

# California schoolnews

Weekly Update

April 9, 2026

## *In this issue*

- CSBA's legislative bill package to transform state-level governance advances with unanimous, bipartisan support
- Legislative update: CSBA co-sponsored resolution on new reporting requirements adopted
- Nominations open for 2027 CSBA Officers
- California education leaders will gather in Washington, D.C. to advocate for students
- State update: New workgroup to examine impact of rising health care costs in schools
- Federal update: Launch of free AI literacy course
- Convert property ownership into an active asset

## CSBA's legislative bill package to transform state-level governance advances with unanimous, bipartisan support



A package of CSBA-sponsored bills to address the education system's most pressing problems — including persistent achievement gaps and a lack of accountability for results at the state level — unanimously passed the Assembly Education Committee, with all four bills advancing to the Assembly Committee on Appropriations.

The legislative bill package is part of CSBA's [SOS for Student Achievement campaign](#) that aims to transform the state's system of education governance by focusing more squarely on supporting local educational agencies in closing achievement gaps, creating a more coherent and aligned state system, and using data-based outcomes to guide budget and policy decisions.

Hearings on the four bills — Assembly Bill 2225 (Patel, D-San Diego), AB 2149 (Garcia, D-San Bernardino), AB 2514 (Ransom, D-Tracy) and AB 2202 (Muratsuchi, D-Torrance) — featured **testimony from bill authors, local school board members, superintendents and education leaders, as well as partners including the California Federation of Teachers, reflecting broad support** for the proposal and its focus on closing persistent achievement gaps. [Read about the hearing on the CSBA blog »](#)

## Legislative update: CSBA co-sponsored resolution on new reporting requirements adopted



On April 6, the **Assembly** officially adopted [House Resolution 87](#), which continues CSBA's efforts to reduce the reporting burden that began with the publication of [Drowning in Documentation](#) and CSBA's co-sponsorship of [Senate Bill 1315 \(Archuleta, 2024\)](#), the "report on reports" bill. HR 87 is authored by Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi (D-Torrance) and is co-sponsored by CSBA, the Association of

California School Administrators, and the California Association of School Business Officials.

HR 87 encourages the Legislature, the Governor, the State Board of Education and the Departments of Finance and Education to **take a closer look when considering, developing or implementing new report or planning requirements, including those proposed by the Governor as part of the annual budget development process.** Specifically, these entities should consider the purpose, audience, value, feasibility, potential for duplication and duration of any new planning or reporting requirement.

The **first of CSBA's 2026 three-bill package to address the reporting burden**, HR 87 is focused on ensuring that any new planning or reporting requirements are developed in a thoughtful manner that make accountability clearer, more efficient and more meaningful. The **other two pieces of legislation are Assembly Bill 2008** (Patel, D-San Diego), which would set a time limit for any new reports, and **AB 2496** (Solache, D-Lynwood), which would eliminate existing duplicative reporting requirements. Both bills will be heard in the Assembly Education Committee on April 22.

## Nominations open for 2027 CSBA Officers



The **CSBA Candidate Review Committee** invites **CSBA members to participate in this year's election process for the offices of Vice**



**President and President-elect.** Nominations may be made by either a school or county board that is a member of CSBA, or by an individual member of a CSBA member board. Please consider running yourself or encourage others to run for CSBA office. **Officer Nomination Forms are due no**

**later than Friday, June 5, 2025. [Learn more and make a nomination »](#)**

## California education leaders will gather in Washington, D.C. to advocate for students



California **board members and administrators will descend on Washington, D.C. from April 13-15 during the 2026 CSBA-ACSA Coast2Coast Federal Advocacy Trip.**

Coast2Coast provides the structure and support for education leaders to engage effectively, offering a unified message, strategic preparation and direct meetings with federal officials and congressional offices. This year's advocacy will

focus **on artificial intelligence and education, workforce and career technical education, children's online safety and student privacy and federal education appropriations.** Registrants should have received their Know Before You Go email last week.

