

# California schoolnews

Weekly Update

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## The Education Coalition presses Legislature to reject Prop 98 withholding at press conference



In a demonstration of unity, **California's leading education organizations** representing administrators, classified employees, county superintendents, parents, school board members, school business officials and teachers **convened on the West Steps of the State Capitol on May 21 to urge the Legislature to reject Gov. Gavin Newsom's proposal to withhold \$3.9 billion owed to public schools.**

The Governor's **proposal would reduce Proposition 98's constitutionally guaranteed**

**school funding by approximately \$643 per student statewide.** Education leaders warn the proposal threatens staffing, student supports, mental health services, class-size limits, special education programs and classroom instruction across California.

“That dollar figure comes with a real price for our schools. It means larger class sizes, fewer teachers in classrooms, fewer counselors and instructional aides supporting students, and reduced mental health and student support services,” said **CSBA President Dr. Debra Schade**. **“As school board members who have to make tough budget decisions, the administration’s withholding forces us into terrible choices that result in fewer opportunities for students who already face enormous challenges.”** [Read a recap of the event »](#)

## Legislative update: LAO provides sobering assessment of the May Revise



In an uncommonly direct warning, the state’s nonpartisan Legislative Analyst’s Office (LAO) published its **assessment** of Gov. Gavin Newsom’s May Budget Revise stating that “despite booming revenues, the budget position is overextended, reflecting: a structurally higher spending base, diminished reserves, an already accumulated wall of debt, and an operating deficit.” With the state budget in a unique position

where revenues have risen by \$16 billion during the three-year budget window spanning 2024–25, 2025–26 and 2026–27, **the LAO is issuing a sobering assessment that the state continues to face significant operational budget deficits into the future.**

Included in the May Revise are several deposits into the state’s various reserve accounts, including \$10.3 billion to the Proposition 98 rainy day fund. The LAO is recommending that the state make a \$20 billion deposit into the Budget Stabilization Account and **set aside \$4 billion to ensure that it can repay the Prop 98 withholding of \$3.9 billion next year.**

***Advocacy is still needed to oppose the Governor’s actions and encourage legislators to reject the proposed manipulation of Prop 98.*** [Send a message to the Governor and your legislators opposing the manipulation »](#)

## Shine a spotlight on students at this year's AEC



**Submissions for student performances for this year’s Annual Education Conference and Trade Show (AEC), happening in San Diego Dec. 3-5, are being accepted through June 24.**

AEC attracts thousands of members from California’s diverse education community, creating

a meaningful platform to celebrate student success in the arts and showcase the state's talent. **All performance styles and traditions are encouraged to apply.** Selected groups will take the stage during General Sessions on Thursday, Dec. 3, or Friday, Dec. 4, for performances that will run approximately 8 to 10 minutes. [View guidelines](#) | [Submit an application](#)

## Register for webinar on the May Revise and building a fiscal toolkit



Join industry **experts from CSBA and the Public Agency Retirement Services (PARS)** for a **webinar** at 11 a.m. on **June 4** covering the **latest updates from Gov. Gavin Newsom's 2026–27 May Budget Revise and its potential impacts for local educational agency budgets.**

Participants will gain insight into how the Governor and the Legislative Analyst's Office are working to manage budget pressures and sustain education

funding. While many external factors remain beyond an LEA's control, **this session will focus on equipping school districts and county offices of education with the right tools for the job. Explore practical strategies to build a fiscal toolbox,** including a resilient rainy-day fund, identifying cost-saving opportunities, and proactively addressing long-term liabilities such as other post-employment benefits (OPEB) and pensions. Leave with actionable, ready-to-use fiscal tools to help navigate uncertainty, strengthen financial stability and plan confidently for the future. [Register »](#)

## The May newsletter is here



Read a **breakdown of Gov. Gavin Newsom's May Budget Revise as well as CSBA advocacy to demand Proposition 98 education funding be protected** in the final budget, **progress related to the SOS for Student Achievement legislative package** and a recap of the Coast2Coast Federal Advocacy Trip in the latest edition of *California School News*. The issue also includes **information on newly developed**

**resources about supporting foster youth and the release of the Board Policy Development Toolkit,** legal updates related to student free speech, a message from CSBA President Dr. Debra Schade on the importance of honoring students' educational journeys as the academic year ends and more. [View the newsletter »](#)

## Federal update: Application period open for several grant programs



Local educational agencies are among those eligible to apply for federal grant programs, including the Teacher Quality Partnership Program and the Teacher and School Leader Incentive Program, that are currently accepting applications.

The **Teacher and School Leader Incentive Program** is accepting applications through

**June 9 with an estimated \$60 million in awards available** to help develop, implement, improve or expand “comprehensive performance-based compensation systems or human capital management systems for teachers, principals, or other school leaders (especially for teachers, principals, or other school leaders in high-need schools) who raise student growth and academic achievement and close the achievement gap between high- and low-performing students,” according to the U.S. Department of Education.

The **Teacher Quality Partnership Program** application period is open through **June 23 with an estimated \$70 million in awards available** “to improve student achievement by strengthening teacher preparation and enhancing professional development for new and perspective teachers and school leaders who will then meet all applicable State certification and licensure requirements,” the Education Department states.

Additionally, the **Comprehensive Centers Program** is accepting applications through **June 30**. This program aims to offer capacity-building services to state, regional and local educational agencies and schools that address educational opportunities, student outcomes and achievement gaps, and improve the quality of instruction provided to all students, especially those with the greatest need.

**In other federal news:**

- The U.S. Surgeon General has published an **advisory warning about the harms of screen use and how to protect children and adolescents**. It includes **recommendations related to schools and digital learning environments**.

## Convert property ownership into an active asset

**Property  
Planning**  
Solutions



Property Planning Solutions by DCG Strategies aims to **help school leaders explore the ways in which their real estate assets can be leveraged** to secure additional funding for district initiatives, equip students with the education and experiences they need to be successful, invest in deferred facilities maintenance and capital improvements, reduce cost and liability from holding closed or grossly underutilized sites,

bolster general fund reserves and even attract new staff. School leaders and board members can gain access to real estate experts that work to align a local educational agency’s priorities with the realities of the real estate market. Services include **real estate**

consulting, property planning, strategic asset management, educator housing development and real property brokerage services. [Learn more »](#)

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

## In-person events

**Masters in Governance (MIG) for County Offices of Education (COE) Course 2: Student Learning & Achievement | Policy & Judicial Review**

Aug. 14 | Woodland | [Register](#)

**MIG COE Course 3: Finance & Facilities**

Aug. 15 | Woodland | [Register](#)

**MIG COE Course 4: Community Relations and Advocacy | Governance Integration**

Sept. 24 | Marina del Rey | [Register](#)

**2026 CSBA Counties Conference**

Sept. 25-27 | Marina del Rey | [Register](#)

## Virtual events

**MIG Course 4: Human Resources/ Collective Bargaining**

June 15 and 29 | [Register](#)

**Ethics Assembly Bill 2158**

June 22 | [Register](#)

**The Brown Act**

June 26 | [Register](#)

**MIG Course 5: Community Relations & Advocacy/ Governance Integration**

July 13 and 27 | [Register](#)

[View complete calendar](#)

## Sponsors

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