

California schoolnews

Weekly Update

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School Board Recognition Month shines a spotlight on the hard work of trustees



While January marks **School Board Recognition Month**, CSBA celebrates the work of dedicated trustees year-round through its **School Boards in Action** campaign. To mark the end of this month of appreciation, CSBA is sharing videos from a new series filmed at the 2022 Annual Education Conference and Trade Show, “What’s your why?” The vignettes feature trustees talking about the reasons they became

board members, and why they continue to serve California’s public schools. [Watch the videos »](#)

Also at 2022’s AEC, CSBA presented the association’s **inaugural Governance**

Team of the Year Award to the Encinitas Union School District in San Diego County for its ability to focus on learning and achievement for all students, communicate a common vision, govern effectively, apply an equity lens to guide decision making, and commit to ongoing training to become an optimally informed and effective team. Board President Marla Strich said while accepting the award on Dec. 2. that, “As a board, and collectively as members of CSBA, **we have the obligation and responsibility to ensure we continue to cultivate schools where all children can be seen, heard and loved in ways that connect them meaningfully to learning.**”

And finally, **House Resolution 10**, sponsored by CSBA and authored by former Torrance USD trustee Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi (D-Torrance), will declare January School Board Appreciation Month in recognition of the excellent work done by local education leaders across the state. A similar measure, Senate Resolution 12, has been introduced in the Senate by Sen. Ben Allen (D-Santa Monica), a former president of the Santa Monica-Malibu USD Board of Education.

Sign up for CSBA co-sponsored Budget Perspectives Workshops



It's not too late to **register for upcoming Budget Perspectives Workshops on the 2023 Governor's Budget**. These free sessions, co-sponsored by CSBA and Capitol Advisors, will be held at county office of education headquarters in Northern, Central and Southern California between late January and early February. There will also be four virtual presentations. Experts, including members of

CSBA's Governmental Relations team, will **discuss Gov. Gavin Newsom's January Budget Proposal; the current status of the Local Control Funding Formula and cost-of-living adjustments; and funding and policy** around arts education, transitional kindergarten, school facilities, special education and more. [Learn more and register »](#)

State Board sets the stage for future action on TK, assessments and more



Informational items focused on early learning, assessments and school climate were the crux of the State Board of Education's **Jan. 19–20 meeting** agenda. As part of **transitional kindergarten implementation, local educational agencies must consider how to integrate TK programs** into the existing UPK program infrastructure and how to **apply developmentally appropriate best practices for early childhood**

education in TK classrooms. Both challenges and promising practices in the field have

arisen in areas including access, class size and ratios, the teacher shortage, full-day programs that meet parent needs, curriculum and assessment quality and lack of adequate facilities. **Discussions also surrounded the California School Dashboard school climate survey tools and better integration of optional Smarter Balanced Interim Assessments** in classrooms and teacher preparation programs. [Read the full meeting report »](#)

New transportation funding can support unduplicated students



Thanks in part to CSBA advocacy, **the 2022 California Budget Act** included critical provisions for transportation in California school districts and county offices of education. The legislation contains **\$637 million of ongoing funding for home-to-school transportation**. This is the first increase to school transportation since 2013 and adds a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) beginning in 2023–24.

Starting with the 2022–23 fiscal year, local educational agencies can be reimbursed up to 60 percent for eligible home-to-school transportation expenses for prior year eligible transportation spending and for their prior year Local Control Funding Formula transportation add-on. The act also included \$1.5 billion in one-time funds over the next five years for LEAs to convert buses from gas to electric.

This ongoing transportation funding allows LEAs to expand and maintain access to transportation for some of their most vulnerable students. **To receive this funding, LEAs will need to develop annual plans describing the transportation services they are providing to their students and how they will prioritize transportation services for students in transitional kindergarten, kindergarten, grades 1-6 and students from low-income backgrounds.** [Read some key questions to consider on the CSBA blog »](#)

U.S. Department of Education announces grant funding for community schools



The U.S. Department of Education on Jan. 18 **announced \$63 million in new five-year Full-Service Community Schools (FSCS) grants to support 42 local educational agencies**, nonprofits, or other public or private organizations and institutions of higher education working to expand existing community schools or establish new programs. **Two California districts — El Rancho Unified School District in Los Angeles**

County and Lindsay USD in the Central Valley — received awards.

In addition, the DOE last week released the “[White House Toolkit: Federal Resources to Support Community Schools](#).” The toolkit is **designed to help community school leaders, coordinators, advocates and other stakeholders understand the current scope of federal funding that can be used to support community schools** and identifies federal resources that can support one or more of the four pillars of an evidence-based community school and bolster community schools’ success.

Streamlined superintendent hiring for districts and COEs



CSBA, in partnership with McPherson & Jacobson, L.L.C., offers the Executive Search Service to **provide districts and county offices of education with a streamlined process to meet their executive hiring needs**. From identifying possible candidates to the selection of a qualified superintendent, Executive Search Services offers an extensive and comprehensive process that guides the board through this critical

time with ease and professionalism. [Learn more »](#)

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

Virtual events

Institute for New and First-Term Board Members

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

2023 Governance with an Equity Lens

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

MIG Course 1: Foundations of Effective Governance/Setting Direction

Feb. 6-8 | [Register](#)

Executive Assistants Certification Program - Iota Cohort

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

The Brown Act

Feb. 10 | [Register](#)

Board Presidents Workshop

Feb. 23 | [Register](#)

Feb. 28 | [Register](#)

Sponsors



Leading with purpose.



Orientation for New Trustees

March 1 | [Register](#)

In-person events

Orientation for New Trustees

Feb. 21 | Sacramento | [Register](#)

March 8 | Redding | [Register](#)

County Board Governance Workshop

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

Board Presidents Workshop

March 18 | Rancho Cucamonga | [Register](#)

2023 Coast2Coast Federal Advocacy Trip

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

[View complete calendar](#)



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