

To learn more go to www.csba.org »

California schoolnews

Weekly Update

June 2, 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: Dept. of Education issues guidance on use of federal relief funds
- CSBA broadcasts its message of board member appreciation
- After CSBA lawsuits, state includes a rebenching of the Proposition 98 guarantee in May Revision
- Legislative update: Final budget negotiations begin
- Save the date: AEC registration opens June 8
- CSBA's new business partners can help your LEA with COVID-19 mitigation
- Register for new webinar about meaningful communication with stakeholders

COVID-19 update: Department of Education issues guidance on use of federal relief funds



The U.S. Department of Education released [Frequently Asked Questions](#) about how states and school districts may use funding provided through the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund and the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. The document includes a long list of allowable uses

relating to learning recovery initiatives, COVID-19 mitigation strategies, purchasing technology, providing mental health services and supports, summer learning initiatives, facilities repairs and more. If you have questions not answered in the FAQ guidance related to ESSER, email ESSERF@ed.gov; for GEER questions, email GEERF@ed.gov.

In other COVID-19 developments:

- President Joe Biden on May 28 released his [Fiscal Year 2022 budget request](#), which includes **\$102.8 billion for education** (a 40 percent increase over FY21 enacted levels). Included in the request is: **\$20 billion increase to Title I**; \$85 billion 10-year investment in Pell grants for an increase of \$1,875 to the maximum grant award for year 2022–23; **\$15.5 billion for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (a \$2.6 billion increase over FY21 enacted levels)**; 400 million for Teacher Quality Partnership grants, \$1.6 billion to support additional certifications for over 100,000 teachers in high-demand areas and \$30 million to recruit and train school leaders; and **\$100 billion over 10 years for broadband investment**. The work of the various Appropriations Subcommittees will continue in order to put together recommendations for the full Appropriations Committee. **The Senate has scheduled its first budget hearing on June 8.** The federal fiscal year ends on Sept. 30, 2021. [Learn more »](#)

CSBA broadcasts its message of board member appreciation



As part of its [School Boards in Action](#) campaign, CSBA is taking its message to the airwaves with [this radio ad](#). On May 17, the ad debuted in the **Sacramento and Los Angeles metro areas**, emphasizing the critical role school boards have played in supporting students and families despite incredibly adverse conditions. On May 25, the campaign **expanded to include stations in the Fresno**

and San Diego markets. The spots **emphasize how schools have gone beyond their traditional functions to become technology centers, food distribution networks and public health resources, among other valuable services**. It also focuses on the intense preparations school boards are making for summer school and the return to full-time, in-person instruction this fall. [Listen to the radio spot »](#)

After CSBA lawsuits, state includes a rebenching of the Proposition 98 guarantee in May Revision



As CSBA detailed recently in its [summary of the May Revision of the Governor's budget](#), the plan **proposes to expand transitional kindergarten to provide a minimum of three hours of instructional time for all 4-year-olds in the state**, beginning with an investment of \$900 million for the 2022–23 school year and ramping up to \$2.7 billion in 2024–25, with the goal of serving 250,000 new

TK students. **The proposal includes a rebenching of the Proposition 98 guarantee to adjust for the new students.**

Rebenching the Proposition 98 guarantee is an important shift in California's approach that is **responsive to CSBA's legal advocacy**. In 2015, **CSBA and its Education Legal Alliance filed *CSBA v. Cohen*, which challenged the state's failure to increase the minimum guarantee to account for child care spending added in Proposition 98 without rebenching the minimum guarantee calculation higher to reflect this additional education expense**. This effectively lowered the amount of money education received. In 2016, the [superior court held in favor of CSBA](#), finding that the state was required to rebench the minimum guarantee. On appeal, [CSBA settled the case along with two other lawsuits against the state](#), **ensuring public schools received repayment of \$686 million** due to prior year underpayments. [Read more on the CSBA blog »](#)

Legislative update: Final budget negotiations begin



The Assembly and Senate on June 1 announced a budget deal and will now begin final negotiations with Gov. Gavin Newsom. The Legislature's proposal contains good news for schools:

Payment deferrals: The Legislature has agreed with CSBA's advocacy that the final June apportionment deferral of \$2.7 billion should be paid before moving to fund new

programs.

Pension relief: The proposal covers increased pension costs to local educational agencies and community college districts over a four-year period with almost \$3 billion — another key point of CSBA advocacy.

