

# California schoolnews

Weekly Update

Aug. 30, 2023

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## CSBA Gold Star Bills recognize the best in education legislation



Returning a student's test with a gold star is a time-honored tradition, a sign of recognition for a job well done. There are few equivalents for the adults who help create the policy conditions for student success. CSBA aims to change that by introducing its **2023 Gold Star Bills — some of the most outstanding education bills from this year's legislative session. Bills that make CSBA's Gold Star list distinguish themselves**

**by supporting one of the association's goals or policy pillars:** strengthening local governance, securing fair funding, improving conditions of children and ensuring achievement for all.

**The 2023 Gold Star Bills are:**

- Assembly Bill 247 (Muratsuchi, Fong and Wilson) – School Facilities Bond
- AB 414 (Reyes, D-San Bernardino) – Digital Equity Bill of Rights
- AB 557 (Hart, D-Santa Barbara) – Remote Board Meetings
- AB 1023 (Papan, D-San Mateo) – Cybersecurity
- Senate Bill 28 (Glazer, D-Orinda) – School Facilities Bond
- SB 765 (Portantino, D-Glendale) – Teacher Retention

[Visit the Gold Star Bills web page »](#)

## Legislative update: Former school board member tapped as next State Senate leader



After a whirlwind weekend of whipping votes and a caucus meeting held the evening of Aug. 28, **Senate Democrats chose Sen. Mike McGuire (D-Healdsburg) as the next president Pro Tem of the State Senate.** McGuire, who has served as the Senate Majority Leader since 2022, will succeed current President Pro Tem Toni Atkins (D-San Diego) in 2024. Senator McGuire represents the 2nd Senate District, which runs along the entire north coast of California and encompasses

the counties of Del Norte, Humboldt, Lake, Marin, Mendocino, Trinity and much of Sonoma County.

First elected to the Senate in 2014, **McGuire began his career in politics when he was elected to serve on the Healdsburg school board at the age of 19.** In addition to his perspective as a former school board member, he has served on the Healdsburg City Council and the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors. His selection marks a continued shift in the center of power in the Capitol. **When McGuire officially becomes the Senate President Pro Tem, it will mark the first time in more than a generation that the leaders of the Senate and Assembly will represent rural districts.**

The timeline for the 2024 transition has not yet been announced and McGuire, who will be termed out in 2026, will have limited time to make his mark. In [a statement](#) released after the vote, he affirmed that he would work "hand-in-glove to finish out the important work that we have all fought so hard for all year — and to ensure a seamless transition into the next chapter of this great institution."

**Tell the Senate Appropriations Committee to vote no on**

## AB 1699



This week, the Senate Appropriations Committee will consider **Assembly Bill 1699** (McCarty, D-Sacramento), a one-size-fits-all approach to local educational agency labor policies that would override local control and mandate how and when classified staff must be hired or promoted, with no ability to determine whether a candidate is well suited for the position. If adopted, it would also exacerbate the educational staffing shortages

LEAs are facing across the state. ([View a short video to learn more about the bill.](#))

CSBA has been engaged with the bill's author and the committee throughout the legislative process, but there are no amendments that can sufficiently address these concerns. The Senate Appropriations Committee will be the best chance to stop AB 1699 from moving forward, and **it is critical that the committee's members hear from as many local education leaders as possible to urge them to vote no on AB 1699.**

[Reach out now to urge the committee to vote no »](#)

## Legal update: California Attorney General files complaint for injunctive and declaratory relief against Chino Valley USD



On Aug. 28, 2023, **California Attorney General Rob Bonta** [filed a complaint](#) in California Superior Court, San Bernardino County, requesting a declaration that Chino Valley Unified School District's new policy, Policy 5020.1, is unconstitutional under the California Constitution and/or state law. The complaint also asks the court to issue a temporary restraining order and preliminary injunction

**prohibiting the district from enforcing the new policy until this case is decided and to ultimately issue an order permanently enjoining the district from enforcing the policy**, which requires school personnel to notify parents within three days when they learn that a student is "requesting to be identified or treated, as a gender [...] other than the student's biological sex or gender listed on the student's birth certificate or any other official records," among other actions.

