

California schoolnews

Weekly Update

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Legislative update: Budget agreement includes troubling Prop 98 manipulation



On June 24, the **Legislature announced it had reached an agreement with Gov. Gavin Newsom on the 2025–26 State Budget**. With less than a week before the Governor is required to sign a balanced budget, the agreement will be reflected in a follow-up budget bill, referred to as “budget bill junior,” and approximately 20 budget trailer bills.

A troubling and a continuing sign that Proposition 98 is under threat is the inclusion of a higher Prop 98 withholding amount than was proposed in the May Revise, from \$1.3 billion to \$1.9 billion. This is due to growth in the Prop 98 Guarantee. Additionally, **both the Newsom Administration and the Legislature are referring to this amount not as a “withholding,” but as “settle-up.”** The distinction is important

as settle-up is a term used to describe how the state finalizes the Prop 98 amount when it closes out the prior year; whereas withholding is a manipulation of the Prop 98 Guarantee. Most concerning is that these manipulations of Prop 98 could be used by future legislatures or governors to withhold even greater amounts of Prop 98 funds in future budgets.

CSBA continues to advocate against any manipulation of the Prop 98 formula and is calling on all school district and county board members to send an email to their legislators and the Governor calling on them to reject the withholding.

[Urge your legislators and the Governor to reject the Prop 98 withholding and protect public education funding](#) | [Learn more about the budget agreement on the CSBA blog](#)

REPD resources spotlight: New LGBTQ Students in Focus brief



CSBA's Research and Education Policy Development (REPD) team released a new [brief focusing on LGBTQ students](#) on June 17 as part of its Students in Focus series, which features briefs and fact sheets related to the educational needs of various student groups. These briefs are designed to spark informed discussions among governance teams to ensure all students have the resources they need to

succeed and thrive. The latest, "[LGBTQ+ Students in Focus: Demographics and Academic Achievement](#)," examines the academic experiences of LGBTQ students in California schools, sharing key metrics such as enrollment data, chronic absenteeism and disciplinary data.

By recognizing and addressing these indicators, governance teams have the unique opportunity to foster more inclusive and supportive learning environments and can better identify disparities and develop focused interventions to support student success, according to CSBA Principal Research Manager Angela Asch. "Governance teams can review their local educational agency's policies on bullying, harassment and discrimination regularly and make sure those policies are up to date," she said. "Equally important is governance teams allocating funding to support safe and supportive school environments for students and staff. **Intervention programs such as counseling and restorative practices can support a positive school climate. Additionally, professional development funding for staff can include anti-bias training and learning to recognize, report and prevent bullying and harassment, so all students and families feel welcome at school and students are engaged and receptive to learning.**" [Read more on the CSBA blog »](#)

Other REPD news:

- In coordination with CSBA's AI Taskforce, the REPD team developed **guiding questions** related to the state's 2023 **Mathematics Framework** to support governance teams as they make decisions about implementing it

and adopting materials with educational technology and artificial intelligence (AI) components. Published on June 16, [The California Mathematics Framework: Curriculum Adoption, Technology Integration, and Instructional Decision-making](#) seeks to ensure that board members are equipped with relevant discussion points when evaluating math curriculum, professional development opportunities and technology investments. [View additional resources related to math framework implementation and adopting instructional materi](#)

Legal update: Department of Energy proposes changes to Title IX rules



Title IX is a federal law that prohibits any educational institution that receives federal financial assistance — such as grants or student loans — from discriminating on the basis of sex. Because all federal agencies that provide federal grants are required to enforce Title IX's nondiscrimination mandate, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), like many other federal agencies, enacted implementing regulations. DOE

is now [proposing changes](#) to some of its Title IX rules to ensure alignment with President Trump's executive orders seeking to ban transgender athletes from women's sports and declaring that there are only two sexes, male and female.

DOE is proposing to rescind the rule that requires a recipient to permit a student to try out for a noncontact sports team of the opposite sex when the school does not have a team for the student's sex. For example, a school that does not have a women's tennis team would no longer be required to allow a female athlete to try out for the men's tennis team, a common practice in schools in rural areas. **Commentators and advocacy groups have expressed concerns that the change will harm cisgender athletes as well as transgender, transitioning, nonbinary and intersex athletes. For example, commentators argue that the change will reduce opportunities for cisgender athletes to compete on sports teams, thereby limiting their opportunities for sports scholarships and other benefits.**

In addition to sports, the **proposed changes also affect requirements related to equal participation on the basis of sex in education programs and activities for recipients of federal financial assistance administered by DOE, including schools that have received the Renew America's School grant for energy efficiency.** Only about 80 schools in the country receive funds from DOE. [Read more on the CSBA blog »](#)

State update: Mental health services for summer



California's Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative (CYBHI) released a [library](#) of



free mental health supports, including apps, videos and more that local educational agencies can use to support **students and their families** while schools are closed for summer, as well as training opportunities and wellness supports for **teachers and staff**, and **administrators and**

school health personnel. CYBHI invited LEAs to share resources with students that address challenges they may be experiencing while away from the support services that may be available to them on campus during the academic year. [Learn more »](#)

Total Schools Solutions can help with closing and budget development



Even districts that are fully staffed with qualified employees find themselves **struggling with added seasonal work such as budget development while meeting the day-to-day vigorous demands** of district financial management. Total Schools Solutions staff possess extensive expertise in budget development and specialize in making the budgeting process transparent to staff and the

community, developing trust in the process and the providing data that best serves the district. [Learn more »](#)

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

Virtual events

Ethics Assembly Bill 2158

Aug. 4 | [Register](#)

Sept. 3 | [Register](#)

The Brown Act

Aug. 15 | [Register](#)

Sept. 3 | [Register](#)

In-person events

Masters in Governance (MIG) Course 4: Human Resources/Collective Bargaining

Aug. 16 | Visalia | [Register](#)

MIG Course 5: Community Relations &

Sponsors



Advocacy/Governance Integration

Aug. 23 | Visalia | [Register](#)

County Board Conference

Sept. 5-7 | Monterey | [Register](#)

[View complete calendar](#)



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