

California School News Weekly Update
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California schoolnews

weekly update



February 12, 2014

Upcoming Events

[LCFF Workshop | Feb. 25 - Chico](#)

[LCFF Workshop | Feb. 26 - Sacramento](#)

[Institute for New and First Term Board Members | Feb. 28 - Burbank](#)

[The Brown Act | Feb. 28 - Burbank](#)

[LCFF Workshop | March 1 - Los Angeles](#)

[LCFF Workshop | March 4 - Fresno](#)

[LCFF Workshop | March 4 - Yreka](#)

[LCFF Workshop | March 6 - Burlingame](#)

[LCFF Workshop | March 11 - Orange County](#)

News

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LCFF, Phase 2: New CSBA workshops coming

Complimentary events begin Feb. 25 in Chico

Now that the State Board of Education has adopted regulations for the Local Control Funding Formula and a template for the related Local Control and Accountability Plans, Phase 2 of CSBA's complimentary workshops to help local governance leaders implement LCFF and develop their LCAPs will begin this month. Please join us for an interactive, two-hour presentation at one of the following locations:

- **Tuesday, Feb. 25, 6-8 p.m.:** Chico High School, Williams Theater
- **Wednesday, Feb. 26, 6-8 p.m.:** Sacramento County Office of Education
- **Saturday, March 1, 1-3 p.m.:** Los Angeles—JW Marriott Los Angeles L.A. LIVE
- **Tuesday, March 4, 6-8 p.m.:** Yreka—Siskiyou County Office of Education
- **Tuesday, March 4, 6-8 p.m.:** Fresno County Office of Education
- **Thursday, March 6, 6-8 p.m.:** Burlingame—Hilton San Francisco Airport Bayfront
- **Tuesday, March 11, 6-8 p.m.:** Orange County Department of Education
- **Wednesday, March 12, 6-8 p.m.:** San Diego County Office of Education
- **Thursday, March 13, 6-8 p.m.:** Imperial County, **location to be determined**
- **Friday, March 14, 6-8 p.m.:** Ventura County Office of Education

Registration is complimentary for CSBA members; use the links provided or see [CSBA's Training & Events page](#). To review the new LCFF regulations and an explanatory Q&A from WestEd, see the Tools & Resources tab under the [CSBA LCFF Toolkit's](#) Plan section.

California above U.S. average in AP results

El Monte UHSD named an AP Equity and Excellence District of the Year

[LCFF Workshop | March 12 - San Diego](#)

[LCFF Workshop | March 14 - Ventura](#)

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More than four in 10 graduates of California's public high schools in 2013 took an Advanced Placement exam before graduating, compared to little more than one in four when the tests were first offered a decade earlier, according to the College Board's 10th annual 23-page ["AP Report to the Nation."](#) The number scoring at least 3 out of 5 on an AP exam rose to 26.9 percent, making California one of just 17 states to score above the national average of 20.1 percent. The College Board named El Monte Union High School District the 2014 AP Equity and Excellence District of the Year among medium-sized districts, and as the California Department of Education noted, 28 other districts in the state made the College Board's national honor roll. Not all the news was good; the College Board statistics document stubborn disparities in participation and results among student subgroups. A 15-page [California Supplement](#) drills down into those data and outlines "strategies to build a robust AP Program" and opportunities "to build an even stronger AP program."

CSBA honors Sen. Roth as Outstanding Freshman Legislator

Riverside-area state senator was early supporter of LCFF

Sen. Richard Roth, D-Riverside, was [honored last week](#) as CSBA's 2013 Outstanding Freshman Legislator in a ceremony at the Riverside County Office of Education. CSBA President Josephine "Jo" Lucey and President-elect Jesús Holguín, along with Region 18 Director Lynne Craig, made the presentation in recognition of Roth's devotion to meeting the needs of public school students and enhancing opportunities for youth. Representing the 31st state Senate district, Roth was an early supporter of the state's new Local Control Funding Formula for K-12 schools. He serves on the Joint Legislative Budget Committee and the Joint Committee on Emergency Management, as well as several Senate policy committees. "We're proud to honor Senator Roth for his commitment and dedication to California's schools and students, and his partnership with school boards throughout his Senate district," Lucey said. Read the announcement [here](#).

Smarter Balanced releases Common Core Training Tests

The latest [Smarter Balanced update](#) from the California Department of Education reports that the [Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium](#) has released new Training Tests to familiarize teachers and students with new assessment software and computerized test formats that will be field tested this spring as part of the continuing launch of new Common Core State Standards. Training Tests in English-language arts and math are available in three "grade bands": grades 3-5, 6-8 and high school. Training Tests contain the same types of items as the previously released Practice Tests but do not include performance tasks or scoring guides. Find information about sample tests on the [CDE Smarter Balanced Web page](#) under "Practice Tests, Training Tests, and Sample Items" and access an array of resources, including the Governing to the Core series of issue briefs, on [CSBA's Common Core Web page](#).

Torlakson nominates 'Green Schools' for U.S. award

The Long Beach Unified School District's Lowell Bayside Academy and Twain Elementary School and the entire Encinitas Union School District are California's public school nominees for the U.S. Department of Education's third annual Green Ribbon School Awards.

