

California schoolnews

Weekly Update

December 14, 2022

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Federal updates: Ed. Dept. guidance on STEM and COVID relief funds



The U.S. Department of Education released an updated **“Frequently Asked Questions: Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Programs Governor’s Emergency Education Relief Programs”** on Dec. 7, which includes 27 new FAQs drawn from inquiries from states and districts and revisions to eight existing questions. These FAQs are intended to clarify allowable uses of funds and describe how these funds may be used to implement strategies to meet the urgent needs of students and educators as local educational agencies address the

educational inequities exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic and address students' social-emotional and mental health.

On Dec. 6, Education Department Deputy Secretary Cindy Marten sent a **letter providing additional guidance for using federal funds to support science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education strategies**. The letter **provides examples** of how funds from the American Rescue Plan Act; Titles I, II, III, and IV of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act; the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act; and the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006, as amended by the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act, **can support efforts to improve preK–12 instruction and student outcomes in STEM fields**.

To shed light on how LEAs are using COVID relief funds, CSBA is conducting an intensive analysis as part of an ongoing series of reports. [Learn more »](#)

Legislative update: Start of session brings changing legislative landscape



Legislators returned to Sacramento on Dec. 5 to swear in new Senators and Assemblymembers and **kick off a new legislative session marked by changes in leadership and shifts in the makeup of the State Assembly and the State Senate**.

Democrats have retained their supermajorities in both houses, with 62 Democrats and 18

Republicans in the Assembly and 32 Democrats and eight Republicans in the Senate. **While the balance of power between the parties is largely unchanged, the face of the Legislature is changing — nearly one-third of the Legislature is new and record-breaking numbers of female, Latino and openly LGBTQ lawmakers are taking office for 2023–24.**

Leadership changes are afoot as well, as Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon (D-Lakewood) and Assemblymember Robert Rivas (D-Salinas) formalized their agreement to hand over the Assembly Speaker's gavel. **House Resolution 1** affirms that Speaker Rendon has been selected as the Speaker of the Assembly as of Dec. 5 and that Speaker-designate Rivas will be sworn in as Speaker on June 30, 2023. **Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi (D-Torrance) has already taken over as the new Chair of the Assembly Education Committee, and changes are expected as well in the Senate Education Committee and the education budget sub-committees in both houses.**

Reminder: Virtual AEC materials available for limited time





Attendees registered for the **Annual Education Conference On-Demand** can now view all three **General Sessions** and **24 breakout sessions** filmed during CSBA's 2022 Annual Education Conference and Trade Show in San Diego earlier this month. **For virtual attendees, these sessions will be available online until**

Feb. 28. Those who attended AEC in person will have access to the on-demand content for free from Dec. 12-23 exclusively on the **CSBA Online Learning Center**. With AEC On-Demand, recapture the exciting sessions, workshops and keynote speakers that highlight the latest insights and issues in education to improve student achievement.

Participants should have received access to the on-demand sessions through an email invitation from CSBA. Please check your spam folders or reach out to aec@csba.org if you did not receive an invite on Dec. 12.

New state grants to support youth mental health



On Dec. 7, Gov. Gavin Newsom announced **\$480.5 million in awards for 54 projects to improve California's behavioral health infrastructure for children and youth.** Part of the state's Master Plan for Kids' Mental Health, the funding will go toward constructing new facilities and expanding existing ones helping youth with a mental health and/or substance use disorder.

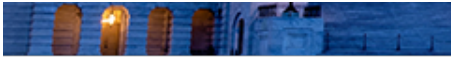
Research shows that **half of all lifetime cases of diagnosable mental illnesses begin by age 14, and in California, 13 percent of children 3-17 years of age reported having at least one mental, emotional, developmental or behavioral health problem,** and 8 percent of children have a serious emotional disturbance that limits participation in daily activity.

These projects **will increase care, especially in the least restrictive, community-based settings, with community wellness/youth prevention centers, outpatient treatment for substance use disorders, school-linked health centers and outpatient community mental health clinics.** [Learn more »](#)

Register now for the 2023 Coast2Coast Federal Advocacy Trip



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



advocate for support on the issues affecting the state's 6 million TK-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 "insider" 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 policymakers.** [Learn more and register »](#)

Commission on Teacher Credentialing wraps up the year with reflections on ethnic studies



The **Dec. 8-9 meeting of the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing** featured the presentation of several required end-of-year reports and a passionate discussion about subject matter competence and history, social sciences and ethnic studies. The Committee on Accreditation, which oversees the process of identifying and verifying the quality of each program that prepares educators, presented

the [2021–22 Annual Accreditation Report of the Committee on Accreditation](#).

Commission staff presented the "[Annual Report Card on California Teacher Preparation Programs for the Academic Year 2020–21](#)," which includes a description of credentialing requirements to teach in California public schools and qualitative and quantitative information on teacher preparation programs.

Following **significant public debate**, commissioners agreed to **pause the approval of ethnic studies as a major that will automatically qualify a candidate to teach history and social sciences** in grades 7-12 while staff looked further into concerns but **underscored the importance of viewing ethnic studies as an integral part of the curriculum.** The commission **adopted moving the regulatory package forward with the exception of amending the proposed regulations around the majors related to the History and Social Science credential** to determine the majors that can or cannot suffice for that requirement. Staff was directed to bring the topic back at the February commission meeting. [Read the full meeting recap »](#)

LexisNexis can help LEAs navigate legal issues board members face

LexisNexis® Legal & Professional is a **leading**



global provider of legal, regulatory and business information and analytics that help customers increase productivity, improve decision-making and outcomes, and advance the rule of law around the world by helping lawyers manage their work more efficiently, serve their clients better and grow their

practices.

CSBA's District and County Office of Education Legal Services team has partnered with LexisNexis to publish the **2022 edition of *California Education Laws and Regulations*** — a resource that will soon become a go-to legal reference for CSBA members, school administrators, education attorneys and K-12 educational professionals throughout California. From a legal perspective, the world of education is complicated and governing boards deal with everything from curriculum, special education, facilities and finance to torts, discrimination and the Family Medical Leave Act. LexisNexis can help LEAs navigate the entire range of legal issues that board members face. [Learn more »](#)

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

Virtual events

Student Board Member Spring Training Session

Jan. 18 | [Register](#)

MIG COE COURSE 1 Foundations of Effective Governance/Setting Direction

Jan. 27-28 | [Register](#)

Executive Assistants Certification Program - Kappa Cohort

Feb. 2-May 11 | [Register](#)

Governance with an Equity Lens - 2023

Feb. 4-May 6 | [Register](#)

Executive Assistants Certification Program - Iota Cohort

Feb. 10-April 21 | [Register](#)

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

Feb. 24-25 | [Register](#)

Sponsors



MIG COE Course 3: Finance

April 1 | [Register](#)

MIG COE Course 4: Charter Schools

April 15 | [Register](#)

**MIG COE Course 5: Community Relations
& Advocacy/Governance Integration**

May 5-6 | [Register](#)

In-person events

County Board Governance Workshop

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

2023 Coast2Coast

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

[View complete calendar](#)

