

California School News Weekly Update
 If this email does not display properly, please view our [online version](#); view [past issues here](#).
 To ensure receipt of our email, please add csba@csba.org to your address book.



California schoolnews

weekly update



March 12, 2014

Upcoming Events

LCFF Workshop | March 12 - San Diego

LCFF Workshop | March 13 - Imperial County

LCFF Workshop | March 14 - Ventura County Office of Education

2014 Federal Board Member Action Day issues webinar | March 14 - Online

LCFF Workshop | March 14 - Camarillo

Institute for New and First Term Board Members | March 14 - Redding

Board Self-eval/Superintendent Evaluation | April 8 - San Jose

CSBA Training for Executive Assistants | April 8 - San Jose

Sponsored
by:



News

Sponsored
by:

PiperJaffray

REALIZE THE POWER
OF PARTNERSHIP.

Education Superhighway offers help with E-rate discounts

Nonprofit's online portal can help to meet March 26 application deadline

Like CSBA, the Education Superhighway is “working to ensure that every student in America has access to high-speed Internet that fully supports digital learning in the classroom.” With a March 26 deadline looming for Form 471 applications for discounts on products and services under the Federal Communications Commission’s E-rate Program to extend Internet and telecommunications services to schools and libraries, the Education Superhighway’s new [Item 21 Entry Portal](#) can help. The free resource is “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 “raising awareness of the school connectivity gap, providing technical expertise to states and districts.”

Federal Board Member Action Day is next Wednesday *Online briefing Friday will help prepare for grassroots action on March 19*

CSBA’s first-ever Federal Board Member Action Day will be next Wednesday, March 19, giving a united voice to governance team members who sign up to visit their U.S. representatives (or their aides) in congressional district offices right here in California. There’s still time to register for [the one-hour webinar briefing](#) on federal issues at 10 a.m. Friday. This important grassroots event comes at a crucial time—as lawmakers debate the federal budget. Bringing federal issues to local offices is also a lot more cost-effective than flying hundreds of school board members to Washington, D.C. Join us, and make a difference for California’s students!



Press conference video makes the case for SB 843 ***CSBA-sponsored bill would protect students from abusive teachers***

CSBA's new [SB 843 Web page](#) now has video of the recent Capitol news conference where state Sen. Lou Correa briefed reporters about his legislation to better protect California student's by reforming the teacher dismissal process. CSBA is sponsoring Correa's Senate bill, which would streamline the handling of cases involving teacher misconduct that could jeopardize student safety. Correa praises all the "wonderful teachers in public schools today" in the 12-minute video, stressing that his bill is not about them but instead targets "a few bad apples" whose "serious and immoral conduct" threatens children. "This proposal is targeting a small percentage of teachers who violate the trust bestowed upon them to educate, care [for] and protect the students under their supervision," agrees CSBA President Josephine "Jo" Lucey in the video, who joined Correa and Sheila Boxley, president of the Child Abuse Prevention Center, in speaking at the press conference. See the text of the bill itself, more about the supporters, links to news coverage and more at www.csba.org/SB843.

Common Core field test window opens next week ***Federal waiver ends threat of state penalties***

A federal waiver last week removed the threat of state penalties as California proceeds with field tests of assessments designed for the Common Core State Standards. The so-called Smarter Balanced assessments "will give test-makers feedback on test content, design, the technology platform that will be used to administer the test and establish achievement levels," as this new [CSBA Fact Sheet](#) explains. The new assessments, to be administered between March 18 and June 6, replace the previous Standardized Testing and Reporting bubble tests, giving far richer insights into students' critical thinking skills in math and English-language arts in grades 3-8, but their content and design mark a break from years of data that federal officials relied on to measure student achievement. "Approval of this waiver could not have come at a better time. In little more than a week, some three million students will begin the largest field test of these new assessments of any state in the nation," state Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson and State Board of Education President Michael Kirst said in a [joint statement](#). CSBA has more information and resources at www.csba.org/CommonCore.

CDE: Number of districts in financial jeopardy drops sharply ***Other announcements on model schools, CTE standards, technology grants***

The California Department of Education's [First Interim Status Report](#) shows a sharp drop in the number of local educational agencies with qualified or negative certifications—just 49, compared to 124 at this time last year. The certifications reflect whether the LEAs are able to meet their financial obligations for the remainder of the current fiscal year and subsequent two fiscal years, based on projections when the reporting period ended last Oct. 31. Other news from CDE includes the announcement of this year's [24 Model Continuation High](#)

Schools, which offer a second chance to students who are already on the path to dropping out; guidance to help schools implement new **standards for college and career readiness**; information on how more than 8,000 eligible schools and districts can apply for some of the \$188.4 million in **Education Technology K-12 Voucher Program** funds, the third disbursement from a 2003 antitrust settlement agreement with Microsoft Corp.; and notice of new **standards for after-school programs**.

