

California School News Weekly Update
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California schoolnews

weekly update



May 14, 2014

Upcoming Events

2014 Delegate Assembly May Meeting

[May 17 - Sacramento](#)

Agenda Online Demonstration

[May 14 - Online](#)

[May 16 - Online](#)

[May 20 - Online](#)

Education Insights: Legal Update Webcast

[May 28 - Online](#)

Summer Learning and Wellness Webinar

[May 20 - Online](#)

[May 30 - Rancho Cucamonga](#)

[May 31 - San Diego](#)

2014 Back-to-School Webcast

[Sept. 18 - Online](#)

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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\$60.6 billion proposed for K-12 in Governor's May Revise

Continued investment needed to improve student well-being

As demonstrated by a \$4.5 billion allocation toward the second year of implementing the Local Control Funding Formula, Gov. Jerry Brown's May Revision budget continues to invest in California's K-12 schools, with proposed Proposition 98 funding coming in at \$60.6 billion for 2014-15. The revised budget, announced yesterday, also pays down deferrals, expands high-speed Internet access, and increases funding for the state teachers' retirement system. "We are ... encouraged that the Governor is maintaining the integrity of Proposition 98, addressed the challenges in accounting for unduplicated pupils for LCFF, and recognized the need to invest in improving internet connectivity," said CSBA President Josephine "Jo" Lucey. "Overall, this budget proposal demonstrates Governor Brown's commitment to public education, however CSBA will continue to advocate for sustained investment in California's education system to advance the education and well-being of our schools and students." [Read more here.](#)

Governmental Relations: Overview of Governor's revised budget proposal

CSBA advocacy reflected in several key factors

In a preliminary overview of the governor's 2014-15 [May Revision budget](#), Legislative Advocate Andrea Ball and Assistant Executive Director for Governmental Relations Dennis Meyers lay out the proposal, which "adheres to the fiscal restraint the Governor has espoused and advances his priorities to pay down on the state's wall of debt and build up a reserve." The May Revision maintains the commitment to fund Local Control Funding Formula. With state revenues forecast to increase by \$2.4 billion above January projections, the revised budget puts significant amounts into Medi-Cal health care, addressing the drought and paying off the wall of debt. May Revision proposals for K-12 education do not change significantly from January, but do address an estimated \$74 billion unfunded CalSTRS pension liability with an expedited implementation to begin in the budget year. Release of the May Revision coincides with the



recent agreement between the Legislature and governor for a revised budget reserve and creation of a Proposition 98 reserve fund. Negotiations between the Legislature and governor now kick into high gear. [Read the entire overview here.](#)

Brown v. Board of Education 60 years later 'Our work is not done,' says CEO Vernon M. Billy in op-ed

May 17 marks the 60th anniversary of the Supreme Court's historic decision in *Brown v. Board of Education* that struck down the "separate but equal" doctrine for students in public schools. Although the decision was a resounding victory for civil rights, today—six decades later—American students face many of the same conditions, points out CSBA CEO & Executive Director [Vernon M. Billy](#): "Many of our schools and communities remain segregated, albeit for a multiplicity of reasons. Students of color are disproportionately suspended from schools and significant achievement gaps persist between African American and Latino students and their white and Asian counterparts." Thus, he points out, it's critical for school board members to "work to understand the challenges facing students so we can identify and invest in the programs and resources necessary to meet their needs and close the achievement gap." Along with Billy's statement, the anniversary is being marked by the release of a [new governance brief](#) recapping the various events and legal milestones that led up to *Brown*. Find both, along with the feature "[Sixty years after Brown](#)" in *California Schools* magazine, on the CSBA website.

New contracting requirements take effect July 1 AB 44 intends to increase transparency

2013 legislation by Assembly Member Joan Buchanan (D-Alamo) changes the code for public contracting effective July 1, 2014. Assembly Bill 44 requires contractors to include the contractor license number for all subcontractors listed on a bid for any public works—or school—project. The added transparency will allow governing bodies that award contracts to "quickly and efficiently identify all the parties included in a bid," says this [May 7 letter](#) from Buchanan, which includes a full copy of the law.

LAO review of school busing makes case for reform Offers option that aligns well with CSBA's sponsored SB 1137

A recent [summary of school bus transportation](#) in California shows that approximately one in eight California students rides a bus to school. The information from the Legislative Analyst's Office reveals that districts transporting more of their students tend to be located in rural areas, serve more low-income students, and receive a higher share of state transportation funding. The state now spends \$491 million to support the program, but as the summary points out, "funding for each district is based on allocations frozen during the early 1980s." The LAO offers three approaches for reforming the Home-to-School Transportation program, one of which aligns with CSBA's sponsored [Senate Bill 1137](#), which would work toward equalizing reimbursement rates and provide a cost-of-living adjustment. The bill is now awaiting consideration by the Senate Appropriations Committee; please [contact your legislator](#) and urge him or her to support SB 1137. Although the governor's May Revision budget proposal does not include increased funding for transportation, CSBA

will continue to advocate through the legislative budget process for funding to address the outmoded formula and to provide an annual COLA.

Events, Training and Opportunities

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Summer learning and wellness webinar May 20

Live workshops follow in Rancho Cucamonga May 30, San Diego May 31

Why do summer learning and wellness programs matter? Three events in May will show how such programs can help ease the effects of “summer learning loss” that occurs when students aren’t engaging in educational activities while out of school. First, a [May 20 webinar](#) will discuss how summer learning and student health and wellness programs can directly and positively affect the achievement gap. The webinar is Tuesday, May 20, from 2-3 p.m. You’ll learn to:

- Recognize summer learning as a research-based approach to addressing the achievement gap
- Identify different funding streams for summer programming, including LCFF
- Identify how to incorporate health and wellness into summer planning

Or if you prefer a live presentation, attend one of two workshops: May 30 in [Rancho Cucamonga](#), or May 31 in [San Diego](#). Luan Rivera from CSBA’s Governance Consulting Services and Katie Brackenridge from the Partnership for Children and Youth will present. All three events are free, but [register here today](#).

April Policy News: Resources to improve student environment online now

Learn more about student discipline issues, cyberbullying, transgender student rights, regulations for implementing the Local Control Funding Formula, and other policy resources from CSBA in the April issue of CSBA’s Policy News. Each issue is available on the [Policy News and Briefs page](#). Gamut subscribers will also find the latest policy updates on Gamut Online. Sign in to view the April 2014 Update Guidesheet on the [Gamut Policy Updates page](#).

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financial benefits associated with energy efficiency projects, participants can expect more comfortable learning environments that enhance education, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and establish community support for environmental and social responsibility. For more information, [visit us online](#) or call us today at 800-266-3382, ext. 3327.

Your green program may qualify for a scholarship ***Apply for a Golden Bell Award and go green***

What's better than winning a Golden Bell Award? How about automatically qualifying to win a \$5,000 education award with no extra paperwork? Once again, the F3 Education Awards Foundation Going Green! Award will recognize a Golden Bell-winning program in the Sustainable, Renewable, Energy and Resource-Efficient category that is site-based, student-led and environmentally friendly. In 2012-13, the award went to Fillmore Unified School District for its Yard Habitat and River Restoration Project. Your district or county office could be next—submit your application today at gb.csba.org.

Say goodbye to paper board packets ***Sign up for a free tour of Agenda Online***

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

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