

California School News Weekly Update
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California schoolnews

weekly update



August 13, 2014

Upcoming Events

Agenda Online Demonstration

Aug. 14 - Online
Aug. 20 - Online
Aug. 22 - Online
Aug. 26 - Online
Aug. 28 - Online
Aug. 29 - Online

CCBE Fall Conference

Sept. 12-14 - Monterey

Back to School Webcast

Sept. 18 - Online

CCSA Fall Workshop

Sept. 19 - San Diego

MIG Course 1: Foundations of Effective Governance/Setting Direction

Sept. 19 - San Jose
Sept. 26 - San Diego

MIG Course 2: Student Learning/Policy

Sept. 20 - San Jose
Sept. 27 - San Diego

MIG Course 3: School Finance

Sept. 19 - San Jose
Sept. 27 - San Diego

MIG Course 4: Human Resources/Collective Bargaining

Sept. 20 - San Jose
Sept. 26 - San Diego

MIG Course 5: Community Relations & Advocacy/Gov. Integration

News

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REALIZE THE POWER
OF PARTNERSHIP.

Action required as the future of school facilities bond is in jeopardy

Call your Senators and Governor TODAY to express support for AB 2235

Monday's hearing in the Senate Appropriations Committee on AB 2235 (Buchanan, D-Alamo), the school facilities bond measure targeted for the November ballot, shed more light on just how difficult the next couple of days will be for the bill. With a deadline of tonight to place a bond on the November ballot, the Department of Finance expressed opposition for the Brown Administration and Appropriations Committee Chair Kevin De Leon (D-Los Angeles) cited serious concerns about how the split of bond proceeds between new construction and modernization favored suburban districts over urban districts.

In conversations with Administration officials and CSBA Tuesday evening, it became more obvious that the focus of the Governor and legislators is the water bond, which leaves little time to figure out the details of a school bond. With the possibility for a November bond slipping away, schools might have to wait until 2016.

If there is any hope of getting a bond on the November ballot, it will come from a last minute effort of calls to Senators and the Governor (916-445-2841) demanding a school bond. **School board members, superintendents, and others who support AB 2235 are urged to contact their Senators and the Governor immediately to express support for the bill.** Those districts with projects pending before the State Allocation Board and those with their own upcoming bond elections need to be first in line to make those calls because those plans could be in serious jeopardy. AB 2235 is strongly supported by home builders, education labor, building trades organizations, PTA and the chamber of commerce. Making calls to local representatives in these organizations should be the next call after school board members call Sacramento. Those calls need to be made today. [Read the full story](#) to learn more about AB 2235.

ED issues guidance on transparency in student data policies, practices

Sept. 19 - San Jose
Sept. 26 - San Diego

**CSBA Annual Education
Conference and Trade Show**
Dec. 14-16 - San Francisco

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Schools and districts urged to take 'proactive approach' in communication with parents

The U.S. Department of Education (ED) has released new guidance for schools and districts on improving transparency in their student data policies and practices. Included are best practices for communicating with parents/guardians. The document, titled [Transparency Best Practices for Schools and Districts](#), states that it is important that "schools and districts communicate what student information they collect, why they collect it, how they use it, and to whom they disclose it" and that schools and districts "take a proactive approach when communicating with parents." The document first describes what information must be provided under two federal laws—the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA)—then goes on to recommend best practices in three main categories: what information to communicate to parents; how to convey that information; and how to respond to parent inquiries about student data policies and practices. The ED also announced a new website of the [Family Policy Compliance Office](#), which provides parents, eligible students, and school officials with a variety of resources related to FERPA and PPRA, including links to the regulations, guidance documents, policy letters, webinars and videos.

SEC initiative offers bond issuers option of self-reporting possible disclosure violations *Self-reporting questionnaires must be submitted by September 10*

Under the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission's Municipalities Continuing Disclosure Cooperation Initiative (MCDCI), bond issuers and underwriters, including school districts and community colleges, may self-report possible violations in connection with inaccurate statements relating to continuing disclosures in bond offering documents. The intent of the initiative is to uncover potentially widespread violations of the federal securities laws by municipal issuers and underwriters, as highlighted in the commission's Report on the Municipal Market. The SEC's Division of Enforcement "[will recommend favorable settlement terms](#)" to bond issuers that self-report. The self-reporting period began on March 10 and ends at 9:00 p.m., PST on September 10, 2014. After September 10, the SEC will search actively for unreported violations and may seek enforcement action, including recommending financial sanctions, on a case-by-case basis. For more information, and to complete a self-reporting questionnaire, [visit the SEC's website](#).

