

California schoolnews

Weekly Update

October 5, 2022

In this Issue

- Legislative update: CSBA-sponsored bills, other major K-12 proposals signed into law
- Legal update: Law allowing remote teleconferenced meetings through 2026 signed by Governor
- Registration for 2023 Coast2Coast Federal Advocacy Trip open now
- Federal update: National strategy on hunger, nutrition and health outlined
- CCEE recap: Microlearning modules offer support classroom management and instruction
- New state policy requires high school seniors to apply for FAFSA
- Districts can diversify investments with OPEB Solutions Program

Legislative update: CSBA-sponsored bills, other major K-12 proposals signed into law



CSBA advocacy ensured three of its sponsored bills crossed the finish line in the final week of the signing period. Leading the way was a **two-bill package**, **Assembly Bill 2584** (Berman, D-Menlo Park) and **Senate Bill 1061** (Laird, D-Santa Cruz), that will modernize and make much-needed reforms to elections law regarding school board recalls and special elections. **AB 2295** (Bloom, D-Santa Monica)

will take on both the educator and housing shortages by easing the way for

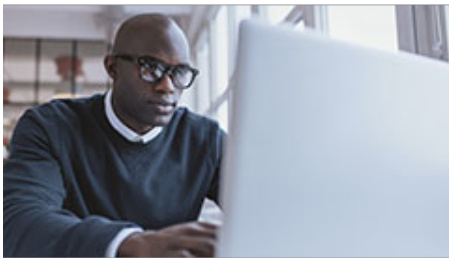
districts to develop workforce housing. These changes will offer districts more options in developing workforce housing and help address the significant educational workforce shortages facing schools across the state.

Other major education proposals signed by Gov. Gavin Newsom include:

- **SB 490** (Caballero, D-Merced): Prohibits TK-12 schools and all public institutions that receive federal meal reimbursement funding from buying foreign food products unless the international option is at least 25 percent less expensive than the domestic alternative. *CSBA Position: Oppose* ([read more](#))
- **SB 931** (Leyva, D-Chino): Imposes new penalties on public employers, including school districts, for allegedly “detering or discouraging” employees from joining or participating in a union. *CSBA Position: Oppose*

[Read more about the education measures signed and vetoed this year on CSBA’s blog »](#)

Legal update: Law allowing remote teleconferenced meetings through 2026 signed by Governor



On Sept. 13, Gov. Gavin Newsom signed **Assembly Bill 2449** (Rubio, D-Baldwin Park), which provides additional options for compliant teleconferencing under the Brown Act beyond those provided in current law. **AB 2449 provides a teleconferencing option that will be in effect from Jan. 1, 2023, until Jan. 1, 2026. It allows board members to attend meetings remotely without following the traditional rules for**

teleconferenced meetings if the meetings meet certain requirements and if the member participating remotely demonstrates a need to do so, either because of an emergency circumstance or other “just cause” as defined in the statute (for non-emergencies, members may only make use of this provision two times per calendar year).

Among other things, AB 2449 requires boards to provide members of the public the ability to access the meeting either by a two-way audiovisual platform or a two-way telephonic service and live webcasting of the meeting. Information on how to access this method must be posted on the agenda, and all persons must be able to attend and address the board remotely and at the in-person location of the meeting. [Read more on the CSBA blog »](#)

Registration for 2023 Coast2Coast Federal Advocacy Trip open now



Join the California School Boards Association and the Association of California School Administrators for the second annual



Coast2Coast Federal Advocacy Trip to Washington, D.C. where attendees will shine a light on the issues affecting the state's 6 million K-12 students. California governance team members — district and county board

members and superintendents — are urged to attend this three-day annual event, taking place April 24-26, 2023, in our nation's capital.

