

California schoolnews

Weekly Update

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Action Alert: Reject the manipulation of Prop 98



On June 9, the Assembly and Senate announced that they had **reached a two-party agreement on the proposed 2025–26 State Budget, which includes Gov. Gavin Newsom's proposal to “withhold” \$1.3 billion in Proposition 98 funding from public schools. CSBA is urging all California school board members and public education supporters to make their voices heard and call upon the Legislature and**

Governor to reject this manipulation.

If adopted, future legislatures and governors may seek to withhold greater amounts of funding in order to support other non-education budget priorities. **Contact the**

Legislature and Governor TODAY and tell them to reject the withholding of \$1.3 billion in Prop 98 funding and protect the state's minimum funding guarantee for schools. CSBA will not walk away from protecting Prop 98 — and neither should board members and superintendents! [Send an email »](#)

Legislative update: CSBA-sponsored bills pass important legislative milestone



June 6 was the official state legislative deadline for bills to pass out of their house of origin, which marks the halfway point in this year's legislative calendar. It is the point at which bills introduced in their house, i.e. house of origin, must be passed by the full floor of each house.

All legislation that met the deadline now moves to the opposing house. In effect, Assembly bills will now be considered by the Senate and Senate bills considered by the Assembly. Typically, the two houses apply greater policy and fiscal scrutiny on the opposing house's legislation.

All six of CSBA's sponsored bills passed out of their house of origin:

Assembly Bill 1021 (Wicks, D-Oakland and Muratsuchi, D-Torrance) — **Education workforce housing:** This measure is a follow-up to AB 2295, which CSBA co-sponsored to help streamline the process local educational agencies can follow to plan, fund and develop education workforce housing by ensuring that small and rural LEAs can pursue its benefits as well as exempting educational workforce housing projects from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

AB 1111 (Soria, D-Fresno) — **Electric school buses:** This measure would address the impacts of AB 579 from 2023 — which requires all future school bus acquisitions be zero-emission, i.e. electric buses — by providing a five-year extension to the purchasing requirement to LEAs unable to meet the charging infrastructure and maintenance and repair obligations. It would also address the "scrapping" requirement, which mandates LEAs to dispose of a diesel bus when they purchase a zero-emission bus.

AB 1224 (Valencia, D-Anaheim) — **60-day substitute:** This bill would expand the amount of time an authorized substitute teacher could serve in a single general, special or career technical education classroom from 30 days to 60 days. It is co-sponsored with the Association of California School Administrators, the California County Superintendents, and the California Association of School Business Officials.

AB 1381 (Muratsuchi) — **Education workforce housing predevelopment budget proposal:** AB 1381 would establish a state revolving loan fund to provide zero-interest loans to LEAs to help with feasibility studies and predevelopment work for housing projects. Loan amounts would be up to \$200,000 per LEA based upon enrollment.**AB 1390** (Solache, D-Lynwood) — **School board member compensation:** This bill would modernize the existing compensation stipends afforded to school board members based upon LEA size by bringing existing stipend rates into alignment with the impacts of

inflation and provide that district and county boards of education retain the authority to determine the amount of the stipend within the cap.

Senate Bill 374 (Archuleta, D-Pico Rivera) — **SB 1315 Implementation:** This bill would implement recommendations developed pursuant to CSBA's co-sponsored bill SB 1315 from last year. SB 1315 required the California Department of Education to assess the number and types of reports that LEAs are required to annually submit. It also required the report to include, among other things, the purpose of each report and recommendations for which reports can be consolidated, eliminated or truncated.

[Learn about other notable education legislation moving forward on the CSBA blog »](#)

In other legislative news:

- **Sen. Monique Limón (D-Goleta) has been selected to take the role of Senate President Pro Tempore in early 2026.** She will replace current Pro Tem Mike McGuire (D-Santa Rosa). Limón will be the first woman of color to ever hold the role. “On behalf of the nearly 5,000 school district and county board of education trustees, **CSBA congratulates state Sen. Monique Limón on being selected as the next President Pro Tem of the California Senate. CSBA is particularly proud to see one of our former school board members ascend to the highest position in the Senate.** She is recognized as a thoughtful leader and ardent supporter of our public schools,” **said CSBA CEO & Executive Director Vernon M. Billy.** “Sen. Limón’s experience on the board of the Santa Barbara Unified School District and work with the University of California, Santa Barbara, make her well-equipped to help lead the Legislature on matters related to public education and the many other complex policy and budget issues facing our state. We look forward to continuing to work with Sen. Limón and her esteemed colleagues in the state Senate.”