"I am proud to recognize these outstanding schools and district for their comprehensive efforts to green their campuses, their communities, and our state," state Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson said in [announcing](#) the nominations. "Together with efficient facilities and good health practices, a strong ecoliteracy education develops students into citizens who will be lifelong stewards of our environment." The awards program promotes energy-efficient schools that have created healthy environments for students and staff, among other qualifications. National winners will be named on Earth Day, April 22. Read more about the Green Schools program [here](#).

CSBA updates policy brief on transgender students

AB 1266 could be challenged, but other protections already in place

The status of Assembly Bill 1266, permitting transgender and gender-nonconforming students to access sex-segregated activities and facilities consistent with their gender identity, remains uncertain pending an effort to challenge the law via referendum. However, other state and federal laws prohibit discrimination, harassment, intimidation and bullying on the basis of gender identity, so CSBA has updated its policy brief, "[Providing a Safe, Nondiscriminatory School Environment for Transgender and Gender-Nonconforming Students](#)" (posted on our [Policy News and Briefs Web page](#)). Additionally, clients of CSBA's [Policy Services](#) can access a special edition of three related sample board policies and administrative regulations to help local educational agencies accommodate such students' needs while ensuring the privacy of all students. LEAs should consult legal counsel as necessary when adopting policy on this issue.

Events, Training and Opportunities

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Save the date: Education Insights: Demystifying Form 700

Webinar on reporting gifts offered at 10 a.m. Monday, Feb. 24; registration to open soon

The clock is ticking! April 1 is the deadline to submit your Fair Political Practices Commission Form 700. Do you know how to complete it correctly? Join us for an hourlong webinar on the topic at 10 a.m. Monday, Feb. 24, when CSBA General Counsel Keith J. Bray will moderate a panel discussion featuring attorneys Cathie Fields, of the law firm of Atkinson, Andelson, Loya Rudd and Romo; Janet Mueller, of Dannis Woliver Kelley; and Diane Fishburn, of Olson Hagel & Fishburn. Together, the panel will guide listeners through the complexities of completing Form 700 and its five schedules (A-E), offering answers to commonplace questions about the form, identifying and clarifying common issues and concerns, and clearing up any confusion about completing Form 700.

Register for March 7 Education Insights webcast on LCFF

[Registration is open](#) for the second installment of CSBA's [Education Insights: Legal Update](#) webcast series Friday, March 7, when a panel of education legal experts from the law firms of Atkinson,

Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo; Fagen Friedman & Fulfroost; and Lozano Smith will take an in-depth look at what school boards should be doing now to prepare their Local Control and Accountability Plans under the state's new Local Control Funding Formula for K-12 schools. The hourlong interactive discussion, starting at 10 a.m., will include the opportunity for viewer questions.

Get the latest on Next Generation Science Standards

WestEd, CSU sponsor free Feb. 27 webinar

Join science experts from the California State University system, WestEd and the Oakland Unified School District for a free webinar, **"NGSS: Changes, Impacts, and Responses in K-12 and CSU,"** that will consider how Next Generation Science Standards have inspired CSU to restructure its teacher preparation programs to integrate engineering and literacy into science course work. Sponsored by CSU and WestEd, the program is part of a continuing series of webinars on the transition to new Common Core State Standards. [Click here](#) for details about [registration](#) for the two-hour presentation Thursday, Feb. 27, which begins at 3 p.m. You can also find tips about [getting the most](#) from the webinar. An archived version of the webinar will be posted on [WestEd's SchoolsMovingUp website](#), where you can also view dozens of other archived webinars and get information about upcoming offerings.

Forecast Webcast available online for easy viewing

Annual briefing covers economic and governmental issues affecting public schools

[CSBA's 2014 Forecast Webcast](#), offering a look at state budget issues and economic and governmental developments likely to impact public education, is available to view online anytime. The nearly two-hour briefing covers a lot of territory—from the reasons why prominent California economist Christopher Thornberg, Ph.D., says "2014 looks like it will be one of the best years in quite some time" to a panel discussion moderated by CSBA Executive Director & CEO Vernon M. Billy, featuring Corona Norco Unified School District Superintendent Michael Lin; CSBA Senior Director for Policy and Programs Teri Burns; CSBA Assistant Executive Director for Governmental Relations Dennis Meyers; and School Services of California CEO Ron Bennett. A summary of topic times allows viewers to easily advance to the sections they want to see, or see again.

Member Services

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Need temporary cash?

CSBA proudly works with Piper Jaffray & Co., Dale Scott & Company and Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP to provide the California Cash Reserve Program. This program helps school districts and county offices of education with temporary cash flow needs by creating an additional cash reserve to the general fund. Participants issue Tax and Revenue Anticipation Notes through a streamlined, pooled process. Ask about our low borrowing costs, flexible use and repayment process, and easy, efficient administration today. Documents for the 2014-15 fiscal year program are available now. [Visit our website](#) or [contact Vina Guzman](#) at 800-266-3382, ext. 3327.

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

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