## State update: New workgroup to examine impact of rising health care costs in schools



On April 2, State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond announced the **convening of a new TK–12 Education Healthcare Cost Workgroup, in which educators, economists and policy experts will develop policy solutions to address the impact of rising health care costs on California school districts.** This announcement follows the end of the teacher strike in Twin Rivers Unified School

District, where rising healthcare costs were cited as a significant fiscal stressor by both labor and management. Those interested in participating in the workgroup should fill out the [State Superintendent's Healthcare Cost Working Group Interest Form](#).

### In other state news:

- **Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) and the Seamless Summer Option (SSO) applications are now available.** The SFSP and SSO are federally funded, state-administered programs that serve free meals to children 18 and younger when school is out of session. Organizations eligible to participate in the programs include schools, camps, nonprofits, tribal governments and government agencies.

Applications are due by May 15. [Learn more »](#)

- **High School Voter Education Weeks will take place on April 13-24. This initiative is designed to raise civic awareness among high school students and encourage eligible students ages 16 and 17 to preregister to vote** so their registration becomes active when they turn eighteen. Since California launched its preregistration program in 2016, nearly 1.5 million students have preregistered to vote, which resulted in more than 1.1 million eligible voters. [Learn more and access resources »](#)

## Federal update: Launch of free AI literacy course



On March 24, the U.S. Department of Labor **announced** a **new initiative to “Make America AI-Ready,” a free, one week artificial intelligence (AI) literacy course for every American worker.** The program delivers **short, text message-based lessons** over the course of a week with instruction on understanding AI principles, exploring AI uses, understanding how to direct AI effectively, evaluating AI outputs and

using AI responsibly. [Learn more »](#)

## Convert property ownership into an active asset



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](#).

Virtual events

Sponsors



**Ethics Assembly Bill 2158**

May 5 | [Register](#)

June 22 | [Register](#)

**The Brown Act**

April 24 | [Register](#)

June 26 | [Register](#)

**Masters in Governance (MIG) Course 4:  
Human Resources/Collective Bargaining**

June 15 and 29 | [Register](#)

**In-person events**

**Education Workforce Housing 101**

**Workshop Series: Part 1**

May 1 | San Diego | [Register](#)

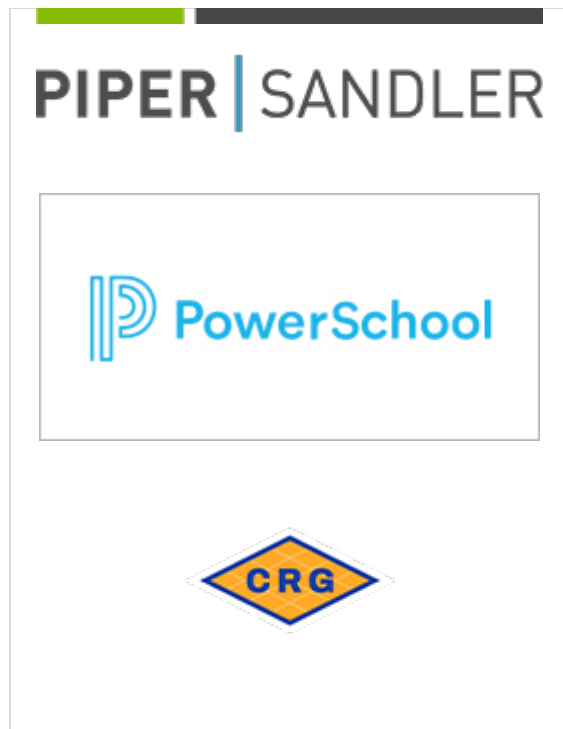
May 8 | Daly City | [Register](#)

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

May 2 | Chico | [Register](#)

May 2 | San Jose | [Register](#)

[View complete calendar](#)



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