

California schoolnews

Weekly Update

April 30, 2025

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Coast2Coast Hill meetings are happening today!



Rousing speeches from California lawmakers including Republican Rep. Kevin Kiley (CA-3), Democratic Sen. Adam Schiff and Democratic Rep. Ted Lieu (CA-36) highlighted the opening days of the 2025 CSBA-ACSA Coast2Coast Federal Advocacy Trip. A record-setting number of education leaders attended the fourth Coast2Coast, and in addition to hearing from some of California's most prominent federal

officials, they also received a crash course in advocacy and a wealth of information from education and political experts.

On April 28 and April 29, school board members and superintendents from across the

state were treated to a smorgasbord of education research, legislative review, key issue briefings, advocacy trainings, political analysis and an overview of constitutional law relevant for school governance teams. The sessions provided the information, data and techniques Coast2Coast attendees need to efficiently and effectively make the case for their schools and students when meeting with their federal representatives. **In the afternoon of April 29 and throughout the day on April 30, Coast2Coast attendees are making their way to Capitol Hill to advocate for California's 5.8 million public school students.** A more detailed account of Coast2Coast will appear in the June issue of CSBA's *California School News* newsletter.

County trustees: Submit proposals for the 2025 CSBA County Board Conference



The **2025 County Board Conference is taking place Sept. 5-7 at the Monterey Plaza Hotel!** This year features **new conference strands designed specifically with county leaders in mind:** Advocacy, Governance and Policy: Leading for Impact; Funding, Workforce and Educational Access: Aligning Resources for Success; and Student Well-Being, Safety and Success: Supporting Vulnerable Youth and the Whole Child.

If you missed the recent County Board Workshop, **bestselling "Pursuit of HappYness" author Chris Gardner will join attendees once again to share an inspiring session** as a conference keynote speaker. Registration for this must-attend conference will open in a few weeks. [Learn more and submit a proposal »](#)

Legal update: Two courts issue pause on Trump Administration's withholding of federal funds over DEI policies



On April 24, two federal judges, one for the District of New Hampshire and the other for the District of Maryland, **issued preliminary injunctions stopping the federal government from withholding funds from K-12 schools that have diversity, equity and inclusion programs (DEI).** Specifically, the injunctions limit the enforcement of the Department of Education's Dear Colleague Letter that was issued on Feb. 14, 2025. The

letter, which both lawsuits challenged, was issued to all public schools that receive federal funding. It stated that all federal funds to those schools would be withheld if the schools did not cease operation of "diversity, equity, and inclusion" programs within 14 days because the programs are unlawful.

Both courts found that the plaintiffs — the National Education Association (NEA) and Center for Black Educator Development (CBED) in the New Hampshire case and The American Federation of Teachers, American Federation of Teachers – Maryland, American Sociological Association, and District 4J in the Maryland case — **were likely to succeed on the merits of their case for at least one claim, and therefore an injunction was appropriate.** While the New Hampshire court’s injunction only applies to entities receiving federal funds that employ or contract with NEA or CBED, the Maryland court stated that it would make “little sense” if the injunction only applied to the parties in the case. Therefore, **that court’s injunction applies nationwide.**

Federal update: New executive orders issue direction on AI, school discipline and more



President Donald Trump issued a series of executive orders related to education on April 23. These include:

- **Artificial intelligence (AI) in schools:** Launches a White House Task Force on AI education to promote AI literacy in K-12, invest in educator training and encourage AI-related workforce pathways through grantmaking and apprenticeships.
- **School discipline policy:** Reinstates prior Trump Administration guidance on school discipline, opposing race-based discipline quotas and promoting enforcement of Title VI protections against racial discrimination.
- **Disparate impact:** Eliminates the use of disparate-impact theory in federal civil rights enforcement, directing agencies to prioritize policies based on intent rather than outcomes-based disparities.
- **Workforce development and apprenticeships:** Calls for a comprehensive review and realignment of federal workforce programs to prioritize skilled trades and registered apprenticeships, aiming to support over 1 million annually.

State update: Green Ribbon Schools honored



Twenty-nine schools, seven school districts and three county offices of education have been bestowed with the 2025 California Green Ribbon Schools awards by the California Department of Education (CDE). Among these recipients, **five have achieved the highest distinction as “Green Achievers”:** Laguna Beach Unified School District (Orange County), San Mateo County Office of Education, Bella

Mente Montessori Academy (Vista Unified School District, San Diego County), McNear Elementary School (Petaluma City Schools), and Saint Francis High School (Santa Clara County). These honorees are **recognized for their outstanding efforts in resource conservation, health promotion and environmental literacy**. [Read more about these exemplary awardees »](#)

In other state news:

- The CDE provided a third update to California local educational agencies regarding communications sent to the federal Education Department (ED) in response to a letter on March 28 requesting that each state educational agency (SEA) submit “reports, information on policies and procedures, annual notifications, training materials or other information necessary” to provide assurance that the SEA and their respective local educational agencies are complying with the provisions of the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment. **A letter was sent to ED detailing how all LEAs in California make assurances to the state of compliance**, as well as information about the active CDE engagement to assist LEAs in complying with all state and federal student privacy laws and best practices. [Read the update »](#)
- The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Office of Health Equity is **recruiting passionate and diverse California youth between 14 and 25 years old to help reimagine mental health services, reduce stigma and increase support for mental, emotional and behavioral health and substance use disorder as members of the Youth Co-Lab**, a groundbreaking advisory group focused on youth mental health. Advisory group members will be compensated. [Learn more »](#)

Expert MAA and LEA billing assistance



Student-centered services and medical care in the school setting are pivotal to student success. **Practi-Cal offers the most comprehensive Medi-Cal and Medicaid Administrative Activities (MAA) billing services** available to local educational agencies. Its broad range of expertise allows it to **identify areas of reimbursement often overlooked by others and simplifies the complicated billing process**, while minimizing your efforts — all with no up-front costs to the district. [Learn more »](#)

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

Virtual events

Sponsors

Executive Assistant (EA) Rho:

Governance 2A/2B

May 15-16 | [Register](#)

Ethics Assembly Bill 2158

June 4 | [Register](#)

EA Rho: Job Mechanics 3A/3B

June 5-6 | [Register](#)

The Brown Act

June 13 | [Register](#)

EA Rho: Governance Integration

June 27 | [Register](#)

In-person events

Ethics Assembly Bill 2158

May 12 | Camarillo | 12 p.m. | [Register](#)

May 12 | Camarillo | 5 p.m. | [Register](#)

Masters in Governance (MIG) Course

5: Community Relations & Advocacy/

Governance Integration

June 7 | Alameda | [Register](#)

June 7 | Riverside | [Register](#)



[View complete calendar](#)