

California School News Weekly Update
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California schoolnews

weekly update



March 5, 2014

Upcoming Events

LCFF Workshop | March 6 - Burlingame

The Brown Act | March 7 - Burlingame

Education Insights: Legal Update | March 7 - Online

Institute for New and First Term Board Members | March 7 - Burlingame

MIG Course 1: Foundations/Setting Direction | March 7 - Burlingame

MIG Course 4: Collective Bargaining/Human Resources | March 7 - Burlingame

LCFF Workshop | March 11 - Orange County

LCFF Workshop | March 12 - San Diego

LCFF Workshop | March 13 - Imperial County

LCFF Workshop | March 14 - Ventura County Office of Education

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CSBA sponsors new bill to ease teacher dismissal while protecting children

Sen. Lou Correa is authoring SB 843

Flanked by child protection advocates and representatives of CSBA in the state Capitol last week, Sen. Lou Correa, D-Santa Ana, announced Senate Bill 843, CSBA-sponsored legislation to streamline the teacher dismissal process in cases involving teacher conduct that could jeopardize student safety. "CSBA is proud to sponsor this bill to ensure that California's students are protected, and that any teachers posing a direct threat to student safety are removed from the classroom in a fair and judicious manner," said CSBA Executive Director & CEO Vernon M. Billy in this [news release](#). The Correa bill comes after Gov. Jerry Brown vetoed what he called an "imperfect solution" last year. At the governor's urging, CSBA worked with children's and victims' rights advocates on a new bill. See a [2-minute video](#) with CSBA President Josephine "Jo" Lucey, a news release, bill summaries, links to supporters, and media coverage on our [SB 843 Web page](#).

President Obama launches 'My Brother's Keeper' initiative

CSBA supporting effort to help African-American males

Statistics show that boys and young men of color are less likely to read proficiently and more likely to be murdered than their white peers. That stark reality has prompted President Obama to issue a call to action, urging business and community leaders across the country to help boys and young men of color to reach their potential. CSBA Executive Director & CEO Vernon M. Billy encourages California schools to become partners in the effort. "The **'My Brother's Keeper' initiative** launched today by President Obama is an important step in making a significant investment in the future of America," said Billy. "This effort, linking key foundations, businesses and communities, is a great first step to ensure that the promise of our most important resource—our children—is realized in every community in our nation." [Read more here.](#)



Federal Board Member Action Day coming March 19 ***Be heard! Register for March 14 webinar briefing***

CSBA's first-ever Federal Board Member Action Day will be Wednesday, March 19. It's a special opportunity for board members to promote CSBA's Governance First [federal legislative agenda](#) in personal visits to congressional district offices right here in California as lawmakers debate the federal budget. Bringing a federal issues advocacy day to local offices is also a lot more cost-effective than flying hundreds of school board members to Washington, D.C. [Register now](#) for a free webinar at 10-11 a.m. Friday, March 14, to learn more about this important day and how you can make a difference for California students.

LCFF tools for low-income, foster youth ***Workshop travels the state on five more dates in March***

A variety of new resources to help governance teams develop their Local Control and Accountability Plans are available online, and live workshops are coming to a location near you in March. Five more workshop sessions—presented in connection with [California Forward](#)—will bring the experts to San Francisco, Orange County, San Diego, Imperial and Ventura counties between March 6 and 14. See locations and register for the complimentary events at www.csba.org/LCFF. Also new online are sample LCAP templates for school districts and county offices focusing on foster youth, courtesy of the Coalition for Educational Equity for Foster Youth; see the Plan tab of [CSBA's online toolkit](#). For a deeper dive into counting low-income students each year for LCFF purposes, Legislative Advocate [Andrea Ball's post](#) on the CSBA blog reveals the work now under way to reconcile conflicting federal and state requirements for documenting meal program participation—the proxy for low-income status under LCFF.

Common Core computerized field tests begin March 18 ***CSBA, CDE resources available to help LEAs 'test the test'***

As California shifts to the new Common Core State Standards, local educational agencies throughout the state must field-test new computerized assessments in English-language arts and mathematics between March 18 and June 6. Find more information about the upcoming tests on [CDE's Field Test Communications page](#); CSBA's [Common Core Web page](#) has other resources to support the transition to the new standards and their computerized assessments. [Read more here.](#)

Comment through April 7 on proposed regulations for new nutrition directors ***Latest issue of California School News online now***

The Federal Register is accepting comment through April 7 on [tighter qualifications](#) proposed for new school nutrition program directors, even while federal nutrition regulations have eased. Find out more—and read CSBA President Josephine “Jo” Lucey's [Vantage Point](#) column on the recent Washington, D.C., Advocacy Institute,

along with news on CSBA's new [Executive Search Service](#) and other topics—in the March *California School News*. It's [posted online now](#) and will arrive in members' mailboxes soon.

ACSA superintendent survey on CCSS funding extended to Friday

Seeks to demonstrate need for additional implementation funding

The Association of California School Administrators has extended to Friday the deadline for its survey seeking to document the need for greater funding to implement the Common Core State Standards and assessments, Next Generation Science Standards and English Language Development Standards. School governance teams are asked to urge their superintendents to complete the brief, eight-question survey by 3 p.m. this Friday, March 7. Some funding was included in the 2013-14 state budget, but it's only half of the amount the California Department of Education estimates is needed, as [this CSBA Governance Brief](#) reported. "There seems to be a misunderstanding in Sacramento that ... there is no longer an immediate need for additional funding to implement these reforms. As you know, this sentiment could not be further from the truth and we need your help in educating our lawmakers and the governor about the realities of teaching new standards and administering a radically different assessment," [ACSA said in an email](#) to superintendents.

