



## 2013: A Historic Shift in California Education and at CSBA

One day we will look back at 2013 and recall what a historic year it was for education in California and for CSBA. The enactment of the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) drastically changed the state's school funding allocation methodology and marked a new beginning for local education governance.

In response to this dramatic shift in school funding, CSBA launched a statewide "LCFF Education and Awareness Campaign" to educate governing board members about the new law, help prepare districts for the work required in developing the Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP), and assist with strategies to effectively engage community stakeholders and improve student outcomes. In addition to presentations in more than 20 locations across the state, the LCFF Campaign was supplemented by our LCFF webcast, online toolkit, and in-depth policy briefs that were designed to assist boards in implementing this titanic shift in school funding and programmatic planning.

And while the enactment of the LCFF was "the" significant event of the year, CSBA was also at the forefront of other important policy and funding efforts, including the state's \$1.2 billion allocation to districts to implement the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), the student suspension and expulsion policy debates, and the intense effort to suspend the California Standards Tests (CST), allowing districts to transition to the new standards and assessment system—the Measurement of Academic Performance and Progress (MAPP).

From the Association's successful efforts to defeat AB 375—the so-called teacher dismissal reform legislation that would have made it more difficult to dismiss teachers that could be a threat to students—to our Education Legal Alliance's \$1 billion victory on the Behavioral Intervention Plan mandate, we continued our new and aggressive efforts to represent school districts and county offices of education.

Our new and improved advocacy and public communications efforts were best represented by the unprecedented ads CSBA placed in the *LA Times* and *Sacramento Bee* (see inside) urging the governor to veto AB 375. These ads were seen by more than a million readers and put CSBA's advocacy efforts on a national stage. These strategies reinforced the moniker the *Sacramento Bee* ascribed to us earlier in the year as "the influential California School Boards Association."

And while we had numerous policy and legislative victories this past year, we also had organizational successes. Our Delegate Assembly unanimously approved a new and concise Policy Platform that guides our policy efforts. We also successfully redesigned and launched our premier training program, Masters In Governance (MIG). This marked the first major redesign of MIG in more than a decade, and was in response to the membership's request and input. The new MIG includes an accelerated timeline, a new online



*This group of Fresno-area board members was among the first to attend the more than 20 interactive workshops held across the state to inform and educate members about the requirements of LCFF.*

format, and provides participants with greater flexibility to complete the program. We recognize that with all the changes in education funding, standards, assessment and budgeting, school board members need a training program that they can utilize to support their work as governance leaders. We believe MIG is that program!

Taken together, our efforts empower governing boards and strengthen our Association. None of these successes were possible without the dedicated and committed leadership of our staff, board of directors, officers and our President, Cindy Marks.

Only time will tell the true significance of 2013 for education in California and for CSBA, but rest assured that we remain committed to tackling the major issues facing school districts and county offices of education now and in the future. Together we can and will achieve success.

Sincerely,

Vernon M. Billy, Executive Director & CEO

### Year-End Highlights

- Advocacy
- Education Legal Alliance
- Policy
- Member Services, Training & Education

## Advocacy

- Succeeded in securing changes to the LCFF that ensure almost all school districts and county offices of education will see growth in their funding.
- Led the legislative campaign opposing AB 375 (Buchanan, D-San Ramon), which would have increased the difficulty of dismissing teachers that are a threat to student safety. Secured a veto from the governor.
- Successfully advocated for the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) funding that provides school districts with \$1.2 billion (almost \$200 per ADA) to implement CCSS.
- Successfully advocated to reduce apportionment deferrals from \$9.5 billion to about \$5.6 billion in the current year. This buy down of deferrals reduces borrowing needs and costs and improves cash flow for local educational agencies.
- Co-sponsored effort to conform state law to federal law governing Behavioral Intervention Plan (BIP) mandates, saving schools approximately \$50 million annually, or just over \$8 per ADA, for state-mandated services that go above and beyond those required by federal law.
- Created the CSBA Friends of Public Education Political Action Committee to support policy and governance issues that benefit public schools.
- Supported modifications to the interest rates and terms of loans that come with emergency apportionments to school districts in financial crisis. CSBA advocated changing how emergency loans are structured due to the exorbitant interest rates involved.
- Established nutrition funding and administration task force with member districts and other statewide organizations to develop recommendations on improved program and cost allocation methodologies so that districts can operate cafeteria programs more efficiently and effectively.