**Based on information gathered during an investigation, the AG's complaint alleges that the policy subjects transgender and gender nonconforming students to discrimination because of their gender identity, and by doing so, violates the students' right to equal protection of the law** based on California Constitution (Article I, Section 7), Education Code (sections 200 et. seq.), and Government Code (section 11135) and infringes on the students' right to privacy enshrined in the California Constitution (Article I, Section 1). [Learn more on the CSBA blog »](#)

## Federal update: K-12 cybersecurity guidance and resources



Earlier this month, **White House officials and the departments of Education and Homeland Security** announced public and private initiatives to strengthen K-12 cyberdefenses, as well as new **guidance documents** highlighting cybersecurity recommendations and promising practices from states and districts across the country. Jointly released with the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security

Agency, the documents aim to assist education leaders in building and sustaining core digital infrastructure for learning. **Officials also said they would establish a government coordinating council to organize cybersecurity activities and communications.** This collaboration among federal, state and local leaders seeks to bolster protections against and responses to cyberattacks. [Read more on the CSBA blog »](#)

### In other federal developments:

- The U.S. Department of Education's **Office of Civil Rights published a guidance document, "Race and School Programming,"** in response to an increase in complaints and requests for technical assistance from school communities. **Included in the guidance are examples to assist schools in assessing their Title VI legal obligations and protections.**

## CTC examines educator career pathway tools, prep program completion



The California Commission on Teacher Credentialing discussed during its **Aug. 24-25 meeting** how a host of factors — including how a Supreme Court **decision** could impede equitable access to higher education; attacks on educators, academics and the rights of students; and state-level challenges around housing, student transportation and changing facilities needs — are affecting the education field. Additionally, the CTC

discussed how ongoing work to expand transitional kindergarten offerings could impact teacher retention and retainment efforts in California, as well as school communities as a whole.

Despite these challenges, commissioners celebrated the start of a new academic year and **received updates on the Roadmap to Education Careers Initiative, conducted a study session on preparation program completer survey data and approved actions toward the launch of a Literacy Performance Assessment pilot.** **CSBA Legislative Director Chris Reeve is one of 26 individuals serving on a workgroup** that will develop recommendations on the structure and requirements of the

Child Development Permit in alignment state's Master Plan for Early Learning and Care and current needs in the field. [Read more on the CSBA blog »](#)

## Sign up now for MIG COE fall and spring training sessions



Registration for the **Masters in Governance for County Offices of Education (MIG COE)** program is open! Offered virtually, this training provides COE board members with the knowledge and skills needed to create and sustain an effective governance structure. Sign up for individual trainings or take advantage of the new **bundle subscription** pricing for all five courses. Courses begin Oct. 5 and cover

foundations of effective governance/setting direction; policy and judicial review/student learning and achievement; finance and facilities; charter schools; and community relations and advocacy/governance integration. [Learn more and register today »](#)

## Raise funds needed for real property acquisitions and capital improvements

### **CERTIFICATES OF PARTICIPATION** Program

CSBA's Certificates of Participation program assists California school districts, county offices of education and community college districts in their efforts to raise funds for capital equipment or real property acquisitions and improvements and allows capital project finance or loan refinancing without voter approval. Finance construction, renovations, equipment, energy projects and more with fast and efficient

financing. [Learn more »](#)

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

## Virtual events

### **Student Board Member Trainings**

School Board Membership, Finance and Templates | Oct. 4 | [Register](#)

Advocacy and Engagement | Jan. 29 |

[Register](#)

Transition Planning, Legacy Building, and

## Sponsors



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Next steps | April 15 | [Register](#)

**Student Board Member Governance Q&A and Networking**

Sept. 25 | [Register](#)

Nov. 6 | [Register](#)

Feb. 12 | [Register](#)

March 4 | [Register](#)

**The Brown Act**

Sept. 27 | [Register](#)

**Equity Network Training (4 sessions)**

Sept. 16-Jan.13, 2024 | [Register](#)

**MIG Course 1: Foundations of Effective Governance/Setting Direction**

Oct. 2-30 | [Register](#)

## In-person events

**CSBA Roadshow**

Aug. 30 | San Luis Obispo County | [Register](#)

Sept. 27 | North Bay | [Register](#)

Oct. 2 | East Bay | [Register](#)

Oct. 4 | Calaveras County | [Register](#)

Oct. 4 | Lake County | [Register](#)

Oct. 11 | Santa Cruz County | [Register](#)

Oct. 17 | Fresno County | [Register](#)

Oct. 23 | Kern County/Bakersfield | [Register](#)

Oct. 23 | San Mateo County | [Register](#)

Oct. 25 | Shasta/Siskiyou counties | [Register](#)

**CCBE Annual Conference**

Sept. 8-10 | Monterey | [Register](#)

**MIG Course 3: School Finance Part 1 and Part 2**

Sept. 23 | San Marcos | [Register](#)

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

Sept. 23 | Sunnyvale | [Register](#)



[View complete calendar](#)



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