Unemployment Insurance relief: The proposal reduces the increase in the Unemployment Insurance rate for the School Employees Fund from a 1.23 percent increase to a 0.5 percent increase. Although this does not fully cover the increase, it goes a long way in helping to reduce the unanticipated costs.

Universal transitional kindergarten: Several changes were proposed, including a phased roll out over the next five years and a rebenching of Proposition 98 to meet the increased funding needs associated with a programmatic expansion of this size. CSBA will continue to advocate to guarantee the rebenching and to address additional costs such as one-time funding for school facilities and transportation.

Issues remain, however, with proposed cost-of-living adjustments and the Education Revenue Augmentation Fund (ERAF). CSBA is supportive of the Legislature's proposed 4.05 percent COLA for all categorical programs, special education and the After School Education & Safety program and is **advocating to extend the Super COLA of 5.07 percent for LCFF to include special education and home-to-school transportation**.

Both the Governor and Legislature failed to address the need to close a loophole that is currently exploited to exclude charter school ADA from the excess ERAF calculation, **resulting in an immediate \$900 million loss, and a \$350–500 million ongoing loss in Proposition 98 funding.** This equates to about \$60-80 per ADA statewide. [Read more details on the CSBA blog »](#)

Save the date: AEC registration opens June 8



Registration for the 2021 CSBA Annual Education Conference and Trade Show and housing opens on Tuesday, June 8. This year, there are two ways members can experience CSBA's premier continuing education program — in person in San Diego or virtually. **In-person AEC will take place from Dec. 2–4 in San Diego. Virtual AEC will take place Dec. 9–10,** from wherever is most

convenient for you. Don't miss your opportunity to connect with education leaders from across the state, learn about key education issues and bring back ideas and strategies to improve student achievement and well-being.

Download the [registration worksheet](#) for specific rates on AEC conference fees, pre-conference activities, meal functions and more. When registration opens on June 8, at 8 a.m., you'll be able to register and book your housing in one easy transaction by going to the AEC registration page and entering your member ID and last name. [Learn more »](#)

CSBA's new business partners can help your LEA with COVID-19 mitigation



CSBA has partnered with the [COVID Trakker](#); [Crisp Imaging](#); [LifeWings Peak Performance LLC](#) (LWPP); [The Maclean Group](#) and [R-Zero](#) to provide a Back-to-School Package for districts and county offices of education to address COVID-19 mitigation strategies. Services include [COVID-19 Tracing and Updates](#) by COVID Trakker; Crisp Imaging's [PPE and Document](#)

[Scanning](#) program, which provides custom-designed products like protective acrylic barriers, infographics and masks, as well as document scanning and management; the [Safer Air Initiative](#) by LWPP, which combines aerosol studies, ventilation, engineering and medical management to offer HVAC strategies for COVID-19 mitigation; the Maclean Group's [Air Purification and Safety Supplies](#) program, consisting of Delos ventilation and air purification equipment, N95 and surgical masks and sanitizing products; and R-Zero's [Hospital-Grade UV-C Disinfection](#) program, which uses a germ-killing UV-C light at a fraction of the cost of comparable products sold in hospitals. [Learn more »](#)

Register for new webinar about meaningful communication with stakeholders



Join CSBA and the Donovan Group on June 10 at 2 p.m. for "**Communicating in a time of change: Connecting to stakeholders, responding to crisis.**" This webinar will focus on the **principles of communication and crisis management that will promote clarity while preventing or minimizing the damage a crisis can inflict on an organization, its stakeholders and its reputation.** Effective

communication and management are always important for school leaders, but getting communications right is even more critical as we emerge from the pandemic. [Register now »](#)

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](#).

Business Services

Virtual events

MIG Course 1: Foundations of Effective Governance/Setting Direction

June 25-26 | [Register here](#)

MIG Course 2: Student Learning & Achievement/Policy & Judicial Review

July 16-17 | [Register here](#)

MIG Course 1: Foundations of Effective Governance/Setting Direction

July 26 and 28 | [Register here](#)

MIG Course 3: School Finance

August 6-7 | [Register here](#)

MIG COE Course 1: Foundations of Effective Governance/Setting Direction

August 19 and 21 | [Register here](#)

MIG Course 4: Human Resources/Collective Bargaining

August 20-21 | [Register here](#)

[View complete calendar](#)



California School Boards Association | 3251 Beacon Blvd., West Sacramento, CA 95691
Phone: (800) 266-3382 | Fax: (916) 371-3407
[Website](#) | [Privacy Policy](#)