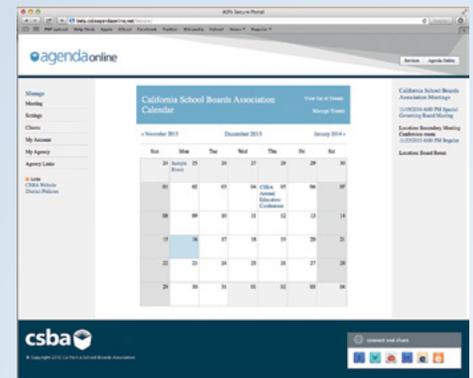


Executive Director & CEO Vernon M. Billy, left, moderated a robust discussion at the State of the State. This year's event featured Dennis Meyers, assistant executive director of Governmental Relations at CSBA (also pictured above), and the leaders of School Services of California, the Association of California School Administrators, and Capitol Advisors Group LLC.

## Education Legal Alliance

- The Commission on State Mandates ruled in favor of the ELA's position that Behavioral Intervention Plans were a mandate, and that the state must reimburse local educational agencies for the associated costs. The total reimbursement to school agencies would be more than \$1 billion once the reimbursements are fully funded by the Legislature and governor.
- ELA was influential in the California Supreme Court's decision to reverse the court of appeal in a case about the administration of insulin in schools. The ELA filed an amicus brief supporting the position of its member districts and the California Department of Education that unlicensed personnel with the requisite training and guidance from medical personnel may, with parental consent, administer insulin to students. The California Supreme Court ruled in favor of the ELA's position.
- The California Supreme Court ruled in favor of the ELA's position in its amicus brief that the Los Angeles County Office of Education properly revoked a charter. The Court affirmed that the actions that led to the revocation were proper and that any formal evidentiary hearing is not a requirement of the charter school revocation process.

**Right: Agenda Online's new look features a calendar view to easily access meetings and an "auto-pilot" feature that makes following the meeting effortless.**



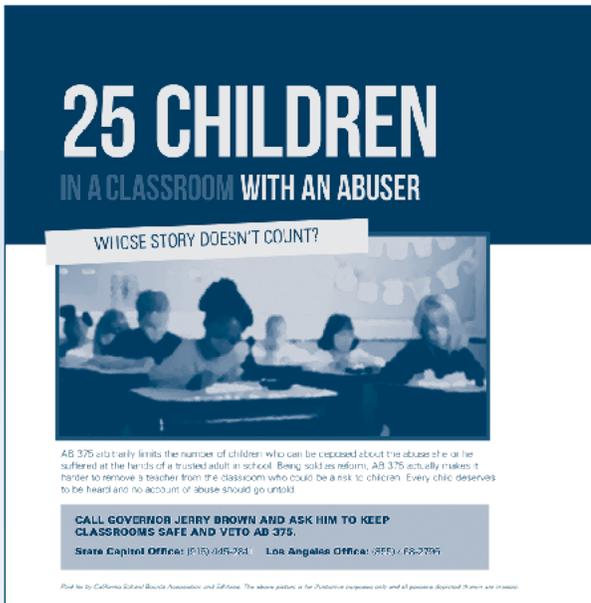
**Left: California Schools magazine continues to bring members essential guidance and tools to help local boards navigate through the latest education reforms, such as the Common Core State Standards and the Local Control Funding Formula.**

## Policy

- Published nearly 20 fact sheets, governance and research briefs to educate and inform our members about important policy issues such as LCFF, Common Core State Standards, student assessment, the Affordable Health Care Act, ROP and Linked Learning, and school safety.
- Launched an online LCFF toolkit, which guides governance teams through the LCAP development process and provides information and resources for boards about the LCFF.
- Represented the interests of governing board members on various state-level committees addressing student suspensions, English Language Learners, and Common Core State Standards implementation.
- Through a partnership with Drexel University, CSBA's Drexel Fellows conducted research to benefit and advance CSBA's policy interests.

