

California schoolnews

Weekly Update

November 2, 2022

In this Issue

- *What's New in 2023* highlights new education laws
- Legal update: Attorney General issues opinion regarding school board vacancies
- CDPH clarifies CDC recommendation for COVID-19 vaccines
- 2022 AEC keynote speakers bring unique perspectives to public education
- Federal update: School infrastructure, transportation and other initiatives get a boost
- 2022 School Dashboard webinar series
- School Boards in Action: MetroED's focus on CTE in need of sustained funding
- Help keep students and staff in school with COVID Tracker

What's New in 2023 highlights new education laws



To cap off the legislative year, **CSBA's *What's New for 2023* report provides local education leaders with a compilation of new laws signed by Gov. Gavin Newsom in 2022 that have an impact on public education in California.**

What's New for 2023 is the product of months of work by CSBA staff to provide school board members and local educational agency staff a guide to laws that have or will go into effect in 2023. Over the course of the 2021–22 legislative session, CSBA Governmental Relations staff tracked and advocated on hundreds of bills affecting public education. The new report is **a helpful tool in**

navigating legislation that was adopted into law. The report provides a summary of each new law along with CSBA's position and identifies expected impacts on governing board policies and other helpful details. [Read the report »](#)

Legal update: Attorney General issues opinion regarding school board vacancies



On Oct. 27, 2022, the **California Attorney General issued an opinion addressing two specific questions posed by Assemblymember Marc Berman related to filling vacancies on school district boards or county boards of education.** Neither question is expressly addressed in the law, making them difficult to navigate, especially as school board vacancies have increased and trustee area boundaries are

changing.

First, the opinion **considers the situation in which a school district changes from at-large school board elections to by-trustee area elections and a vacancy arises in a seat held by a board member who was elected at large.** On this question, the opinion states that **the old at-large election method used in the previous election should be used when filling the vacant seat.** Second, the opinion **considers when a school district revises its trustee area boundaries following the decennial census and a vacancy arises in a seat held by a board member elected using the old boundaries.** As to this question, the opinion states that **the previous, unrevised boundaries should be used when filling the vacant seat.**

While Attorney General opinions are not binding law, they nonetheless provide guidance on how the law could be interpreted and courts give them weight when considering legal questions. [Read more on the CSBA blog »](#)

CDPH clarifies CDC recommendation for COVID-19 vaccines



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's independent vaccine advisory committee's **recent vote to add COVID-19 vaccines to the routine childhood vaccine schedule does not mean COVID-19 vaccines are now required for school entry,** according to the California Department of Public Health. The CDC recommendation **requires health insurance companies to cover the cost of the**

immunization, and the federal government can continue to provide it for free to low-income families.

California continues to support K-12 students and staff in accessing the COVID-19 vaccine, which has been shown to be safe and effective, and is a major factor in why the state is in a position to wind down emergency processes, according to CDPH officials. **It is important for parents to stay up to date on their children's vaccinations**, including the flu and getting boosted for COVID-19 to help prevent the spread of respiratory virus transmission, especially as the holiday season approaches with increasing indoor gatherings and travel. **Mobile vaccination services remain available for any K-12 school within the state.** [Learn more »](#)

2022 AEC keynote speakers bring unique perspectives to public education



CSBA's 2022 Annual Education Conference and Trade Show features dynamic and educational General Sessions, including keynote addresses from two nationally acclaimed authors. **Brandon P. Fleming's** story of struggle, success and service, beginning as an at-risk young person and college dropout who became an award-winning educator, is chronicled in his 2021 memoir, *MISEDUCATED*. He has earned

accolades including being named one of the 100 most influential African Americans in the U.S. in 2020 by *The Root* magazine and landing on *Forbes'* 30 under 30 list. **Fleming is the founder and CEO of The Veritas School of Social Sciences, previously called the Harvard Debate Council Diversity Project, which recruits underserved youth who do not have prior debate experience and trains them to compete. Fleming has raised over \$1 million in the last five years to enroll more than 150 students of color into Harvard's international summer debate residency on full scholarships.** His organization has helped Black students earn acceptance into universities including Harvard, Yale and Stanford.

