

California School News Weekly Update

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California schoolnews

weekly update



March 26, 2014

Upcoming Events

Board Self-eval/Superintendent Evaluation

April 8 - San Jose
April 11 - Sacramento
April 29 - Rancho Cucamonga

CSBA Training for Executive Assistants

April 8 - San Jose
April 11 - Sacramento
April 29 - Rancho Cucamonga

2014 Delegate Assembly May Meeting

May 17 - Sacramento

MIG Course 1: Foundations of Effective Governance/Setting Direction

Sept. 19 - San Jose

MIG Course 3: School Finance

Sept. 19 - San Jose

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REALIZE THE POWER OF PARTNERSHIP.

Federal advocacy focuses on funding, Internet connectivity

Local visits air special ed, E-rate needs with congressional reps

During CSBA's inaugural Federal Board Member Action Day March 19, local school board members met with members of Congress in their home districts to advocate for public education and reinforce school boards' role as the only democratically elected body representing their local communities on education and children's issues. CSBA's message on federal funding is that while the end to sequestration cuts is appreciated, additional funding is still needed—especially for Title I and for special education, which has never been funded at the promised 40 percent of average costs. [Read more here and find links](#) to Federal Board Member Action Day briefing papers.

State-level Board Member Action Day coming May 9

Be heard! Speak to state lawmakers on behalf of public education

Do you want a say on [the 2014-15 state budget](#)? Do you support Senate Bill 843, the CSBA-sponsored bill to [protect California's students from teacher misconduct](#) by reforming the teacher dismissal process? If so, then make plans to participate in CSBA's state-level Board Member Action Day! A pre-event webinar Thursday, May 1, will equip participants with the background information they'll need. Then, on Friday, May 9, we'll have appointments arranged so school governance team members can visit legislators' local district offices. We'll coordinate the grassroots lobbying effort, but we need your help to make it a success. Watch for details soon in the *Weekly Update* and at www.csba.org.

CSBA issues final guidance on AB 1266 and transgender and gender-nonconforming students

Effort to overturn AB 1266 by referendum falls short



Now that Assembly Bill 1266 is the law of the land, CSBA has issued final guidance on the rights of transgender and gender-nonconforming students to access gender-segregated activities and facilities consistent with their gender identity. In replacing CSBA's interim guidance on this topic, "[Final Guidance: AB 1266, Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Students, Privacy, Programs, Activities & Facilities](#)" provides information on implementing AB 1266 in schools and recommendations for educating students, school personnel and the broader community on the issue. Find the guidance and more on the [ELA Web page](#).

Federal info on school discipline shows need for greater equity

CSBA Web page has resources to help

Results of a [federal survey](#) showing persistent disparities in disciplinary treatment for students of color compared to whites, and similar information in a [searchable database](#) from the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights, underscore the importance—and the value—of guidance on this critical issue. CSBA and California's schools share a longstanding interest in ensuring that discipline policies are not discriminatory. See policy briefs, sample board policies, features and other resources on the [Discipline/Suspension & Expulsion Web page](#).

Brown's budget proposal includes \$77 million for local Common Core assessment costs

CSBA supports governor's proposal but says more is needed

CSBA advocated for additional funding for student assessments in state Senate and Assembly committee hearings last week. Gov. Jerry Brown's 2014-15 state budget proposal includes \$77 million for local educational agency costs of administering Common Core English-language arts and math assessments next year, according to [this Legislative Analyst's Office report](#). Another \$13.6 million would go to the development of new—and better—assessments aligned with English Language Development Standards and the new Next Generation Science Standards. CSBA supports the assessment funding and continues to advocate for additional funding to help LEAs implement the Common Core. In a recent [Association of California School Administrators survey](#), more than half of the responses indicated LEAs have already spent most of all of the funds appropriated this year for local costs of Common Core implementation, but that much remains to be done. Find the LAO report and other 2014-15 budget resources on [CSBA's Legislative News page](#).

CSBA endorses permanent regulations proposed for LCFF

State Board will consider proposed regulations later this year

CSBA voiced its support for balance and accountability in permanent regulations governing the Local Control Funding Formula's spending requirements and Local Control and Accountability Plans during the comment period that ended March 17. In a [memo to the State Board of Education](#), Legislative Advocate Andrea Ball wrote that "maintaining language that is consistent with the emergency regulations now in place, will allow local education agencies (LEAs) to

continue timely implementation activities in this initial period of LCFF and LCAP, as they adhere to and gain deeper understanding of the requirements reflected in the existing regulations.” The proposed regulations also “provide statewide standard parameters for the methodology for calculating and meeting proportionality requirements” for demonstrating increased or improved services to low-income students, foster youth and English learners as required under LCFF, Ball wrote. She urged the State Board and California Department of Education to develop electronic templates for the LCAPs and “provide electronic links to state data sets that can be used to define and measure progress in the state priorities.” The memo and other resources are posted on www.csba.org/LCFF.

Two law firms step up to Premier Business Affiliate level

Two longtime members of CSBA’s Business Affiliates Program have expanded their support to public education by [boosting their participation](#) to the Premier level. The \$25,000 investments by the two law firms—Kronick Moskowitz Tiedemann & Girard, and Dannis Woliver Kelley—help provide training opportunities and services to governance teams. For example, the program allowed complimentary member access to the recent [Education Insights: Legal Update webcast](#) regarding next steps for the Local Control Funding Formula and advice on developing Local Control and Accountability Plans. Read more about the [Business Affiliates Program here](#).

Events, Training and Opportunities

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Nominations open for AIR Health Awards

*Anti-asthma competition is open to schools and districts;
deadline is April 25*

Nominations are open through April 25 for the [AIR \(Achievements in Respiratory\) Health Awards](#), given annually to California schools and districts that have achieved successes in improving indoor air quality and creating asthma-friendly environments for students and staff. Sponsored by the California Department of Public Health’s California Breathing program, the AIR Health Awards include cash prizes of \$1,000 or \$2,000 for individual schools and \$5,000 for school districts. Some 16 percent of school-age Californians are diagnosed with asthma, and asthma-related student absenteeism costs California schools approximately \$31 million annually, according to California Breathing, which has more information and resources on its [website](#).

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.

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