## Member Services, Training and Education

- Redesigned and launched the Masters in Governance program with an accelerated timeline, a new online format, video library, and reduced costs.
- Launched an LCFF Education and Awareness Campaign, conducting more than 20 interactive LCFF workshops across the state to educate CSBA members about the LCFF and LCAP.
- Provided professional development to more than 2,400 board members and superintendents at the Annual Education Conference and Trade Show.
- Produced 69 sample policies, three comprehensive issues of Policy News, webinars and webcasts to provide members with resources and information supporting effective local governance.
- Developed "Governance U" to provide learning and professional development opportunities for governance teams.
- Provided 33 policy development and 53 governance consulting workshops to governing boards.
- Strengthened membership by adding 15 new members.
- Provided Manual Maintenance support to more than 450 districts and county offices of education.
- Agenda Online supported 150 districts and county offices of education.
- Pre-launched the redesigned Gamut Online and Agenda Online services.



*Above: The ad campaign that influenced the Governor's veto of AB 375, which ran in the Los Angeles Times and the Sacramento Bee.*



*Right: The 2013 Annual Education Conference and Trade Show, CSBA's premier training and educational professional development opportunity, was attended by more than 2,400 school governance team leaders.*



*The LCFF online toolkit guides governance teams through all the phases of learning about the law, seeking input and adopting an LCAP.*

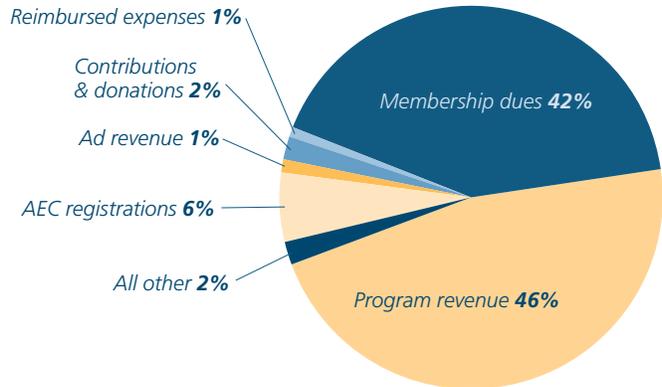


CSBA's Executive Committee members are recognized leaders among education policy-makers and stakeholders in California. From left—Josephine "Jo" Lucey, Jesús Holguín, Jill Wynns, Chris Ungar and President Cindy Marks greet the audience at the 2013 Annual Education Conference.

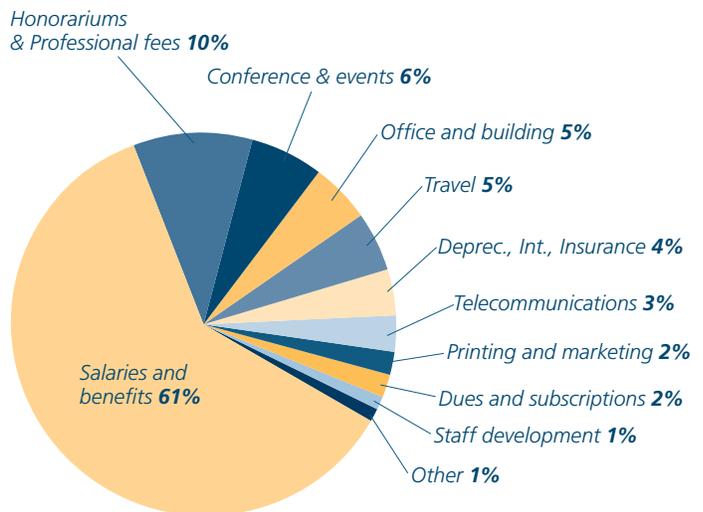


Governance U provides an array of learning and professional development opportunities to help board members and the full governance team to be effective, empowered and inspired decision-makers.

### Annual Revenue by Type: 2013 Fiscal Year



### Annual Expense by Type: 2013 Fiscal Year



### 2013 CSBA Executive Committee

Cindy Marks, *President*

Josephine "Jo" Lucey, *President-elect*

Jesús M. Holguín, *Vice President*

Jill Wynns, *Immediate Past President*

Vernon M. Billy, *Executive Director & CEO*

The 2013 Year In Review document is an official publication of the California School Boards Association and may not be produced without written permission. Members may request additional copies of this publication by contacting the Communications Department at [csba@csba.org](mailto:csba@csba.org).