

To learn more go to [www.csba.org](http://www.csba.org) »

# California schoolnews

## Weekly Update

April 28, 2021

Opt in to receive texts about important education events and COVID-19 developments by texting CSBA4Kids to 52886.

### In this Issue

- [COVID-19 update: CDE enrollment data show sharp one-year decline for the 2020–21 academic year](#)
- [CSBA kicks off extended learning webinar series](#)
- [General Fund revenues \\$16.7 billion ahead of expectations](#)
- [Sample Mental Health Awareness Month resolution available](#)
- [Judge certifies class-action status, Reyes v. State of California](#)
- [Resister now for Delegate Assembly meeting](#)
- [Streamlined superintendent hiring for districts](#)

## COVID-19 update: CDE enrollment data show sharp one-year decline for the 2020–21 academic year



The California Department of Education on April 22 released official enrollment data for the 2020–21 academic year that showed a sharp one-year decline of 2.6 percent statewide — a decrease of more than 160,000 students. The annual snapshot spotlighted several trends, including a particularly drastic drop in enrollment among early grades.

**Eighty-eight percent of the statewide drop in enrollment from the prior year occurred in grades K-6**, with the largest grade-level decreases in enrollment data found in kindergarten and in grade six. **Kindergarten alone accounted for more than a third of the statewide decline.**

A deeper dive of racial and ethnic enrollment data from 2019–20 to 2020–21 shows that the total enrollment of African American students declined 0.1 percentage point (5.3 to 5.2); the percentage of Asian students increased 0.2 percentage points (9.3 to 9.5); Hispanic/Latino student enrollment increased 0.4 percentage points (54.9 to 55.3); and the percentage of white students decreased 0.7 percentage points (22.4 to 21.7).

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond said **the CDE will redouble its efforts to work with school leaders to gain a deeper understanding of the reasons behind the drop**, while helping districts bolster effective student and family engagement strategies in the weeks and months ahead. **Under state law enacted during the pandemic, school districts will not experience a decline in revenues due to 2020–21 enrollment figures.** [Updated enrollment data is available on Data Quest](#) »

### In other COVID-19 developments:

- The U.S. Department of Education [announced](#) on April 23 plans to distribute \$800 million to help support the needs of students experiencing homelessness. California is expected to receive close to \$99 million total under the American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief – Homeless Children and Youth fund, with an April allocation of nearly \$25 million. There is an urgent need to use this funding to identify homeless children and youth, provide wraparound services in light of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, and provide assistance to enable homeless children and youth to attend school and participate fully in school activities, including in-person instruction this spring and upcoming summer programs. [Learn more](#) »

- Early analyses suggest that **English learners have been disproportionately impacted by implementation of distance learning during the pandemic**, particularly in the critical early grades. Given these disparities, **districts must provide additional supports to ensure English learners have equitable access to the curriculum, including in the STEM subjects**. A [new CSBA governance brief](#) explores **key characteristics of quality learning of mathematics and science for English learners**; a range of options for supporting English learners in hybrid and online learning environments; questions governing board members can ask to encourage these teacher practices and systemic coherence and more. [Read the brief »](#)

## CSBA kicks off extended learning webinar series

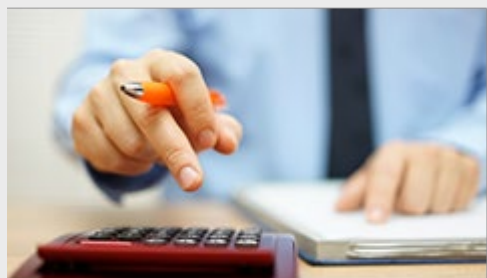


After a year of disrupted learning due to COVID-19, public education will never be the same — nor should it be. **CSBA opened its two-part webinar series exploring strategies, investments and best practices to help guide schools as they prepare for summer school and for extended learning initiatives with an examination of successful summer programs**. Due to the

impact of the pandemic, “we know that there are going to be a high amount of student needs as we begin to return to the classroom,” said CSBA Director of Research and Education Policy Development Mary Briggs. “Getting back to what used to be normal isn’t going to be quite good enough anymore so **we’re thinking about the ways that we can welcome our students back to school in a way that is safe and addresses all of the challenges they have faced so they’re ready to learn.**” [Read more on the CSBA blog »](#)

The **second webinar, “Extending Learning: Governance for Developing Effective Learning Recovery Plans,” will take place May 4 at 11 a.m.** and feature panelists including Orange Unified School District Assistant Superintendent of business services David Rivera and Kelsey Krausen, senior engagement manager with the Comprehensive School Assistance Program at WestEd **discussing the California Department of Education’s Extended Learning Opportunities Grants and ways to get the most from the grant allocation.** [Register now](#) | [Watch the first webinar](#)