Events, Training and Opportunities

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Common Core Messaging Webinar on August 27 *Learn how to build support for CCSS*

Are your communications ready for the new school year? Make your back-to-school messaging about the Common Core State Standards as powerful as possible. Using research conducted by FrameWorks Institute, this 45-minute webinar, titled Back-to-School Communications and the California Common Core State Standards and sponsored by the Californians Dedicated to Education Foundation

(CDEF), will highlight and explore strategic ways to reframe your communications in order to avoid unproductive conversations and build support for CCSS. The webinar's content is tailored for school board members, superintendents and administrators, and will model practical examples that you can put to use in your own communications. [Register today](#) for the webinar, happening on Wednesday, August 27 at 11:00 a.m.

CSBA to host free Back-to-School Webcast on September 18

Tune in for news and analysis to help you prepare for the upcoming school year

[CSBA's 2014 Back-to-School Webcast](#) gives governing board members a front-row seat to live expert coverage on the major education issues of the upcoming school year. Tune in from the comfort of your office or as a group at your local county office of education to hear CSBA's policy, legislative and legal experts explore key topics in real time. When the webcast concludes, you and your governance team will have a solid grasp of the challenges ahead and clear ideas on how to best meet them. CSBA believes that discussion and collaboration are vital to effective leadership and encourages viewer participation. This webcast will include a question and answer session so that you can engage with the presenters from your home or district office. [Register online](#) today for CSBA's Back-to-School Webcast, airing on Thursday, September 18 from 10:00 a.m. to noon.

Registration open for 2nd Annual California STEM Symposium

Regular registration rate ends on August 14

Education leaders, teachers, administrators and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) education partners are invited to share best practices, strategies and resources at the 2nd Annual STEM Symposium, to be held in San Diego September 21-23 and hosted by The Californians Dedicated to Education Foundation in partnership with the California Department of Education, the California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls and the California STEM Learning Network. The theme of this year's symposium is "Invest in California STEM Education: Innovate, Integrate, and Inspire!" and the focus will be on increasing and supporting the participation of women, girls and other underrepresented groups in STEM fields. Keynote speakers include science educator Bill Nye, astronaut Dr. Mae Jemison and MythBusters co-host Jamie Hyneman. You can [register to attend](#) by visiting the Californians Dedicated to Education's website. The regular registration rate of \$300 applies through August 14. After that date, the registration rate is \$350.

Call to participate in Calif. Child Welfare Council survey

Survey completion deadline extended to Friday, Sept. 5

On behalf of the California Child Welfare Council, the Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) Action Team is conducting a [survey](#) to learn more about how counties across the state are addressing issues concerning children who are victims of, at-risk for, or survivors of commercial sexual exploitation. The goal of the CSEC Action Team is to ensure that youth who are sexually exploited get the supports and services they need to heal, address their trauma and build skills to enter adulthood and contribute to society. The

information gathered from this survey will be used to identify current prevention, training intervention and data coordination efforts, as well as services available for commercially sexually exploited children and will inform recommendations for a statewide protocol. The [online survey](#) takes approximately 20 minutes to complete and all responses will be kept confidential. Please complete the survey by Friday, September 5.

Member Services

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Schools Targeted Energy Program

A comprehensive energy efficiency program

CSBA is proud to offer STEP, a comprehensive energy efficiency program that helps districts and county offices of education carry out measures that save money and resources. Through the help of our partners, the STEP team will assist you with a range of services including energy analysis, project development, engineering, project management and securing funding. In addition to the significant financial benefits associated with energy efficiency projects, participants can expect more comfortable learning environments that enhance education, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and establish community support for environmental and social responsibility. For more information, [visit us online](#) or call us today at 800-266-3382, ext. 3327.

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