

California School News Weekly Update
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California schoolnews

weekly update



January 7, 2015

Upcoming Events

Forecast Webcast

Jan. 22 - Online

Board Presidents Workshop

Jan. 24 - Sacramento

Mar. 14 - San Diego

Institute for New and First-Term Board Members

Jan. 23-24 - Sacramento

Jan. 30-31 - Anaheim

Feb. 6-7 - Burlingame

Mar. 6-7 - Fresno

Mar. 13-14 - San Diego

April 17-18 - Redding

The Brown Act

Jan. 23 - Sacramento

Jan. 30 - Anaheim

Feb. 6 - Burlingame

Mar. 6 - Fresno

Mar. 13 - San Diego

MIG Course 1: Foundations of Effective Governance/Setting Direction

Feb. 6 - Burlingame

Feb. 21 - Rancho Cucamonga

Mar. 13 - San Diego

MIG Course 2: Student Learning/Policy

Feb. 7 - Burlingame

March 14 - San Diego

March 21 - San Bernardino

MIG Course 3: School Finance

Feb. 6 - Burlingame

March 13 - San Diego

April 18 - Rancho Cucamonga

News

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OF PARTNERSHIP.

Gov. Brown highlights key education issues at inauguration

Torlakson begins second term as state schools chief

"Educating the next generation is fundamental to our collective well-being," **Gov. Jerry Brown** said in remarks made at his inauguration Jan. 5. In his comments on education, Gov. Brown stressed the importance of helping children from low-income families and equalization of funding. In particular, he pointed to the Local Funding Control Formula as a means to address both issues. "This puts California in the forefront of educational reform," he said, noting California schools have received a funding increase of 39 percent over four years. California schools are to receive \$65.7 billion in the next year as well. Gov. Brown also acknowledged the challenges facing public education in the state: teacher training, mastery of Common Core, LCFF implementation and the affordability of state colleges and universities.

In a [statement](#), **CSBA** said it "remains committed to working closely with the Governor and state leaders to ensure the successful implementation of the Local Control Funding Formula, advocating for funding adequacy for K-12 education, and eliminating laws that are the result of 'micromanagement from afar,' which hinders the ability of locally elected school leaders to oversee our public schools."

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson also began his second term this month. At his swearing in ceremony, Torlakson outlined his plans, including implementing the LCFF, updating A Blueprint For Great Schools initiative, expanding career education programs that bring together high schools, community colleges and businesses, and maintaining and increasing investment in our schools.

Jesús M. Holguín new CSBA President

New officers selected for Executive Committee, Director-at-Large positions

Jesús M. Holguín, a board member of the Moreno Valley Unified School District in Region 18, Riverside County, took office as CSBA's

MIG Course 4: Human Resources/Collective Bargaining

Feb. 7 - Burlingame
March 14 - San Diego

MIG Course 5: Community Relations & Advocacy/Gov. Integration

Feb. 7 - Burlingame
March 14 - San Diego

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President following the Annual Education Conference and Trade Show in San Francisco. Holguín succeeds Josephine Lucey of the Cupertino Union School District near San Jose. Lucey will serve another year on the association's Executive Committee as CSBA's Immediate Past President. Joining Holguín and Lucey on the Executive Committee is President-elect Chris Ungar, a board member in the San Luis Unified School District. Calaveras Unified School District board member Sherri Reusche was elected Vice President. Also **elected** at the 2014 Delegate Assembly were:

Kathryn Ramirez, Director-at-Large Hispanic and Robert Gin, Director-at-Large Asian/Pacific Islander.

In addition, the following are new directors for their respective regions:

Region 8 – Matthew Balzarini, Lammersville Jt. Unified School District
Region 12 – Bill Farris, Sierra Sands Unified School District
Region 20 – Albert Gonzalez, Santa Clara Unified School District
and Juliana Feriani, from Toulumne County Office of Education is the CCBF 2015 President.

Federal funding approved for agencies in December
School districts are among the beneficiaries

HR 83, a funding and appropriations bill signed by President Obama in December, includes changes in funding for several programs central to school districts. These changes include:

- increases for Title I grants for disadvantaged students and special education grants under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, with up to \$25 million for each program
- increases in English Language Acquisition grants by \$14 million to help school districts accommodate unaccompanied minors
- favorable School Improvement Grants guidelines that provide more options for locally designed school turnaround programs
- flexibility for school districts under some child nutrition standards
- level-funded grants of \$25 million for school kitchen equipment
- elimination of a decrease in funding for competitive grant programs, including Race to the Top

In other federal news, **the FCC** has approved modernizing the E-rate program. The improvements include \$1.5 billion in additional funds for broadband access and digital learning opportunities for schools and libraries. This will allow thousands of additional schools and libraries, especially in rural and remote areas, to access high-speed Internet connections. In total, E-rate funding is now just over \$3.9 billion and will help school districts with 21st century learning opportunities.

Twenty-six percent of California children live in food insecure homes

California has low participation in federal food assistance program

Kidsdata.org reports that 4.5 million Californians participated in the **CalFresh** supplemental food program, formerly known as Food Stamps. Latino and white households represented the majority of CalFresh recipients in 2014, accounting for more than 75 percent of the approximately 2 million total households receiving assistance. According to Kidsdata.org, roughly one in four children in California lives in a food insecure household. At the same time, California has the lowest rate of federal food assistance participation after Wyoming. Approximately, 57 percent of eligible children and adults participate in

CalFresh, according to U.S. Department of Agriculture research. Meanwhile, research shows that subsidized school meals that provide safety-net nutrition for children helps improve children's health and school performance.

Events, Training and Opportunities

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Register for CSBA's annual Forecast Webcast *Experts to discuss topical issues in education for 2015*

CSBA's annual Forecast Webcast, an in-depth discussion on the most pertinent topics in the year ahead, takes place Jan. 22 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Panelists will discuss the coming year's economic climate, budget issues, and federal and legislative matters most likely to impact public education. The Forecast Webcast is moderated by CSBA's CEO & Executive Director Vernon M. Billy, and presented by a panel of industry experts. To learn more, or register, visit [CSBA Forecast Webcast](#).

Member Services

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CSBA's FlexFund Program offers lease/purchase financing for equipment and real property needs of \$5 million or less. Administered by George K. Baum & Company, the program can finance improvements to existing property and almost any major purchases of equipment, land or buildings, as well as smaller items such as furnishings and equipment. Our FlexFund lease program is also popular for financing interim construction in anticipation of receiving state aid or bond monies. Visit [CSBA's FlexFund](#) website or contact [Maria Thomas](#) at 800-266-3382, ext. 3304 for more information.

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

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