

California schoolnews

Weekly Update

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Legislative update: Legislature returns from summer recess



On Aug. 3, the California State Legislature will return from its month-long summer recess with **just over four weeks to pass legislation through their relative fiscal committees and off the floor to Gov. Gavin Newsom's desk for final action.**

Immediately upon their return, the **respective Appropriations committees will have two weeks to review the fiscal impacts of all legislative measures assessed to have a fiscal cost.** Most bills will be referred to the "suspense file." The suspense file allows the appropriations committees to consider bills with a fiscal impact that exceeds a certain

threshold. In the Senate, bills with fiscal impacts exceeding \$50,000 to the general fund are referred to the suspense file, while bills exceeding \$150,000 are referred to suspense in the Assembly. **Historically, about 26 percent of legislation is “held on suspense,” which means that the bill is no longer active and considered dead.**

CSBA's **SOS for Student Achievement: Close the State Accountability Gap** legislative package will be up for consideration in the Senate Appropriations Committee when the Legislature returns. **Legislation that makes it through that process will be taken up the final two weeks of August for floor votes by the full Senate and Assembly before the Legislature adjourns at midnight on Aug. 31.** Bills will then go to the Governor's desk for a signature or veto. Gov. **Newsom will have until Sept. 30 to act on all legislation.** [[Contact the Senate Appropriations Committee and urge them to pass CSBA's legislative package](#)]

Action Alert: Urge the Senate Appropriations Committee to pass CSBA's legislative package to close the state accountability gap



CSBA's **SOS for Student Achievement: Close the State Accountability Gap** legislative package passed through the Senate Education Committee in late June and has now **advanced to the Senate Appropriations Committee. This is a critical juncture in the legislative process where advocacy is greatly needed.** It is important for lawmakers to hear from school board members and education leaders throughout the

state so all bills may advance to the Senate Floor.

This [legislative package](#) will create greater coordination and coherence between the many state entities that oversee public education in California and institute reciprocal accountability for the state, just as local educational agencies are held accountable for student outcomes. Together they aim to create greater alignment and improved efficacy at the state level, **with the goal of a streamlined state governance system that provides LEAs with the support needed to improve student outcomes and close achievement gaps.** CSBA makes advocacy easy with a customizable email template and automatic delivery to Senate Appropriations Committee members. [Contact the Senate Appropriations Committee now »](#)

Small Schools, Big Ideas: Career technical education in Monson-Sultana ESD



CSBA is recognizing the work of small districts through the [Small Schools, Big Ideas](#) blog series. What began as a response to requests from families for additional electives for their students enrolled in the Monson-Sultana



Elementary School District has become a **critical component of recent improvements in academic achievement, attendance and more.**

Through the district's career technical education (CTE) program, **students in grades 6-8 participate in rotations that allow them to explore areas including veterinary medicine, carpentry, cosmetology and barbering, human first aid, electrical engineering, culinary arts, child development, and aviation and drone technology.** This rural K-8 single school district in the Central Valley has an unduplicated pupil rate of about 87 percent and serves about 440 students. **Providing an opportunity to explore such an array of career possibilities has been a game changer,** according to Superintendent-Principal Roberto Vaca. [Learn more »](#)

CSBA literacy resources for board members



CSBA's Research and Education Policy Development Department has published a trio of literacy-related resources. **"A Science of Reading Primer: What governance teams need to know"** provides an **overview of the science of reading, its connection to California's English Language Arts/English Language Development (ELA/ELD) Framework,** current statewide literacy data and practical

questions boards can use to guide oversight and policy decisions. The accompanying fact sheet **"Multi-Tiered Systems of Supports for Literacy"** offers a **deeper dive on what the science of reading looks like in action.** Another fact sheet, **"Defining the California Literacy Landscape,"** includes an **overview of recent literacy legislation and key terms** that are frequently referenced regarding language and literacy instruction in California. [Access the resources »](#)

State update: 2026 National Youth Science Camp delegates



On July 16, State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond **named two students as California's delegates to the 63rd annual National Youth Science Camp (NYSCamp):** **Saisha Pal**, a junior at Dougherty Valley High School in San Ramon Valley Unified School District (Contra Costa County), and **Elena Zhang**, a junior at Redlands High in the Redlands USD (San Bernardino County).

The NYSCamp is an annual event hosted by the National Youth Science Academy to bring together top students from nine Western Hemisphere countries to attend

lectures and participate in outdoor activities centered on science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics disciplines.

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](#).

In-person events

Masters in Governance (MIG) for County Offices of Education (COE) Course 2: Student Learning & Achievement | Policy & Judicial Review

Aug. 14 | Woodland | [Register](#)

MIG COE Course 3: Finance & Facilities

Aug. 15 | Woodland | [Register](#)

Uniform Complaint Procedures (UCP) University

Aug. 18 | West Sacramento | [Register](#)

MIG COE Course 4: Community Relations and Advocacy | Governance Integration

Sept. 24 | Marina del Rey | [Register](#)

2026 CSBA Counties Conference

Sept. 25-27 | Marina del Rey | [Register](#)

2026 Annual Education Conference and Trade Show

Dec. 3-5 | San Diego | [Register](#)

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Virtual events



Executive Assistant (EA) Upsilon:

Understanding Culture 1A/1B

Aug. 20-21 | [Register](#)

MIG Course 1: Foundations of Effective

Governance/Setting Direction

Sept. 8-16 | [Register](#)

EA Upsilon: Governance 2A/2B

Sept. 10-11 | [Register](#)

MIG Course 2: Student Learning &

Achievement/Policy & Judicial Review

Sept. 22-30 | [Register](#)

[View complete calendar](#)



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