

California School News Weekly Update
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California schoolnews

weekly update



June 17, 2015

Upcoming Events

Agenda Online Training
June 18

[Webinar for Meeting Managers](#)
[Webinar for Staff](#)
[Submitters/Reviewers](#)
[Webinar for Board Members](#)

2015 Back to School Webcast
Sept. 10

CCBE Fall Conference
Sept. 11-13

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CORRECTION: The May 2015 issue of California School News incorrectly stated that CSBA supports AB 215 (Alejo-D) in the article, "Under the Dome". CSBA **opposes** AB 215, which further reduces the cap on Local Education Agency cash settlements with superintendents.

News

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Registration for AEC 2015 opens next Monday, June 22!

Housing registration available now

Registration for CSBA's Annual Education Conference and Trade Show opens Monday, June 22, but you can [register now for housing](#). The AEC Planning Committee is excited to announce this year's General Session speakers. The First General Session speaker, Sarah Lewis, is an art historian and a Du Bois Fellow at Harvard University who has served on President Obama's Arts Policy Committee and author of the book, "The Rise: Creativity, the Gift of Failure, and the Search for Mastery." Dr. Pedro Noguera, the second General Session speaker, is the Peter L. Agnew Professor of Education at New York University and is a sociologist whose work focuses on how schools are influenced by social and economic conditions. Dr. Noguera is the author of several books, including "Excellence Through Equity: Five Principles of Courageous Leadership to Guide Achievement for Every Student." The third General Session, the State of the State, will feature a discussion with Donna Brazile and Steve Schmidt. Political strategist Donna Brazile is an author, adjunct professor, former campaign manager for former Vice President Al Gore and the former chair of the Democratic National Committee's Voting Rights Institute. Steve Schmidt is an author, former strategist to President George W. Bush's re-election campaign and senior adviser to John McCain's presidential bid in 2007. AEC 2015 will be held Dec. 3-5 in San Diego. Check your mailbox in late July for information about AEC sessions. More information is available on the [AEC website](#).

Legislature announces budget deal with Governor
Schools expected to benefit an increase in funds

With a July 1 deadline for Gov. Jerry Brown's final signature looming, California Democrats secured a budget deal June 16. According to the Los Angeles Times, Democrats agreed to a more conservative budget favored by Gov. Brown. This proposal is for \$115.3 billion – \$2.2 billion less than the Democrats original request. For K-14 education this would mean more than \$13 billion. After years of cuts caused by the recession, state school districts and county offices of education could receive unprecedented increases. On the table are more funds for after-school programs, foster youth and higher education. Also on the table are a Gov. Brown proposal to spend part of the budget surplus on unreimbursed recession-era costs owed to school districts and county offices of education. CSBA continues to fight for a repeal of the cap on rainy day reserves. The reserve cap would limit school districts' ability to save and undermine local control. A final deal must be completed and signed by Gov. Brown by July. Visit [Ed Source](#) to read more.

Pending legislation will impact CAHSEE

Under SB 172, no administration of exam for three years

[Senate Bill 172](#) (Liu, D-La Cañada Flintridge), sponsored by State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson, proposes to suspend the administration of the California High School Exit Examination for three years, along with the requirement that students pass the examination as a condition of graduation from high school. Under the proposed bill, administration of the exam would be suspended during the 2015-16, 2017-18 and 2018-19 school years, or when the approved CAHSEE is no longer available. The bill also requires the California Department of Education to convene an advisory panel to provide recommendations to the state superintendent on the continuation of the exam and on alternative pathways to satisfy specified high school graduation requirements. In accordance with California Education Code Section 60851(d), there will be no July 2015 CAHSEE administration. SB 172 passed the Senate Appropriations Committee on May 28 and now moves to the full Senate for consideration.

California school districts confront drought

State water board awards conservation grants

The ongoing drought in California is hitting many of the state's school districts hard — particularly in the Central Valley. According to [Education Week](#), districts face water cutbacks, declines in attendance and shrinking water resources. Gov. Jerry Brown has mandated schools cut their water use by 4 to 36 percent, with possible fines for those that do not comply. Some school districts are seeing attendance plummet as agricultural work dries up. As a result, funding based on ADA has also gone down. The Kings Canyon Unified School District has reportedly experienced a \$1 million shortfall in 2014-15. Similarly, school districts are also having to handle displaced children whose parents are looking for work. Wells and drinking water are also in jeopardy. [See CSBA's recent brief on Safe Drinking Water to learn more.](#) Meanwhile, the [State Water Resources Control Board](#) has awarded \$30 million to 30 school districts for water education and storm water capture programs. A related workshop will also be held in Sacramento June 24 from 2:30 - 4 p.m. at the Cal/EPA Headquarters Building. For more information on the related workshop visit [water conservation workshop](#).

Events, Training and Opportunities

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Showcase educational excellence in California *Golden Bell Awards submission deadline is next week*

CSBA will accept applications through June 26 for the [2015 Golden Bell Awards](#) program promoting excellence in education and school board governance by honoring outstanding programs in districts and county offices of education throughout California. Winners will be showcased at the 2015 CSBA Annual Educational Conference and Trade Show at the San Diego Convention Center, Dec. 3-5, 2015. To view last year's winners, visit [2014 CSBA Golden Bell Awards](#). Celebrate a program and the hardworking staff and community members behind it and submit a Golden Bell Award application! For additional information on guidelines and applications, please visit the [Golden Bell Awards](#) website.

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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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