## General Fund revenues \$16.7 billion ahead of expectations



The **California Department of Finance announced on April 23 that General Fund revenues are \$16.7 billion ahead of what the department expected** the state would have through March. **K-12 schools and community colleges are guaranteed roughly 40 percent of general fund revenues.** Gov. Gavin Newsom and lawmakers will likely have more to allocate to various support programs and

sectors most impacted by the pandemic, but **the Legislative Analyst’s Office also noted last week that California is running close to a rarely invoked 1979 appropriations limit.** The Gann Limit, as it is known, **requires that any revenues beyond the appropriations limit must be split between tax refunds and education spending.** However, budget writers could avert some of those requirements through several maneuvers, including sending more money to local governments or lowering taxes, according to the LAO.

## Sample Mental Health Awareness Month resolution available



Each year **millions of Americans face the reality of living with a mental illness — a challenge that has been exponentially exacerbated by the isolation and extreme stress many have dealt with in the past year as a result of the pandemic and precautions taken to slow the spread of the virus.** The good news is that, although more children have had more **adverse childhood**

**experiences** (ACEs) since March 2020, ACEs can be prevented and quick intervention can mitigate long-term impacts on students' long term physical and mental health. **CSBA has provided a sample resolution that districts can adopt proclaiming the month of May as Mental Health Awareness Month and expressing support of students and staff challenged by mental illness.** Find copies of the resolution as a **PDF** or **Word file**, as well as other **sample resolutions** »

## Judge certifies class-action status, Reyes v. State of California



By **order** of a Superior Court in Sacramento County, **class certification has been granted to a group of nonclassroom-based charter schools and individual students to represent all 308 California nonclassroom-based charter schools in a lawsuit challenging the state's nonclassroom-based charter school funding for the 2020–21 school year**, which the plaintiffs allege

violate the Charter Schools Act and the California Constitution.

At issue are Education Code sections 43502 and 43505, added by Senate Bill 98 and amended by SB 820. **The laws kept school funding statewide at the 2019–20 student average daily attendance levels to ensure stable funding** for school districts and charter schools during the COVID-19 pandemic. The **plaintiffs claim that with their growing enrollment in the 2020–21 school year, their newly enrolled students, for whom they will not receive state funding, will have to be accommodated with funding meant for their existing students.** Plaintiffs also allege that their financial conditions are made worse by the state's deferral of up to 36 percent of payments due to them in the 2020–21 school year into the next school year.

In this class action, the **plaintiffs are seeking a declaratory judgment against the state for violating the California Constitution, a permanent injunction prohibiting the implementation of affected provisions**, and issuance of writ compelling the state to fund the charter schools for the 2020–21 school year without the limits imposed by SB 98 and SB 820. **Read more on the CSBA blog** »

## Resister now for Delegate Assembly meeting



All Delegates are eligible to attend the **upcoming Delegate Assembly meeting, on Saturday and Sunday, May 15–16, 2021, via Zoom. There is no fee, but registration is required to attend.** CSBA's Delegate Assembly is a vital link in the association's governance structure. Working with local districts, county offices, the Board of Directors and Executive Committee, Delegates ensure

that the association reflects the interests of school districts and county offices of education throughout the state. There are two required Delegate Assembly meetings each year. **Register** »

## Streamlined superintendent hiring for districts



professionalism. [Learn more »](#)

In partnership with McPherson & Jacobson, L.L.C., CSBA offers Executive Search Service to **provide districts and county offices of education with a streamlined process to meet their executive hiring needs.** From identifying possible candidates to the selection of a qualified superintendent, Executive Search Services offers an extensive and comprehensive process that guides the board through this critical time with ease and

## COVID-19 resources

Stay up to date with the latest news and resources related to COVID-19 on [CSBA's dedicated webpage](#) and with articles frequently posted on the newly redesigned [CSBA blog](#).

## Virtual events

**Webinar: Extending Learning: Governance for Developing Effective Learning Recovery Plans**  
May 4, 11 a.m. | [Register here](#)

**2021 Delegate Assembly Meeting**  
May 15-16 | [Register here](#)

**2021 CCSA Virtual Spring Workshop**  
May 21 | [Register here](#)

**MIG Course 5: Community Relations & Advocacy/Governance Integration**  
June 11-12 | [Registration closed](#)

**2021 Executive Assistants Certification Program (Gamma Cohort)**  
July 30 - Nov. 5 | [Registration closed](#)

**2021 Executive Assistants Certification Program (Delta Cohort)**  
Aug. 13 - Nov. 19 | [Registration closed](#)

[View complete calendar](#)

## Business Services

PIPER | SANDLER



California School  
**Cash Reserve  
Program**