Register for the 2025 Annual Education Conference and Trade Show



Reimagine what's possible for California students at the **2025 Annual Education Conference and Trade Show (AEC) in Sacramento from Wednesday, Dec. 3, through Friday, Dec. 5!** **Registration and housing is now available in one easy process.** Whether you are a veteran board member, superintendent, board-support professional or a first-time attendee, AEC is a must-attend event for education leaders that

delivers practical solutions to help governance teams from districts and county offices of education improve student learning and achievement.

Shifting federal and state priorities have put education in the spotlight like never before, and AEC offers exclusive insights and learning opportunities that address the current

educational landscape and its impact on students. In addition to **informative workshops and networking opportunities** with colleagues across the state, **AEC offers a chance to connect with your own governance team away from the dais, building stronger relationships** that can benefit the future of your local educational agency. **Early registration is available at a discounted rate through Aug. 12.** [Learn more and register »](#)

State update: CDE responds to federal compliance request



On June 3, State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond **responded to letters dated June 2 from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) to California local educational agencies that stated that LEAs are exposed to “legal liability” if they comply with California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) policy** that protects students from discrimination based on gender identity, and which requires that students

be permitted to participate on athletic teams that are consistent with their gender identity.

“The DOJ assertions are not in themselves law, and the letter by itself cannot be an enforcement mechanism. The letter does not announce the passage of any new federal law,” states the [California Department of Education letter](#). Thurmond reassured LEAs “that the CDE and the **LEAs in our state that receive federal funds have already provided the requisite assurances to funding agencies that programs and services are in compliance with the U.S. Constitution.** In addition, LEA compliance with the Equal Protection Clause and other laws is monitored annually through the state’s federal compliance monitoring process and multiple accountability mechanisms. The DOJ letter references no law that would authorize the agency to require another ‘certification’ or one of this kind from LEAs.” On June 9, California Attorney General Rob Bonta filed a [pre-enforcement lawsuit](#) against the DOJ to prevent the federal government from taking action against LEAs, such as withholding or conditioning federal funds, because they are following state anti-discrimination laws.

In other state news:

- Also on June 3, the CDE sent a letter to LEAs about the Trump Administration’s [executive order regarding sanctuary jurisdictions](#). **It assures that school “policies designed to protect students’ continuous access to educational services by preventing immigration enforcement activities on school campuses without a judicial warrant ... are consistent with the United States Constitution and are required by California law,** including the California Values Act of 2017 (Senate Bill 54) and the Safe Schools for Immigrant Students Act of 2017 (Assembly Bill 699), which require local school districts to establish policies protecting immigrant students from discrimination and limiting access by immigration authorities to campuses and student information.” [Read the letter »](#)

National Safety Month spotlight: CSBA's *Safe Schools Toolkit*



June is National Safety Month, making now the perfect time for governance teams to examine the important yet complex issue of **school safety**. From the physical infrastructure of school facilities to student well-being and mental health, safety issues run the gamut, and trustees play a unique role in leading the way by fostering a safe and supportive school environment. **Not only are governance teams tasked with reviewing and updating safety policies and procedures, such as Comprehensive School Safety Plans, but local educational agency leaders must also be informed and make decisions on myriad safety issues that their LEAs will likely face.** [Check out CSBA's comprehensive school safety resource, the *Safe Schools Toolkit*, to support governance teams in this crucial work »](#)

Districts can diversify investments with OPEB Solutions Program



The OPEB Solutions Program is a **full-service Government Accountability Standards Board-compliant, Internal Revenue Service-approved trust program** designed to help local educational agencies safely and securely set aside funds to address and lower their **Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) liability**. This program gives districts local control of assets, providing LEAs with the flexibility to make contributions as deemed appropriate and the ability to access and withdraw funds to pay for OPEB expenses at any time. [Learn more »](#)

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

Virtual events

Executive Assistant (EA) Rho: Governance Integration
June 27 | [Register](#)

Ethics Assembly Bill 2158
Aug. 4 | [Register](#)

Sponsors



The Brown Act
Aug. 15 | [Register](#)

Ethics Assembly Bill 2158
Sept. 3 | [Register](#)

The Brown Act
Sept. 3 | [Register](#)

In-person events

County Board Conference
Sept. 5-7 | Monterey | [Register](#)

[View complete calendar](#)



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