

California School News Weekly Update
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California schoolnews

weekly update



June 4, 2014

Upcoming Events

Agenda Online Demonstration

June 5 - Online
 June 12 - Online
 June 13 - Online
 June 18 - Online
 June 20 - Online
 June 24 - Online
 June 26 - Online
 June 27 - Online

CCBE Fall Conference

Sept. 12 - 14 - Monterey

Back to School Webcast

Sept. 18 - Online

MIG Course 1: Foundations of Effective Governance/Setting Direction

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

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REALIZE THE POWER
OF PARTNERSHIP.

Action requested: CSBA, coalitions urge budget conference to fund Common Core, transportation *Contact your legislator to request funding for these key priorities*

A coalition of statewide education organizations—CSBA, ACSA, CCSESA, PTA, Education Trust-West, Children Now and Public Advocates—collaborated on a [letter to the Budget Conferees](#) to urge them to provide another significant allocation (\$1.25 billion as approved by the Assembly) for local implementation of the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). This remains one of CSBA's key budget priorities, as we continue to hear from our members that there is significant need in order for districts and counties to provide the professional development, instructional materials and education technology that are critical to successful CCSS implementation. The Senate and Assembly included differing amounts in their respective budget proposals for this purpose. Gov. Brown did not provide an allocation in either the January budget proposal or the May Revision. The issue is now a conference item, to be resolved as part of the Proposition 98 package. [Contact your legislator](#) to urge them to support the \$1.25 billion allocation.

Senate OKs transportation funding bill SB 1137; now a budget conference item

Unanimous approval for increased reimbursement rates, COLA

The state Senate unanimously approved legislation May 29 to increase school transportation reimbursement rates for districts that are severely underfunded. CSBA co-sponsored Senate Bill 1137 by Sen. Norma Torres, which would gradually increase reimbursements for districts receiving less than 50 percent of state-approved costs. Some districts now see less than 10 percent reimbursement while others receive over 80 percent of their approved costs. The measure also provides a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for transportation funding for all school districts. The bill is also sponsored by the California State Employees Association and a large coalition of school transportation advocates. The Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee [approved \\$29 million](#) for Home to School Transportation, which will be considered in the budget conference process. [Contact](#)



[your legislator](#) to support the funding.

Legal panel discussion of teacher tenure, discipline issues

Recording of May 28 webcast now available on demand

If you missed the third webcast in CSBA's Education Insights: Legal Update series last Wednesday morning, you can [watch the recording](#) on our website. Moderated by CSBA General Counsel Keith Bray, the webcast featured a panel of five attorneys with a combined 115 years experience. These representatives from our five premier Business Affiliate law firms gathered to discuss Vergara v. State of California—the lawsuit filed by nine public school children and funded by the non-profit organization Students Matter—that just concluded in Los Angeles County Superior Court. Also discussed were case-related issues of tenure, layoff, discipline and the evaluation of certificated school employees. San Jose Unified School District's newly developed teacher evaluation process includes a Teacher Quality Panel comprising both teachers and administrators. Marleen Sacks, partner at Atkinson Andelson, Loya, Ruud and Romo, said that by involving teachers in the process, San Jose's process "underscores the legitimacy of the evaluation." Viewer questions were addressed by the panel throughout the live broadcast. Watch [Education Insights: Legal Update Part 3](#) or view the full list of our [archived webcasts and webinars](#).

California families go All In for affordable health insurance

Schools urged to keep spreading the word year-round

California's first open enrollment period under the Affordable Care Act helped almost 1.4 million individuals get affordable health coverage. Although open enrollment ended March 31, families that qualify for Medi-Cal can enroll year-round, and others may qualify for special enrollment in Covered California if they experience certain life changes, such as losing health insurance, a change in income, moving into the state, having a child, or gaining a dependent. Because many families do not know this fact, it is important that schools help spread the word. The [All In campaign website](#) offers informational fact sheets for a variety of audiences:

- **School leaders:** Teachers, administrators, early learning and after-school programs, and other education leaders can refer to this fact sheet for suggestions on how to connect individuals to coverage.
- **Parents and families:** School leaders can use this fact sheet to show families the health coverage programs available now and to explain, simply, how parents and families can enroll themselves and their children in coverage.
- **Spanish-speaking parents and families:** This fact sheet contains the same information for parents and families in Spanish.