The event will begin with a day of brushing up on education policy specific to California, an "insiders" briefing on the latest politics affecting federal educational policy, and a networking opportunity with prominent D.C. figures and fellow educators. The training is followed by two days of meetings on Capitol Hill to advocate directly with California congressional representatives, White House officials, key federal agency leaders and other top policy makers. [Learn more and register »](#)

Federal update: National strategy on hunger, nutrition and health outlined



On Sept. 27 the Biden-Harris Administration released an [executive summary](#) of the national strategy on hunger, nutrition and health. Food insecurity and diet-related diseases are too common in the United States and can often be prevented. **To that end, the Administration is working to end hunger and increase healthy eating and physical activity by 2030.** The goal includes actions that it will take on around the

pillars of improving food access and affordability, integrating nutrition and health, empowering individuals to have and make healthy choices, supporting physical activity and enhancing nutrition and food security research. **The first pillar on improving food access and affordability focuses on improving access to free, nourishing school meals and giving summer EBT benefits to more children. The education sector is being asked to take part in achieving this goal and calls to action on how learning institutions can participate are included in the full [strategy](#).**

Additionally, the Administration published a [fact sheet](#) detailing \$8 billion in new commitments in the public and private sectors to support the call to action. It includes information on programs such as an adopt-a-school initiative and pledge that businesses can make to ensure campuses food- and nutrition-secure.

In other federal news:

- On Sept. 29 the **U.S. Department of Education's Office of Elementary and Secondary Education** [announced](#) the release of a [liquidation extension request template](#) for Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) and Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) funds. Sept. 30 was the deadline to obligate CARES Act funds. **The Education Department, acknowledging that some grantees may need flexibility in liquidating CARES**

Act funds, is offering the extension request, which would allow for an additional 14 months past the 120 days currently allotted to liquidate the money. The request should be submitted by Dec. 31, 2022, to avoid potential disruptions to accessing CARES Act funds, but can be submitted after that date as well.

CCEE recap: Microlearning modules offer support classroom management and instruction



The **California Collaborative for Educational Excellence** met on **Sept. 29** to receive updates on a number of topics, including **direct technical assistance efforts, universal preK implementation initiatives and microlearning modules for individuals providing instruction for students.** **Microlearning modules** — brief videos led by “master teachers” who share concepts, tools and resources to support substitute teachers, paraeducators and non-certificated instructional staff — were soft launched by the organization over summer and have received positive feedback. **Video topics range from managing noise levels in classrooms to best practices for physical education and how to use the guided inquiry process.** [Read a full recap of the meeting on the CSBA blog »](#)

New state policy requires high school seniors to apply for FAFSA



The **2021–22 state budget** included a new policy that local educational agencies must confirm that their graduating high school seniors complete an application for financial aid — or an opt-out waiver — starting in the **2022–23 academic year.** During the pandemic, fewer students filled out the [Free Application for Federal Aid \(FAFSA\)](#) and the [California Dream Act Application \(CADAA\)](#) — just 53 percent of students. **This year’s financial aid cycle runs between Oct. 2, 2022, and March 2, 2023,** and California’s education community has the opportunity to work together to take advantage of this key initiative to dramatically increase the number of high school seniors who apply for financial aid. **The California Student Aid Commission has contributed to CSBA’s blog with further information and is providing information and communications resources in its [“All In for FAFSA/CA Dream Act!” website.](#)** [Learn more »](#)

Districts can diversify investments with OPEB Solutions Program



The OPEB Solutions Program is a full-service GASB-compliant, IRS-approved **trust program designed to help local educational agencies safely and securely set aside funds to address and lower your Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) liability**. This program gives districts local control of assets, providing LEAs with the flexibility to make contributions as deemed appropriate and the ability to access and

withdraw funds to pay for OPEB expenses at any time. [Learn more »](#)

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

Virtual events

MIG Course 3: School Finance Part 1 and Part 2

Oct. 14-15 | [Register](#)

MIG Course 4: Human Resources/Collective Bargaining

Oct. 26-27 | [Register](#)

MIG Course 4: Human Resources/Collective Bargaining

Nov. 2-3 | [Register](#)

MIG Course 5: Community Relations & Advocacy/Governance Integration

Nov. 8-9 | [Register](#)

MIG Course 5: Community Relations & Advocacy/Governance Integration

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

In-person events

The Brown Act

Oct. 20 | Rancho Cucamonga | [Register](#)

CSBA Annual Education Conference and Trade Show

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

Sponsors

aalrr
Atkinson, Andelson
Loya, Ruud & Romo
A Professional Law Corporation

LS Lozano
Smith
ATTORNEYS AT LAW



WellnessTogether.org
School Mental Health

[View complete calendar](#)



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