

California School News Weekly Update

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# California schoolnews

weekly update



July 8, 2015

## Upcoming Events

**Student Accident Insurance:  
Best Practices to Protect Families  
in Your District**  
[Aug. 12 - Online](#)

**2015 Back-to-School Webcast**  
[Sept. 10 - Online](#)

**2015 CCBE Annual Conference**  
[Sept. 11 - Monterey](#)

**2015 Annual Education  
Conference and Trade Show**  
[Dec. 3-5 - San Diego](#)

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## News

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REALIZE THE POWER  
OF PARTNERSHIP.

### **CSBA's annual conference seeks performers *Opportunity to perform in San Diego in December***

Got talent? CSBA's AEC Planning Committee is seeking performers of all ages that represent districts of all sizes to perform at the 2015 CSBA Annual Education Conference and Trade Show. Performances will take place during the General Sessions on Thursday, Dec. 3, and Friday, Dec. 4, in San Diego. AEC brings together thousands of members of California's education community, offering an excellent opportunity to recognize student successes in the arts and showcase California talent. Proposals from bands, choral groups, soloists, thespians and other student performers are welcome. The student entertainment application deadline is Friday, July 17. Applications should be in letter form, and include a group description on district letterhead and an audio or video sample of the proposed performance, preferably in digital format or via link, to [Dia Moua](#).

### **Students from high-poverty schools less likely to enroll in college**

***As low-income student population increases, actions necessary***

According to a Center for Law and Social Policy report, "[Course, Counselor, and Teacher Gaps: Addressing the College Readiness Challenge in High-Poverty Schools](#)," students from high-poverty schools are less likely to enroll in college. At high-poverty schools, where 75 percent or more of students are qualified for free or reduced-price lunch, a host of factors contribute to this issue. They include "lack of funding, crumbling infrastructure, community safety hazards, and teacher shortages," states the report. These high schools have less experience and less-qualified teachers; fewer college prep courses; and more schools without counselors. This is especially troubling since, currently, 51 percent of public school students are eligible for free or reduced-price meals. The number of poor children is increasing in the United States and the number of students who attend high-poverty schools is rising. To learn more about the study and recommended action steps, [read the report](#).

## Teaching water awareness is key

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

In a new CSBA blog entry, "[Minding the DROPS: Water conservation projects teach awareness at schools](#)," writer Renee Cashmere discusses the ripple effect of teaching kids to be water wise. As a former tour director for the Water Education Foundation, Cashmere recounts 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 programs such 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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## Participate in the ILG survey on school, city and county collaboration

**Deadline to respond is July 31**

The Institute for Local Government has a short survey for school officials that focuses on healthy eating and active living, safety and violence prevention, and local education agencies' approach to solving issues through collaboration and/or partnerships. [Take the survey](#) now and help ILG to better understand perceptions, needs and motivations for resolving key community health issues. The survey will be open until July 31. This survey is produced through the sponsorship of Kaiser Permanente and is part of a larger effort to produce best practice resources for school, city and county elected officials and staff. CSBA is a partner in the [Cities Counties Schools Partnership](#), a program of the ILG. The CCS Partnership is dedicated to improving the conditions of children, families and communities at the local level by promoting and encouraging coordination, integration and increased efficiency of local services and joint facilities use among cities, counties and schools throughout California. School officials have a unique and important role in the development, resilience and success of their communities. Through collaboration and partnerships, local elected officials and staff can focus on comprehensive approaches that work across jurisdictional boundaries to increase community health, safety and well-being.

## Attend the Community Eligibility Provision webinar

**Listen to peers talk about their process and implementation**

Join the Food Research and Action Center for a webinar on the Community Eligibility Provision and hear from school districts that have successfully implemented the provision in the 2014-15 school year. Community eligibility allows high-poverty schools to offer breakfast and lunch at no charge to all students and eliminate school meal applications. Schools that have implemented community eligibility have experienced significant increases in school meal participation and many other benefits that support the health and education outcomes of children in high-poverty schools. In the absence of school meal applications, California schools will periodically need to collect individual income information for their students to receive proper funding from the Local Control Funding

Formula. This webinar will provide an overview of community eligibility, answer questions regarding LCFF and discuss successful strategies for implementation of the provision and collecting data for LCFF. The webinar will be held Wednesday, July 22, from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. [Register online](#). For additional information, [visit the Food Research and Action Center website](#).

## Member Services

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### **Reduce OPEB GASB 45 liability** **CSBA/PARS offers GASB 45 Solutions Program**

CSBA and PARS can help your district develop a comprehensive OPEB prefunding plan to reduce your district's OPEB GASB 45 liability. Benefits of the CSBA/PARS GASB 45 Solutions Program include:

- IRS-approved OPEB trust
- Personalized customer service
- Experience with PARS, 19 years in OPEB trust administration
- A strong trustee, U.S. Bank, the fifth largest commercial bank in the nation
- A dedicated senior consultant and portfolio manager
- Local control and flexibility
- No minimum fees or contributions
- Program oversight by CSBA to ensure districts' satisfaction

For more information on our program, contact PARS at 800-540-6369, ext. 127, or by [email](#).

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

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