

California schoolnews

Weekly Update

April 6, 2022

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

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COVID-19 update: CDPH updates guidance for K-12 schools with new recommendations for students exposed to COVID-19



On April 6, the **California Department of Public Health** announced updates to the **COVID-19 Public Health Guidance for K-12 Schools in California** in its



recommendations for students exposed to COVID-19. **Beginning today, schools may consider permitting exposed students who are asymptomatic, regardless of their**

COVID-19 vaccination status or location of exposure, to continue to take part in all aspects of K-12 schooling, including sports and extracurricular activities, unless they develop symptoms or test positive for COVID-19.

Exposed students, regardless of COVID-19 vaccination status, should get tested for COVID-19 with at least one diagnostic test (e.g., an FDA-authorized antigen diagnostic test, PCR diagnostic test or pooled PCR test) obtained within three to five days after last exposure, unless they had COVID-19 within the last 90 days. It is also strongly recommended that exposed students wear a well-fitting mask indoors around others for at least 10 days following the date of last exposure.

Exposed students who had COVID-19 within the last 90 days do not need to be tested after exposure but should monitor for symptoms. If symptoms develop, they should isolate and get tested with an antigen test. Districts should follow the [Group Tracing Guidance](#) for notification recommendations for exposures that occur in a school setting. [Read the updated guidance »](#)

In other COVID-19 news:

- **To support the continued recruitment of new school bus drivers during the pandemic, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration granted a [90-day extension](#) of its temporary waiver of the “under-the-hood” skills test that is part of a new commercial driver’s license application. This waiver was effective as of April 1, 2022, and expires on June 30, 2022. [Learn more »](#)**
- U.S. Senators Debbie Stabenow (D-Michigan), chairwoman of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, and Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska) along with 50 of their colleagues introduced **the Support Kids Not Red Tape Act on March 31. The bill would extend the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s school meal flexibilities through September 2023. [Learn more »](#)**

CSBA webinar: The ABCs of UTK – Planning for Universal Transitional Kindergarten in your District



On April 7, CSBA will host a panel of experts who will discuss implementation considerations for California’s initiative to expand transitional kindergarten to all 4-year-old students by 2025. Join us for essential insights and examples of early TK expansion from the perspectives of local educational agency leaders, researchers and the California Department of Education.

This webinar is a **part of an extensive set of resources that CSBA, partnering with authors from UC Berkeley, has created, including a policy brief, case studies from districts that have implemented TK and research on the current state of TK in California.** [Register now »](#)

Legal update: Supreme Court rules on censure of board member in community college case



On March 24, 2022, the **United States Supreme Court unanimously ruled in the case of *Houston Community College System v. Wilson* that a community college system’s board’s censure of one of its members did not violate the member’s First Amendment rights.** The community college board censured the plaintiff, David Wilson, due to his actions, including filing several lawsuits against the college system,

making comments in the media and to constituents alleging other board members had violated their own bylaws and ethical rules, and hiring a private investigator to surveil another board member. Wilson alleged that the censure constituted retaliation for his exercise of his First Amendment rights.

Justice Gorsuch, writing for the unanimous Court, discussed the long history of government bodies censuring their members. The opinion then went on to hold that, **to maintain a First Amendment retaliation claim, the plaintiff must show that they suffered an “adverse action” that would chill their exercise of free speech rights.** The Court stated that, in these narrow circumstances, the censure did not constitute an adverse action for two reasons:

- Wilson was an **elected official who is expected to shoulder a degree of criticism about his public service from both constituents and peers** and not be chilled from engaging in further First Amendment expression.
- The **censure was a form of speech by the plaintiff’s fellow board members, and that Wilson’s First Amendment rights “cannot be used as a weapon to silence other representatives” from engaging in their free speech rights.** In addition, the censure did not prevent Wilson from continuing in office, which would likely have been an adverse action.