Tara Westover had a less traditional relationship with public education than most young people in America. Her 2018 memoir, *Educated*, delves into the struggle Westover had reconciling her desire to pursue her education with a desire to be loyal to her family. **Westover, an Idaho native, never attended school growing up as her father opposed public education. A sibling taught her to read, but most of her time was spent at her father's junkyard or stewing herbs for her mother. At age 17, Westover stepped foot in a classroom for the first time and went on to spend a decade furthering her education.** In 2018, she was named one of *TIME* magazine's 100 most influential people. In addition to being one of *The New York Times'* 10 best books of 2018, *Educated* was voted Nonfiction Book of the Year by the American Booksellers Association. [Learn more and register for the event »](#)

Federal update: School infrastructure, transportation and other initiatives get a boost



On Oct. 26, Vice President Kamala Harris provided a six-month progress report on the [Biden-Harris Action Plan for Building Better School Infrastructure](#), outlining a series of actions from across the Administration to upgrade K-12 public schools with healthy, safe, sustainable facilities and transportation.

The Administration has secured historic legislative accomplishments that build on progress that's been made to deliver safer, healthier, and more environmentally sustainable learning environments for America's children since April, Harris said, all while "saving school districts money, creating good jobs, and combatting climate change." **In addition to the clean school bus rebate awards, other actions announced include upgrading school infrastructure, supporting clean energy in rural schools and improving indoor air quality.** [Learn more about the new initiatives »](#)

In other federal news:

- The **Government Accountability Office** published two reports in late October on critical K-12 issues. The first, [K-12 Education: Education Should Assess Its Efforts to Address Teacher Shortages](#), found that **while teacher shortages occurred nationwide, they "were more prevalent in specific geographic and demographic areas and specific subject matters.** GAO found that shortages were most prevalent in the West, urban and rural areas (not suburban), schools predominantly serving non-white students, and subjects such as science and foreign languages." The second report, [Critical Infrastructure Protection: Additional Federal Coordination Is Needed to Enhance K-12 Cybersecurity](#), includes **recommendations for both the departments of Education and Homeland Security to improve coordination of K-12 schools' cybersecurity** and to measure the effectiveness of products and services **at a time when districts are increasingly under threat of cyberattacks.**

2022 School Dashboard webinar series



The California Department of Education announced a **new webinar series designed to provide information and timely updates to district and school leaders, teachers and other members of the educational community regarding the Fall 2022 California School Dashboard and the [Dashboard Communications Toolkit](#).** This Dashboard

release marks the first since state and federal accountability requirements were waived or adjusted due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on local educational agencies. [Learn more and register »](#)

School Boards in Action: MetroED's focus on CTE in need of sustained funding



The **Metropolitan Education District's (MetroED) renowned Career Technical Education Campus**, located in the heart of Silicon Valley, gave a **behind-the-scenes tour to CSBA Public Affairs and Community Engagement Representative (PACER) in the Bay Area, Marty Fatooh**. Fatooh shares his experience observing MetroED's fire science class, which provides hands-on education and mentoring for the next generation of South Bay Fire and Emergency Medical Services personnel, on the **CSBA blog**.

Despite the incredible work being accomplished in the fire science, dental, electrical and other popular programs crucial to training California's incoming workforce, **"they are severely underfunded and are always fighting for dollars to keep the lights on," Fatooh found**. Much of MetroED's funding comes from its six joint powers agency districts with limited budgets as well as grants. "MetroED is the best kept, *underfunded* workforce development secret in Silicon Valley," said MetroED trustee and 2020 CSBA Board Member of the Year Chris Norwood. [Read more on the CSBA blog »](#)

Help keep students and staff in school with COVID Trakker



Schools are open for in-person instruction and student and faculty quarantines have become less common. Let COVID-19 Tracing and Updates, in partnership with the COVID TRAKKER, help keep it that way. **This tech-enabled contact tracing tool can identify and inform people who may be infected and contagious, so they can take steps to protect themselves and others. COVID**

Trakker helps keep students and teachers safe while reducing liabilities for organizations. [Learn more »](#)

Stay up to date with the latest news and resources on the [CSBA blog](#).

Virtual events

MIG Course 5: Community Relations & Advocacy/Governance Integration

Sponsors



Nov. 15-16 | [Register](#)

In-person events

What Executive Assistants and Board Presidents Need to Know About the Brown Act

Nov. 14 | Woodland | [Register](#)

CSBA Annual Education Conference and Trade Show

Dec. 1-3 | San Diego | [Register](#)

2023 CCBE County Board Governance Workshop

March 10-11 | Sacramento | [Register](#)

2023 Coast2Coast

April 24-26 | Washington, D.C. | [Register](#)

[View complete calendar](#)

Loya, Kuud & Komo
A Professional Law Corporation



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