Common Core math examples from Khan Academy ***Self-paced lessons help students learn, teachers track progress***

To support schools as they implement the Common Core State Standards, Khan Academy has developed thousands of [new, interactive math problems](#). Created and reviewed by 40 math

educators, the problems focus on the three components of rigor emphasized by the Common Core: conceptual understanding, procedural fluency, and real-world application. Additionally, Khan Academy has worked with the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium to ensure that problems are rigorous and fully aligned to every Common Core standard from K-12. CSBA's full Governing to the Core series developed to help school boards implement the standards is [now available online](#). Issue 6, "Pathway Options for High School Mathematics," discusses the rationale for providing an integrated pathway that will prepare students for university study.

New resources to improve educational outcomes for foster youth

Federal website has guidance, clarifies requirements

The U.S. Department of Education and the Children's Bureau Administration for Children and Families have noted that, nationwide, some local educational agencies are not always coordinating educational services for foster youth with local child welfare agencies. The federal agencies are calling on schools and child welfare agencies in [this May 30 letter](#) to ensure they are complying with the Fostering Connections Act. To clarify LEAs' responsibilities and to assist state and local efforts to address the educational needs of children in foster care, the federal departments of Education and Health and Human Services have established a [dedicated Web page](#) to provide information on relevant laws, guidance and technical assistance materials.

Events, Training and Opportunities

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2014 Summit on Educational Excellence for African Americans

June 13-14 at Laney College in Oakland

The White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for African Americans and Ebony Magazine will host a 2014 Summit on Educational Excellence for African Americans at Laney College, 900 Fallon Street in Oakland. The summit runs from 6 p.m. Friday, June 13, to 5 p.m. Saturday, June 14. Goals for the summit include:

1. Raising awareness about the importance of investing in African American educational excellence to ensure African American students, schools, and communities are supported in learning and development opportunities beginning at birth;
2. Highlighting individuals and organizations who are successfully supporting African American educational excellence;
3. Supporting community engagement by creating opportunities for parents, grandparents, guardians and caring adults to increase the number of African Americans who graduate from high school prepared for future success.

[Register for this complimentary event](#) no later than June 10.

CSBA offers \$11,000 to select Golden Bell Award winners

Enter your program by June 30

Now there's even more incentive to submit a 2014 Golden Bell Awards entry—seven monetary awards will be given to select district or county office Golden Bell Award winners, courtesy of program sponsors and the CSBA Business Affiliates program. Five \$1,000 awards sponsored by the CSBA Business Affiliates will be granted to top winners in each of these five submission categories: Closing the Achievement Gap; Common Core; Community Schools through Partnerships and Collaboration; Professional Development and Teacher Recruitment/Retention; and School Climate. The winner of the Wellness category will receive a \$1,000 award sponsored by Kaiser Permanente and the winner of the Sustainable, Renewable, Energy and Resource Efficient Programs category will receive a \$5,000 award sponsored by Fagen Friedman & Fulfroft, LLP. Help us celebrate excellence in education and school board governance by [visiting our website](#) to submit your entry by June 30.

Member Services

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Executive search service

CSBA partners with McPherson & Jacobson

Are you looking for a new superintendent? CSBA offers a [new executive search service](#) in partnership with [McPherson & Jacobson](#) LLC, a company that has 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 CEO & Executive Director 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.

GASB 45 Solutions Program

Prefunding an OPEB Liability: Why now?

As budgets improve, districts should consider prefunding Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) into the GASB 45 Solutions Program:

1. Prefunding can substantially reduce the long-term costs.
2. Every 1 percent increase in earnings lowers your liability about 10-12 percent.
3. Contributions offset liabilities on financial statements.
4. Contributions can be made at any time without future obligation.
5. Funds can be accessed at any time to pay current retiree OPEB costs.
6. May improve your credit rating.

The GASB 45 Solutions Program, overseen by PARS and CSBA, provides a simple, one-stop answer to your funding needs. [Contact PARS](#) at 800-540-6369 ext. 127 today.

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

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