

California schoolnews

Weekly Update

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Legislative update: Assembly and Senate respond to Governor's May Revise with their budget priorities



The **Assembly** and **Senate** have both unveiled more detailed plans for the 2026–27 State Budget that take action on Gov. Gavin Newsom's proposals as well as some of their own. **The Legislature must reconcile their differences and pass a balanced budget by June 15.** Sometimes aligned, sometimes significantly different, legislators' top proposals include:

- **Proposition 98:** The Senate is rejecting the Governor's withholding proposal and wants full funding for Prop 98, while the Assembly only indicated a

commitment to work with the Governor and Senate to adopt a reliable schedule for owed funds — potentially walking back their earlier position to push for full funding.

- **Reserves:** The Senate proposes a higher reserve deposit (\$11.5 billion), while the Assembly approves the Governor's proposal of \$10.3 billion.
- **COLA:** Both houses approve the 4.31 percent Local Control Funding Formula cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) and Necessary Small Schools 20 percent base increase. The Assembly also calls for a higher county office of education and preschool COLA due to the Governor's pregnancy leave proposal.
- **Block grant:** Both houses support a higher discretionary block grant (\$5.6 billion in the Assembly, \$6.5 billion in the Senate), but the Assembly also proposes changing the allocation methodology and adding a reporting requirement via a Local Control and Accountability Plan addendum.
- **Kitchen infrastructure:** Both houses want to allocate more funding than the Governor's proposed \$100 million (\$200 million in the Assembly, \$1 billion in the Senate) and propose expanded uses including for family food pantries.
- **Career technical education (CTE):** New \$300 million legislative proposal to provide additional funding across two years for the CTE Incentive Grant Program.
- **Support for homeless youth:** The Senate wants to allocate \$300 million rather than the Governor's \$30 million.
- **Preschool:** Senate plan transfers non-LEA state preschool costs to Prop 98 and commensurately increases the Prop 98 Guarantee. The Assembly proposes \$500 million ongoing to increase the number of preschool slots.

State update: California educators asked to participate in cellphone policy survey



On behalf of the National Governors Association, CSBA is encouraging **California superintendents to forward a brief, confidential survey on cellphone use at schools to site administrators and teachers within their local educational agency.** This national study, led by University of Pennsylvania Professor Angela Duckworth and other researchers, **focuses on how campus cellphone policies impact student learning and**

school culture. Once participants complete the survey, they will see a real-time snapshot of policies from across the country and be entered in a giveaway. [Learn more »](#)

In other state news:

- The **California Collaborative for Educational Excellence (CCEE) has released a request for proposals for direct technical assistance support that is open through 4 p.m. on June 30.** CCEE is seeking qualified organizations, including LEAs, with expertise in continuous improvement, instructional leadership, equity-

centered practices and systems transformation to support school districts and county offices of education throughout the state. [Learn more »](#)

- The **California Stronger Connections Technical Assistance Center is inviting LEAs to apply to participate in a five-part virtual peer network** during the 2026–27 academic year **focused on improving school climate and attendance through participatory data use practices.** [Learn more »](#)
- Californians ages 14–25 are encouraged to **submit an application to serve on the Youth Empowerment Commission**, where they will develop leadership skills and influence change. [Learn more »](#)

New CSBA literacy resources for board members



CSBA's Research and Education Policy Development Department has published a trio of new 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 »](#)

Final County Board Handbook webinar to cover advocacy and community engagement



In the **final installment of the five-part CSBA County Board Handbook webinar series, happening at 11 a.m. on June 17**, panelists will dive into one of the most important roles of a board trustee: advocacy and community engagement. **Attendees will learn about their role in engaging with communities, advocating for students and building partnerships beyond the boardroom.** [Register »](#)

The series aims to bring CSBA County Board Governance Handbook to life, offering county board members practical tools and real-world strategies to bridge policy and practice. [View recordings of previous events »](#)

Pride Month spotlight: Petaluma City Schools aims for an inclusive and accepting school culture



Ahead of **Pride Month**, celebrated each **June**, the **Petaluma City Schools Board of Education** **unanimously approved a resolution on April 14** directing all campuses in the district to fly the **Pride flag throughout the school year**.

Specifically, the district will now fly the Progress Pride flag, designed in 2018 as an update to the traditional rainbow flag to emphasize inclusion and intersectionality within the LGBTQ+ community.

“At the end of the day, it’s a symbol. It doesn’t change policy or it doesn’t magically make bullies not bully, or make homophobic adults not be homophobic or transphobic, **but it does signal that the district is thinking about inclusion, that the adults on campus are committed to that, and that school should be a safe place,**” explained Petaluma City Schools trustee Caitlin Quinn, who helped lead the effort. While flying a \$20 flag is a “cheap and easy way to show our support and our inclusion with really minimal effort,” she said it’s not the last step the board intends to make toward creating more inclusive classrooms. [Read more on the CSBA blog »](#)

Foster & Foster can help with GASB report needs



The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) establishes accounting reporting standards. GASB 68 reports are required for pensions that are provided to the employees of state and local governmental employers through pension plans that are administered through trusts. GASB 75 reports are required for other post-employment benefits that are provided to the employees of state and local governmental

employers. **CSBA offers actuarial services through its partner Foster & Foster, which provides GASB-compliant reports to state and local governmental employers with no limit to the number of participants.** [Learn more »](#)

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

Sponsors

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](#)

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](#)

Virtual events

Ethics Assembly Bill 2158

June 22 | [Register](#)

The Brown Act

June 26 | [Register](#)

MIG Course 5: Community Relations & Advocacy/ Governance Integration

July 13 and 27 | [Register](#)

[View complete calendar](#)

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