

California School News Weekly Update  
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# California schoolnews

weekly update



June 24, 2015

## Upcoming Events

### Agenda Online June 25:

[Webinar for Meeting Managers](#)  
[Webinar for Staff](#)  
[Submitters/Reviewers](#)  
[Webinar for Board Members](#)

**2015 Back to School Webcast**  
**Sept. 10**

**CCBE Fall Conference**  
**Sept. 11-13**

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## News

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### **State budget is finalized, likely to be signed** ***Education package aligns with most of Governor's proposals***

At present, government insiders say a budget "deal is done" and vetoes are not anticipated in the education portion of the state budget. Gov. Jerry Brown has until July 1 to sign the budget but it will likely be sooner. For education, the package includes aligning with Gov. Brown's May revenue estimates, plus \$57 million identified by the California Department of Education from reversion accounts. Proposition 98 funding numbers are \$68.4 billion for 2015-16. LCFF spending went down from the May Revision from \$6.175 billion to \$5.994 billion, with that representing a 51.5 percent closure of the remaining LCFF funding gap. Overall, the budget adopts most of the Governor's proposals with little change. Click [here](#) to read more.

### **Register for AEC 2015**

***Conference includes workshops, speakers, trade show and more***

[Register](#) now for the CSBA Annual Education Conference and Trade Show 2015 in beautiful San Diego. AEC 2015 includes workshops, exhibits, networking opportunities and speakers. AEC is CSBA's premier continuing education program — delivering practical solutions to help governance teams from districts and county offices of education improve student learning and achievement. Whether you are a veteran board member, a superintendent, a board support professional or a first-time attendee, you'll come away from conference with practical ideas and a renewed commitment to help your board accomplish the critical work ahead. AEC 2015 will be held Dec. 3-5 in San Diego. Check your mailbox in July for information about AEC sessions. Registration ends in November. For help with planning your registration visit [AEC Conference Registration Planning Tool](#). More information is available on the [AEC website](#).

### **Letter urges LEAs to review legal requirements related to LCAP development**

***ACLU California, Public Advocates discuss seven requirements***

In a recent [letter](#) to county and district superintendents, the ACLU of California and Public Advocates emphasize the legal requirements related to LCAP development — particularly several that they believe “merit closer attention” based on their review of last year’s LCAPs and changes to the LCAP template and regulations that took effect earlier this year. The letter discusses seven legal requirements and is intended as a tool for LEAs to ensure they meet these requirements as they finalize their annual update and revise last year’s LCAP to align with the new LCAP template prior to adoption by July 1, 2015. “As annual updates and revised LCAPs are developed and presented to local boards for adoption this month, we encourage you to be particularly conscious of the issues that we have outlined,” states the letter. “We will be assessing how the second year of LCFF implementation unfolds at the local level and whether the standards embodied in the regulations and LCAP template are being met.” [Read the letter](#), which also provides links to resources to assist LEA and boards in developing LCAPs that conform to legal standards.

### **CSBA Legislative Awards Program now taking nominations**

***Nominate a federal/state elected or appointed officer today***

CSBA is pleased to announce the opening of the annual Legislative Awards Program. For the past 29 years, CSBA has honored current members of the state Senate and Assembly who work actively to improve public schools, support local school board governance and exercise leadership in the legislative arena. CSBA encourages all boards to participate in this program by nominating a member of the California State Legislature, the California Congressional delegation, federal/state elective or appointed office for CSBA’s 2015 Legislative Awards Program. Nominees must be from within district boundaries. Nominations must be postmarked or by Sept. 11, 2015. Visit [CSBA Legislative Awards](#) for more information.

### **Teaching water awareness is key**

***New CSBA blog post discusses importance of teaching students to conserve water***

In a new CSBA blog entry writer Renee Cashmere discusses the ripple effect of teaching kids to be water wise. A former tour director for the Water Education Foundation, Cashmere discusses her own experiences learning about conservation as a child during the historic California drought in the 1970s. She stresses the importance of schools teaching students to be water smart, and the need for such programs as the state’s Drought Response Outreach Program for Schools (commonly known as DROPS). [Read the blog post](#).

## **Events, Training and Opportunities**

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### **Webinar now available to help with student aid mandate**

***California public high schools must submit Cal Grant GPAs electronically***

A new law, the Ting Bill, which affects California public high schools, begins this fall. To assist administrators in understanding the new mandate, the California Student Aid Commission has recorded a

[webinar](#), titled “Your High School and the California Student Aid Commission.” The new law, Section 69432.9 of the California Education Code, now requires all California public high schools to electronically submit Cal Grant GPAs for their 12th-grade students. The exception will be for any student over 18 who opts out of having his or her GPA submitted or, for students under 18, whose parents opt out of submitting the GPA. School districts or charter schools must notify each grade 12 pupil and his or her parent or guardian, no later than Oct. 15, that the pupil will be considered for a Cal Grant unless they have opted out of the GPA submission process. To learn more about the mandate, what schools and districts need to do now to prepare, and where to find additional resources and support, visit the [California Student Aid Commission web page](#).

### **Information sought on elementary school truancy** ***Attorney General's office seeks input for survey***

The California Attorney General's office is again researching elementary school truancy and chronic absence in California. This year, the Attorney General's office is asking school districts to participate an updated version of the survey. The survey is being sent to district leaders across California to understand how districts collect and use data on elementary school truancy and chronic absence. They are also interested in learning about prevention and intervention strategies used by districts for elementary schools. The information [collected by the survey](#) will be included in the Attorney General's office annual report and in other tools to help schools and districts improve attendance, including a draft sample LCAP. [View the truancy survey](#). Responses are due by July 1.

### **Register student board members for effective leadership symposiums** ***Invest and develop student skills by registering now***

The California Association of Student Councils will be holding its Student Board Member Symposiums in Northern and Southern California this fall. The symposiums bring students together serving on school boards across the state of California. This one-day intensive program equips students with the skills to effectively serve their communities. Led by staff with experience as student board members, the workshop passes on a list of best practices and allows students to better understand their role and responsibilities. Student board members are usually sponsored to attend these workshops by the school board they sit on. These symposiums are considered an investment in developing stronger leaders and more effective communicators. Symposium dates are: Sept. 17, 2015, Santa Clara County Office of Education, San Jose; Sept. 23, 2015, Orange County Office of Education, Costa Mesa; and Oct. 7, 2015, Wednesday, CSBA Headquarters, West Sacramento. Registration is \$95 if fees are paid on or before Aug. 28, 2015. Contact the State Council Vice President [Jennifer Yi](#) or visit the [CASC website](#) to register.

## **Member Services**

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