The Court focused on the fact that, in this case, “everyone involved was an equal member of the same deliberative body” and stated that its holding is “narrow” and may not apply to students or employees who allege they have been retaliated against for the exercise of their First Amendment rights by a reprimand or censure.

Legislative update: Expanded Learning Opportunities Program



As the legislative session and budget season



continue, a topic of continued interest for schools is the Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELOP). Last year, **Gov. Gavin Newsom announced this substantial new program, using \$5 billion in ongoing Proposition 98 funding to significantly expand before- and after-school and summer programs over a five-**

year period. The Governor doubled down on this new program in his **January budget proposal by accelerating the dispersal of funding with an allocation of \$3.4 billion.**

Yet **significant challenges remain for many schools in implementing the program's ambitious vision.** As discussions move forward, **CSBA is focusing on three areas of concern:**

- **Economies of scale:** While the goals of the program are laudable, school districts continue to face substantial hurdles in scaling services up to meet its ambitious vision. **Staffing shortages, facility capacity and other logistical challenges present difficulties in expending the funding in line with the program's statutory requirements.**
- **Ongoing Proposition 98 funding:** ELOP represents a substantial investment of ongoing Proposition 98 funding. While efforts to address lost learning opportunities due to the pandemic are a priority, **there are other areas where this funding would be of equal or greater benefit and students may be better served by an increase in funding to the Local Control Funding Formula** above the statutorily mandated cost-of-living adjustment.
- **Capacity concerns:** Many **districts are facing capacity issues due to lack of availability of staff** for the program and, in some areas, **lack of community organizations with which to partner.**

AEC call for proposals open now



CSBA is now **accepting workshop and table talk proposals for the 2022 Annual Education Conference and Trade Show.** AEC is the place to showcase your district's or county office's innovative and successful programs and ideas. Join us Dec. 1–3 in San Diego to share your knowledge and expertise with colleagues from across the state. Please **visit the [AEC website](#) to view the call for proposal requirements,**

criteria for a strong proposal, 2022 strand descriptions, workshop and table talk details, presenter types and more. Proposals **must be submitted no later than May 20, 2022.** [Submit proposals »](#)

Nominations open for 2023 CSBA officers



The CSBA Candidate Review Committee invites CSBA members to **participate in this year's election process for the offices of Vice President and President-elect**. Submit a nomination form for yourself or for another member with their consent or encourage potential candidates to run for CSBA office. Each nomination for CSBA President-elect or Vice President may only be submitted by a CSBA

member governing board or by any individual board member whose board is a current member of CSBA. **Officer Nomination Forms are due no later than June 1, 2022.**

[Learn more »](#)

High-quality, data-informed maps driven by transparency



Redistricting is the process of redrawing and rebalancing legislative and local jurisdictional district boundaries every 10 years following the decennial US Census — a process that has only become more complex since the passage of the Fair Maps Act in 2019. **Redistricting Partners has developed a program that allows boards to have a fair, open redistricting that follows best practices and engages communities while**

ensuring the highest-quality final product. Redistricting Partners has partnered with CSBA to deliver districting or redistricting services to school boards in a **cost-effective way that is data informed, community driven and board focused.** [Learn more »](#)

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 [CSBA blog](#).

Virtual events

MIG Course 2: Student Learning & Achievement/Policy & Judicial Review
April 12-13 | [Register](#)

Sponsors



[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)



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

April 14-15 | [Register](#)

MIG Course 3: School Finance Part 1 and Part 2

April 19-20 | [Register](#)

MIG Course 3: School Finance Part 1 and Part 2

April 29-30 | [Register](#)

MIG Course 3: School Finance Part 1 and Part 2

May 3-4 | [Register](#)

MIG Course 4: Human Resources/Collective Bargaining

May 5-6 | [Register](#)

PIPER | SANDLER



In-person events

2022 Leadership Institute

July 22-23 | Los Angeles | [Register](#)

[View complete calendar](#)



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