

California schoolnews

Weekly Update

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Legislative update: What to expect during the final month of the 2025–26 legislative session



On Aug. 18, the **Legislature will return from its summer recess to face significant legislative and budgetary issues during the final four weeks of the legislative year.**

During this period, each house's appropriations committee will take up their respective suspense files, which include bills with a price tag of more than \$150,000 that are considered in bulk in order

to evaluate their fiscal impact as a whole. Legislation that makes it through that process will be taken up in the first two weeks of September for floor votes by the full Senate and Assembly before the session adjourns at midnight on Sept. 12.

Five CSBA-sponsored bills will be up for consideration when the Legislature returns:

- **Assembly Bill 1021** (Wicks, D-Oakland and Muratsuchi, D-Torrance) would expand efficiencies and benefits for local educational agencies to pursue education workforce housing projects, including a California Environmental Quality Act exemption for infill housing projects.
- **AB 1111** (Soria, D-Fresno) would allow LEAs to transfer combustion engine buses to other LEAs when they have acquired a zero-emission bus.
- **AB 1224** (Valencia, D-Anaheim) 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.
- **AB 1390** (Solache, D-Lynwood) would modernize the existing compensation stipends afforded to school board members based upon LEA size.
- **Senate Bill 374** (Archuleta, D-Pico Rivera) would provide the California Department of Education an additional year to meet its requirement to provide a report to the Legislature on the number and types of reports LEAs are required to submit that could be eliminated or truncated because of redundancies or lack of relevance. Also eliminates the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Addendum to the Local Control and Accountability Plan.

For more information about education-related legislation that will be under consideration by the Legislature, [read CSBA's summary of progressing legislation here »](#)

New resource: 2025–26 LEA Budgeting Template



To assist local educational agency leaders in communicating California's budget process and its impact on education to their communities, CSBA's Research and Education Policy Development and Governmental Relations teams recently published a **customizable template** that provides an overview of federal and state school finances (including highlights for the 2025–26 budget and

relevant factors like changes to enrollment patterns) and related resources. **CSBA members can access the template and add local insights on budget projections, enrollment trends, federally funded programming and more.** [Download the template »](#)

State update: CDE publishes guidance on opt-outs

The California Department of Education (CDE) on Aug. 6 published **new, non-binding guidance** for local educational agencies following the recent Supreme Court decision in *Mahmoud v. Taylor* — which addresses if and when LEAs are required to give parents/guardians



notice and a chance to opt out of some lessons.

[View the guidance »](#)

Last month, CSBA published “**Navigating opt-out requests in light of *Mahmoud v. Taylor***” in response to learning that some school districts and county offices of education expect a high volume of opt-out requests based on the decision. The post offers

some key considerations for creating opt-out procedures and forms.

Additional state updates:

- The CDE has released an **update to its Recommended Literature List for preK-12**. [Resources](#), including corresponding activities and lessons, are available for the titles. [Learn more »](#)
- Portola Valley School District trustee Robert Bauer, who served on **CSBA’s Artificial Intelligence (AI) Taskforce**, was appointed to the CDE’s **Senate Bill 1288 California Statewide AI Workgroup**, which aims to draft guidance on the safe and effective use of AI in public schools.

What’s Your Why? with Maria Okpara, Apple Valley USD



Apple Valley Unified School District trustee Maria Okpara chooses to serve on the school board to ensure students receive the education they deserve and acquire the skills needed to navigate the world. “I think a good education is an opening for the life ahead,” Okpara said in CSBA’s latest What’s Your Why? interview.

“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. [Watch Okpara’s and other What’s Your Why? videos »](#)

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

**Executive Assistant (EA) Sigma:
Understanding Culture 1A/1B**
Aug. 28-29 | [Register](#)

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

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

**Masters in Governance (MIG) Course
1: Foundations of Effective Governance/
Setting Direction**
Sept. 10-11 | [Register](#)

EA Sigma: Governance 2A/2B
Sept. 18-19 | [Register](#)

2025 CCSA Fall Virtual Workshop
Sept. 19 | [Register](#)

In-person events

**MIG Course 5: Community Relations &
Advocacy/Governance Integration**
Aug. 23 | Visalia | [Register](#)

**MIG for County Offices of Education
Course 1: Foundations of Effective
Governance/Setting Direction**
Sept. 4 | Monterey | [Register](#)

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

**MIG Course 2: Student Learning &
Achievement/Policy & Judicial Review**
Sept. 6 | Torrance | [Register](#)

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

Sponsors



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Sept. 6 | Stockton | [Register](#)

MIG Course 3: School Finance Part 1 and Part 2

Sept. 20 | Torrance | [Register](#)

MIG Course 3: School Finance Part 1 and Part 2

Sept. 20 | Stockton | [Register](#)

Education Workforce Housing Bootcamp

Oct. 15 | San Jose | [Register](#)

Education Workforce Housing Bootcamp

Oct. 24 | Covina | [Register](#)

[View complete calendar](#)