Hot off the press! Summer learning, governance briefs

CSBA has two new publications on summer learning and the second in its Defining Governance series, all available for free download from our website:

- **Policy Brief: Summer Learning Survey Examines District Practices, Plans and Perceptions** reports on results of a CSBA member survey conducted last fall to determine the type and extent of summer learning programs offered and challenges and opportunities for growth.
- Fact Sheet: **Summer Learning Programs: Implications of the LCFF** examines how summer programs can help schools meet goals for student achievement under California's new Local Control Funding Formula and its Local Control and Accountability Plans.
- **Defining Governance, Issue 2: Governing Commitments** explores how the most effective school boards embrace a common set of core beliefs, build and sustain productive partnerships and operate under clearly agreed-upon values, norms and protocols.

The summer learning materials are a joint publication with [Summer Matters](#), a statewide campaign to increase access to summer learning and enrichment programs for low-income children and youth. CSBA has a wealth of related materials on our special www.csba.org/summerlearning Web page. The Defining Governance series is posted on our [Governance Briefs Web page](#), where you'll also find briefs on the Common Core standards, fair funding, student achievement and conditions of children.

Delegate Assembly ballots due by March 17

Remember, ballots for this year's Delegate Assembly elections must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service no later than Monday, March 17, to be valid. All school districts, county offices of education and candidates will be notified of the results by April 1. Run-off elections will be conducted in the case of tie votes. [Read more here.](#)

Events, Training and Opportunities



FPPC Form 700: Do you know how to complete it? *Archived webinar taps legal expertise*

April 1 is the deadline to submit your Fair Political Practices Commission Form 700 (Statement of Economic Interest). Do you know how to complete it correctly? If you missed last week's live webinar, the [one-hour archive](#) is now posted for your convenience. In it CSBA General Counsel Keith J. Bray guides listeners through the complexities of completing Form 700 and its five schedules, aided by Olson Hagel & Fishburn LLP partner Diane Fishburn; Janet Mueller, managing shareholder with Dannis Woliver Kelley; and Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo partner Cathie Fields.

Training offered this month on Prop. 39 energy program applications *Green California Summit coming to Sacramento April 8-9*

The California Energy Commission is conducting regional trainings and hosting a webinar this month on the Proposition 39 Program and Energy Expenditure Plan application process. [Regional trainings](#) are coming to Eureka March 10, Sacramento March 12 and Hayward March 20, each with its own time schedule and duration; a [training webinar](#) is scheduled from 9 a.m. to noon Tuesday, March 18. In addition, the nonprofit Green Technology organization's [Green California Summit and Exposition](#) is coming to Sacramento April 8-9. Proposition 39, passed by the voters in 2012, will generate up to \$2.5 billion over five years under the act for capital projects to improve energy efficiency projects at K-12 schools, community colleges and other public agencies. The Energy Commission adopted implementation guidelines last December and is now accepting [Energy Expenditure Plans](#) that LEAs must file to access the funding they're eligible for. This Fall 2013 *California Schools* [magazine story](#) has more background, including information on how CSBA partnerships can help [maximize members' energy savings](#).

Nonprofit offers help with E-rate discounts *Online portal offers easy way to meet March 26 deadline*

With a March 26 deadline looming for Form 471 applications for discounts on products and services under the Federal Communications E-rate Program to extend Internet and telecommunications services to schools and libraries, the nonprofit Education Superhighway's new [Item 21 Entry Portal](#) can help. The free resource is reportedly "simple and easy to use, and, more importantly, will be a powerful tool to help districts across California in their efforts to lower technology costs and ensure schools have the

network bandwidth they need,” [according to the nonprofit](#), which is “working to ensure that every student in America has access to high-speed Internet that fully supports digital learning in the classroom ... raising awareness of the school connectivity gap, providing technical expertise to states and districts.”

Presentation proposals sought for AEC 2014

Submit your ideas by April 4

CSBA's Annual Education Conference and Trade Show—coming to San Francisco Sunday, Dec. 14, through Tuesday, Dec. 16—is the place to showcase your district's innovative and successful programs and ideas. This year's strands, or areas of focus, for AEC are:

- Opportunity and achievement
- Student learning
- Funding, finance and facilities
- Leadership through governance
- Partnerships and collaborations

We're looking for CSBA members who can share their success stories in those areas during AEC presentations. Look for the AEC logo on CSBA's website or go straight to aec.csba.org/Presenters to learn how you can submit your conference presentation proposal. The deadline is April 4.

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Customized solutions for ensuring GASB 45 compliance

CSBA's GASB 45 Solutions Program, administered by Public Agency Retirement Services, offers school districts a one-stop solution to address their other post-employment benefit needs. With 19 districts and millions in assets, the trust program has assisted districts in pre-funding their health care liabilities for over nine years. Working alongside CSBA, PARS develops plans through a multiple employer trust to maximize resources and minimize the burden on staff. Join districts such as Yosemite CCD, Bellflower USD, State Center CCD, and Moreno Valley USD in experiencing investment returns that well exceed the general fund investment approach. Call PARS at 800-540-6369 x135 or [email us today](#).

CSBA provides unparalleled advocacy, information and support services for school districts, county offices of education and ROCs/Ps.

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