provide practical tools and strategies for educators and students. The survey is recommended for educators with a variety of experience and knowledge about the framework to ensure these resources align with the needs of the field.
- **Applications are being accepted for the [2025 Classified School Employees of the Year \(CSEY\) Program](#).** The program identifies and honors exemplary classified school employees throughout California in nine

occupational specialties such as paraprofessional, clerical and administrative services, transportation services, food and nutrition services, custodial and maintenance services and security services. **County offices of education must work with their CSEY county coordinator to submit applications.**

Save with the GO Bond Refunding Pool



For more than 30 years, California school 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

2025 Legislative Action Week

March 11-13 | [Register](#)

Masters In Governance Course 3: School Finance Part 1 & 2

March 12-13 | [Register](#)

Executive Assistant Pi: Job Mechanics 3A/3B

March 13-14 | [Register](#)

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

March 17-April 29 | [Register](#)

Board Presidents

March 19 | [Register](#)

Ethics Assembly Bill 2158

March 19 | [Register](#)

The Brown Act

Sponsors



March 21 | [Register](#)

**Fiscal Responsibility: Key Financial
Concepts for New Board Members**

March 31 | [Register](#)

In-person events

Orientation for New Trustees

March 13 | West Sacramento | [Register](#)

MIG Course 3: School Finance Part 1 & 2

March 22 | Tulare | [Register](#)

Small School District Financial Workshop

March 29 | Camino | [Register](#)

MIG Course 3: School Finance Part 1 & 2

April 5 | [Hayward](#)

**2025 CSBA County Board Governance
Workshop**

April 11-12 | [Sacramento](#)

[View complete calendar](#)



California School Boards Association | 3251 Beacon Blvd., West Sacramento, CA 95691

Phone: (800) 266-3382 | Fax: (916) 371-3407

[Website](#) | [Privacy Policy](#)