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## Register for the Coast2Coast Federal Advocacy Trip



Take your advocacy to the next level with the **CSBA/Association of California School Administrators Coast2Coast Federal Advocacy Trip in Washington, D.C., April 8-10**. Don't miss your chance to be a part of this advocacy event to **shine a light on the issues affecting the state's nearly 6 million students**. California school district and county office of education board members and superintendents can bring their

local issues straight to the nation's Capital during this three-day event.

The 2024 Coast2Coast event will begin with a day of brushing up on education policy issues specific to California, an "insiders" briefing on the latest politics affecting federal

education policy, and a networking opportunity with prominent D.C. figures and fellow educators. This will be 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 »](#)

## CSBA spotlights promising California education programs during Black History Month



CSBA will be **celebrating Black History Month all February long with articles in *California School News* and by spotlighting promising education programs on the CSBA blog.** Kicking off the month is a look at **Eastside Union School District's Blueprint for Equity.** When a study found Black students had the largest equity gaps in school climate and culture, absenteeism and academic outcomes, the district worked to

understand and meet students' needs.

With help from the Education Trust-West, Eastside Union SD developed and adopted the Blueprint for Equity in 2021, which **"outlines specific strategies to create equitable and humanizing learning experiences for each of its students."** In spring 2023, during the second year of implementation, Ed Trust-West found the district was beginning to see improvement in two key areas: progress toward building more positive relationships with parents and families, and notable academic growth in math and English based on performance on formative assessments administered throughout the school year. [Read more »](#)

## Register for CDE webinar on allowable uses for ESSER III



The California Department of Education (CDE) Federal Stimulus Team will be hosting the **webinar, "Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) III Allowable Uses and Capital Expenditures,"** to review guidance on ESSER III allowable uses and the revised **Capital Expenditure Pre-Approval Application Form on Wednesday, Feb. 21, from 10-11 a.m.**

This webinar will provide technical assistance to support local educational agencies in obligating remaining ESSER III funds and effectively completing capital expenditure pre-approval application forms. [Learn more and register](#)

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## CCEE launches the Statewide System of Support Resource Hub



The California Collaborative for Educational Excellence's (CCEE) newly launched **Statewide System of Support Resource Hub** provides resources and information on state-funded initiatives aimed at enhancing student outcomes and supporting educators. With more than 130 statewide projects, grants and initiatives, this new website includes webinars, toolkits, learning modules, reference guides, self-

assessment frameworks and more. [Visit the CCEE Statewide System of Support Resource Hub »](#)

## Federal update: Department of Education emphasizes schools' role in safe firearm storage



A Jan. 25 town hall with school principals, First Lady Jill Biden, Education Secretary Miguel Cardona and White House Office of Gun Violence Prevention Director Stef Feldman **elevated the importance of safe firearms storage and emphasized the role that school leaders may play in helping prevent gun violence**. Nearly 20 percent of childhood deaths are caused by firearms, and many deaths can be prevented

through safe storage of firearms, according to a [press release](#) from the U.S. Department of Education, which included a new [resource](#) for principals and district leaders that may be used to communicate with parents, families and communities.

California is ahead of the curve with the passage of Senate Bill 906 in 2022, which requires the state's local educational agencies to notify families annually about safe gun storage. **CSBA created a fact sheet that offers a quick reference to the rules and regulations of firearm storage in California, statistics about firearms, and strategies to keep students, staff and communities safe.** [Read the "School Safety: Firearm Safety and Storage" fact sheet »](#)

### In other federal news:

- The Education Research and Development Center Program is a research grant program designed to provide reliable and valid information about education practices. This **grant is available for the following topics: (1) improving rural education; (2) using generative artificial intelligence to augment teaching and learning in classrooms; (3) K-12 teacher recruitment and retention policy; and (4) improving outcomes in elementary science education.** The Institute of Education Sciences will then fund four centers, each focused on one of these topics. The estimated range of awards for the programs falls between \$1 million and \$3 million, depending on the center. All applications are due by March 7, and further information is available [here](#).

## 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 Governance Q&A and Networking**

Feb. 12 | [Register](#)

March 4 | [Register](#)

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

Feb. 21-22 | [Register](#)

#### **MIG Course 4: Human Resources/Collective Bargaining**

Feb. 26-March 18 | [Register](#)

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

March 13-14 | [Register](#)

#### **The Brown Act**

March 26 | [Register](#)

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

April 3-4 | [Register](#)

#### **Student Board Member Trainings**

Transition Planning, Legacy Building, and Next steps | April 15 | [Register](#)

#### **The Role of the School Board in**

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## **Achieving Equity Through Strategic Budgeting**

April 19-20 | [Register](#)

## **In-person events**

### **The Brown Act**

Feb. 20 | Riverside | [Register](#)

### **Recentering Governance Practices with an Equity Lens**

March 1-May 4 | West Sacramento | [Register](#)

### **2024 CSBA County Board Governance Workshop**

March 8-9 | Sacramento | [Register](#)

### **MIG Course 3: School Finance**

March 9 | Monterey | [Register](#)

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

March 11 | Castro Valley | [Register](#)

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

March 16 | Sunnyvale | [Register](#)

### **The Role of the School Board in Achieving Equity Through Strategic Budgeting**

March 22 | West Sacramento | [Register](#)

### **Small School District Financial Workshop**

March 23 | Orland | [Register](#)

April 6 | San Bernardino | [Register](#)

April 20 | Fowler | [Register](#)

### **MIG Course 4: Human Resources/ Collective Bargaining**

April 6 | Monterey | [Register](#)

### **Coast2Coast Federal Advocacy Trip**

April 8-10 | Washington, D.C. | [Register](#)

[View complete calendar](#)



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