

California schoolnews

Weekly Update

March 23, 2022

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Legislative update: School boards made an impact during Legislative Action Week



More than 370 board members and superintendents representing school districts and county offices of education from across California came together during Legislative Action Week to meet remotely with more than one hundred state legislators and their staff. CSBA offered this flagship event in a virtual format

that allowed a record number of attendees to share their perspective as local leaders with legislators in Sacramento.

Rising to the **top of the agenda for school board members were two of CSBA's key budget issues this year, increasing the base Local Control Funding Formula and school employer pension relief.** With state budget negotiations in progress now, members shared their lived local experience on these issues with legislators, reiterating CSBA's requests for each:

- The state should invest heavily in the LCFF to ensure that schools can meet rising costs, remain competitive in attracting and retaining high-quality personnel and — most importantly — help improve student outcomes and provide for their mental health and wellbeing.
- The state should continue to commit non-Proposition 98 General Fund allocations to help reduce employer contribution rates for CalSTRS and CalPERS in the short- and long-term.

As the legislative session continues and budget negotiations between the Legislature and Gov. Newsom move forward, **the local perspective and advocacy school board members brought to the Capitol during Legislative Action Week will be pivotal in informing the votes of Senators and Assemblymembers.** [Read more on what members spoke about during Legislative Action Week »](#)

Local Educational Agency Medi-Cal Billing Option program



The **Department of Health Care Services and California Department of Education** are collaborating to increase the number of local educational agencies that participate in the **LEA Medi-Cal Billing Option program**, as well as to increase the reimbursement amounts for those already participating.

DHCS has released the **updated onboarding handbook** to provide

guidance and support for participating school staff who provide services to acquire the necessary knowledge and skills to become effective participants in the program. Additional information about the LEA Medi-Cal Billing Option program is available in the **DHCS LEA Program State Plan** and the **DHCS LEA BOP Provider Manual**. For general questions, email LEA@dhcs.ca.gov.

CalSHAPE funding for public school upgrades



The **California Schools Healthy Air, Plumbing, and Efficiency Program (CalSHAPE)** is providing funding to upgrade



heating, air conditioning and ventilation systems in public schools. Applications for the second round of funding, which includes \$210 million in available funds, **will begin on March 28 at 10 a.m. and close on May 31 at 5**

p.m. Grants are awarded only for projects at sites located in an underserved community as defined in Chapter 1, Section E of the guidelines. [More information »](#)

On March 17, the **Biden Administration also launched the Clean Air in Buildings Challenge**, which calls on all building owners and operators, schools, colleges and universities, and other organizations to adopt key strategies to improve indoor air quality in their buildings and reduce the spread of COVID-19. CSBA partner **LifeWings Peak Performance LLC's (LWPP) Safer Air Initiative** combines aerosol studies, ventilation, engineering and medical management to offer HVAC strategies for COVID-19 mitigation.

Mathematics framework revision open for public review



The **second 60-day public review of the draft mathematics framework** began on March 14. The current draft reflects input from parents, educators, students and others who commented during the first review period and during the Instructional Quality Commission's May 2021 meeting. **The draft provides guidance for mathematics learning for all students at all levels of math — including calculus — and**

ensures students have a wide variety of options, including pursuing science, technology, engineering and math in college and career. Also available are revised [Frequently Asked Questions](#) about the current draft. Comments will be accepted at mathframework@cde.ca.gov through May 16. **All comments received will be forwarded to the State Board of Education, which is expected to take final action on the framework at its July meeting.**

Register for the 2022 Leadership Institute



CSBA's **2022 Leadership Institute will take place in person in Los Angeles, July 22–23.** **“Leadership in a time of chaos, change and opportunity” provides a unique opportunity to strengthen your leadership skills** in the midst of this chaotic time in K-12 public education.

Attendees will have the opportunity to engage with keynote speakers and **collaborate with peers across the state during sessions dedicated to**

community engagement, board meeting management, governance, budgeting, crisis communications and more.

This year's **keynote speakers** are **Dr. Victor Rios, associate dean of Social Sciences and professor of Sociology at the University of California, Santa Barbara, and Dr. Natalie Stavas, a physician at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.** Rios works with school districts around the state to develop programs for students who have been left behind in their education. Stavas is a strong advocate for preventing childhood violence, and as one of the many heroes of the Boston Marathon bombings, has a strong message about responding to crisis. [Learn more and register »](#)

Public comment open for E-rate program competitive bidding rules changes



The **Federal Communications Commission extended the deadline** for filing public comments in response to the agency's proposed changes to the E-rate program's competitive bidding rules. Comments must now be submitted by April 27 and reply comments are due no later than May 27. The federal **E-rate program** helps schools and libraries to obtain affordable broadband.

March newsletter available online



CSBA's **March newsletter, now available to read online, covers budget advocacy priorities for 2022–23 like increasing funding for the Local Control Funding Formula base to allow for the best use of funds locally, pension relief and more.** Also included is a spotlight on a new report from the University of California, Los Angeles' cityLAB, UC Berkeley's Center for Cities + Schools and Turner Center for Housing

Innovation, in collaboration with CSBA and the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative, **reviewing the need for education workforce housing solutions;** a breakdown on the importance of **identifying homeless students to provide proper supports,** and more. [Read the newsletter »](#)

Coverage you need to ensure student and district safety



Accidents happen. Are your students covered? To



help members best address insurance-related issues, **CSBA has joined forces with California's leading provider of student accident and sickness insurance.** Myers-Stevens & Toohy is a full-service administrator based in Southern California that has worked closely with public K-12 schools for over 35 years.

CSBA's **sponsored catastrophic injury coverage is affordable and can be extended to cover all school activities**, including travel to and from home and school. [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 1: Foundations of Effective Governance/Setting Direction
March 25-26 | [Register](#)

MIG Course 2: Student Learning & Achievement/Policy & Judicial Review
April 6-7 | [Register](#)

MIG Course 2: Student Learning & Achievement/Policy & Judicial Review
April 8-9 | [Register](#)

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

MIG Course 2: Student Learning & Achievement/Policy & Judicial Review
April 14-15 | [Register](#)

In-person events

2022 Leadership Institute
July 22-23 | Los Angeles | [Register](#)

Sponsors



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