Stand Up 4 Public Schools: NSBA's campaign goes nationwide

Oscar winner seen sporting movement's red wristband

Public schools across America are the "great equalizer, able to empower every child to fulfill his or her potential, regardless of race, gender, socioeconomic circumstance, or religious affiliation," as National School Boards Association President David A. Pickler says in NSBA's new **Stand Up 4 Public Schools campaign**. The initiative has the support of movie director Steve McQueen, who won this year's Oscar for best picture for his powerful film "12 Years a Slave." McQueen was **seen wearing the campaign's distinctive red wristband** during this year's Academy Awards broadcast; Khan Academy founder Salman Khan and other public figures are also among the growing number of campaign supporters. Order your own red Stand Up 4 Public Schools **wristbands here**.

Events, Training and Opportunities

Sponsored
by:



Archived Legal Update webcast covers LCFF next steps

CSBA's second round of regional LCFF workshops wraps up this week

CSBA's latest Education Insights: Legal Update webcast, broadcast live last week, is **now online to view anytime**, presenting an informative discussion of Local Control Funding Formula regulations and advice on next steps for preparing the Local Control and Accountability Plans LCFF requires. Representatives of the law firms of Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud and Romo; Fagen, Friedman and Fulfrost; and Lozano Smith offered their expertise in the hourlong presentation moderated by CSBA General Counsel Keith J. Bray.

Related: For additional help developing your LCAP, visit CSBA's online **LCFF Toolkit**, or attend one of the three remaining workshops in the 10-city series—at 6 p.m. **tonight in San Diego**, at 6 p.m. **Thursday in Imperial County** or 6 p.m. **Friday in Ventura**.

CSBA Board of Directors meets March 22-23

The Board of Directors of the California School Boards Association will hold a **regular meeting** on Saturday, March 22, (10 a.m. to 5:15 p.m.)

and Sunday, March 23 (9 a.m. to 2 p.m.) in CSBA's first-floor conference room at 3251 Beacon Blvd. in West Sacramento. You may download a copy of the agenda from the [Board of Directors Web page](#). If you have any questions about the meeting, please contact [Dollye Breshears](#) at 916-371-4691.

CDHS to hold Stakeholder Forum on School-based Medi-Cal Administrative Activities

March 24 meeting in Sacramento concerns deferred payments to LEAs

The California Department of Health Care Services is hosting a second Stakeholder Forum in Sacramento March 24 to address concerns about [School-based Medi-Cal Administrative Activities](#) raised by the federal Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services. The federal agency had announced in June 2012 that all local educational agency claims would be deferred pending changes to the program. Currently, LEAs participating in the program are owed approximately \$600 million for past claims. CDHCS's Stakeholder Forum will be from 9 a.m. to noon Monday, March 24, at 1700 K St. Participation is open to all groups that have interest in or concerns for the SMAA program. Email the [SMAA mailbox](#) to RSVP and indicate if you will participate in person or to inquire about webinar or telephone conference-line options.

Plans gearing up for Summer Food Service Program *Funding available; mandatory CDE training available*

Do at least half of your students qualify for free or reduced-price school meals? Plan now to help them through the [Summer Food Service Program](#). This federally funded program reimburses sponsors for administrative and operational costs of providing meals to children during the summer break—or whenever school is out of session for 15 continuous school days. [California Department of Education training](#) is required to participate, and CDE is offering both online webinars and in-person workshops to qualify. Remaining options include a two-part webinar, offered online March 18-19 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., or daylong trainings in Glendale April 8, Long Beach April 10, or Oakland April 23. The CSBA policy brief [“Providing Access to Nutritious Meals During Summer”](#) has more information on the Summer Food Service Program, and our Web page on [Student Physical Health and Wellness](#) has more on the link between good nutrition and academic achievement, as well as on the role of school leadership in promoting student wellness. For more information on running a successful summer program, visit the [California Summer Meal Coalition](#).

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, are: opportunity and

achievement; student learning; funding, finance and facilities; leadership through governance; and 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.

Board Self-evaluation and Superintendent Evaluation Register for April dates

Do your governance teams grapple each year with the issues of board self-evaluation and superintendent evaluation? If so, it's time to find answers. CSBA can help. In this workshop, you will discover the importance of board self-evaluation and superintendent evaluation and how it can improve the success of your governance team, receive practical advice for developing an effective instrument to get desired results and get answers to your questions. [Register online](#) for April workshops in Rancho Cucamonga, Sacramento and San Jose. The early registration fee is \$125 (onsite registration is \$135).

Member Services

Sponsored
by:



Fagen Friedman & Fulfrost LLP

Executive search service launched CSBA partners with McPherson & Jacobson

By popular demand, CSBA has launched a [new executive search service](#) in partnership with [McPherson & Jacobson](#) LLC, a company that has been placed more than 500 superintendents and other officials in public and nonprofit organizations across the country since 1991. "Hiring the right executive to serve as superintendent is critical for any school district," said CSBA Executive Director & CEO Vernon M. Billy. "Our partnership with McPherson & Jacobson provides districts with a new and effective resource for that purpose." The service provides CSBA members with help from California-based consultants who are experienced in the state's educational landscape and understand the needs of local districts. McPherson & Jacobson consultants will work with local boards and key stakeholder groups to implement a comprehensive hiring process that results in selection of the most qualified candidate. Visit [our website](#) for more information about CSBA's executive search service, or call 800-266-3382.

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

[Web Site](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)