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INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT

Mao Misty Her

BOARD COMMUNICATIONS – AUGUST 02, 2024

TO: Members of the Board of Education
FROM: Interim Superintendent, Mao Misty Her

INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT – Mao Misty Her

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S-2	Ambra O'Connor	Proposed Change to a Scheduled Board Meeting Date

BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL SERVICES – Patrick Jensen, Chief Financial Officer

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HUMAN RESOURCES – David Chavez, Chief Officer

HR-1	Kim Villescaz	The Wallace Foundation Equity-Centered Pipeline Initiative
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INSTRUCTIONAL DIVISION – Dr. Natasha Baker, Chief Academic Officer

ID-1	Marie Willams	Independent Contractor Services Agreement with K12 Insight
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Fresno Unified School District
Board Communication

BC Number S-1

From the Office of the Superintendent
To the Members of the Board of Education
Prepared by: Mao Misty Her, Interim Superintendent
Cabinet Approval:

Date: August 02, 2024
Phone Number: 457-3884

Regarding: Interim Superintendent Calendar Highlights

The purpose of this communication is to inform the Board of notable summer calendar items:

- Presented at the June Principal Institute Day
- Held listening session with retired teachers
- Attended United Way Board Meetings
- Spoke at the Central California Asian Pacific Women Scholarship Awards Event
- Attended PELP Summer Institute at Harvard School of Business
- Gave interview with Emily Erwin, KSEE24/CBS47, regarding an update on 100-day plan
- Attended Student Outcomes Focus Governance Workshop with Executive Cabinet members
- Conducted 28 random student home visits
- Held five listening sessions with Special Education Teachers and Staff
- Summer school site visits at Aynesworth, Farber, Lane, Tatarian, Tenaya
- Department site visits at: A4, College and Career Readiness. English Learner Services, Special Education,
- Gave interview with Jessica Harrington, ABC 30, regarding 100-Day plan update and update on work done at Harvard on student outcome goal
- Held listening session with students attending alternative education classes
- Attended Community Schools meeting hosted by Central Valley Community Foundation
- Attended the following summer camps: Aviation, Fishing, Hmong Fashion Design, Little Chefs, Scuba and Volleyball
- Held listening session with the Latino Educational Roundtable
- Met with Parsec and District Staff to discuss our Strategic Planning Platform, Clarity Dashboard
- Visited Central California Blood Center and met with President/CEO Christopher Staub to discuss potential partnerships
- Participated in the Central Valley Community Foundation Governance Meeting
- Gave interview with Nancy Price, GV Wire, regarding update on 100-day plan
- Met with Fresno City Mayor Dyer
- Met with Interim Chief of Police, Mindy Castro
- Met with labor partners
- Attended the Fresno Unified School District Family Goal Kickoff Celebration

Approved by Interim Superintendent

Mao Misty Her  _____

Date: 08/02/24

Fresno Unified School District
Board Communication

BC Number S-2

From the Office of the Interim Superintendent
To the Members of the Board of Education
Prepared by: Ambra O'Connor, Chief of Staff
Cabinet Approval:



Date: August 02, 2024

Phone Number: 457-3838

Regarding: Proposed Change to a Scheduled Board Meeting Date

The purpose of this communication is to inform you of a proposed change to a scheduled board meeting. The meeting originally set for June 11, 2025, will now take place on June 04, 2025.

We initially aimed to avoid the first week of June due to anticipated high school graduations. However, we have since learned that those graduations will occur during the second week of June.

This change will be presented to the Board for approval during our meeting on August 28, 2024.

If you have any questions pertaining to the information in this communication, or require additional information, please contact Ambra O'Connor at 457-3838.

Approved by Interim Superintendent

Mao Misty Her  _____

Date: 08/02/24 _____

Fresno Unified School District
Board Communication

BC Number BFS-1

From the Office of the Interim Superintendent
To the Members of the Board of Education
Prepared by: Kim Kelstrom, Chief Executive 
Cabinet Approval: 

Date: August 02, 2024

Phone Number: 457-3907

Regarding: School Services Weekly Update Reports for June 21, 2024 through July 26, 2024

The purpose of this communication is to provide the Board a copy of School Services of California's (SSC) Weekly Updates. Each week SSC provides an update and commentary on different educational fiscal issues. In addition, they include different articles related to education issues. The SSC Weekly Updates for June 21, 2024 through July 26, 2024 are attached and include the following articles:

- Governor Newsom Signs TK ELPAC Bill – June 17, 2024
- Lack of Reliable Education Data Hamstrings California Lawmakers and the Public – June 20, 2024
- California Democrats Score Big Win as Supreme Court Blocks Anti-Tax Ballot Measure – June 20, 2024
- 2024-25 State Budget Agreement Reached – June 24, 2024
- Bill Banning Parent Notification Policies in California Schools Gains Momentum Amid Protest – June 27, 2024
- Gov. Newsom Vigorously Defends, Praises California, His Own Contributions in State of State – June 25, 2024
- K-14 School Facilities Bond Bill Signed – July 11, 2024
- Introducing the 2024 California Ballot Propositions. Here's What They Would Do – July 10, 2024
- House Committee Approves 25% Cut to Title I – July 11, 2024
- The CDE Certifies the 2024-2025 Advance Principal Apportionment – July 24, 2024
- Biden Immigration Order Could Help Thousands of California Children – July 25, 2024
- Former Los Angeles Mayor Joins Growing California Governor Race to Succeed Gavin Newsom in 2026 – July 24, 2024

If you have any questions pertaining to the information in this communication, or require additional information, please contact Kim Kelstrom at 457-3907.

Approved by Interim Superintendent

Mao Misty Her  _____

Date: 08/02/24



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DATE: June 21, 2024

TO: Robert G. Nelson
Superintendent

AT: Fresno Unified School District

FROM: Your SSC Governmental Relations Team

RE: *SSC's Sacramento Weekly Update*

2024-25 State Budget Update

As of this writing, legislative leadership and the Newsom Administration have yet to come to an agreement on the 2024-25 State Budget package.

As a reminder, the legislative version of the State Budget, Assembly Bill (AB) 107, was approved by both houses last Thursday, June 13, 2024. However, since the bill was not officially presented to Governor Gavin Newsom until Saturday, June 15, 2024, it gives the Governor until next Thursday, June 27, 2024, to sign or veto the measure.

In addition to AB 107, the Legislature also approved Senate Bill (SB) 154 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review) last Thursday, which suspends the Proposition 98 minimum guarantee in the current fiscal year. SB 154 conceptually aligns with the deal struck between Governor Newsom and the California Teachers Association, but there are some discrepancies in how much money to suspend in 2023-24, and how much money to leave in the Proposition 98 rainy day fund. SB 154 was also presented to the Governor on June 15, which means he has until June 27 to sign or veto that measure as well.

Senate President pro Tempore Mike McGuire (D-North Coast) told members last week that legislative leadership was very close to striking a deal with Governor Newsom and expected the Legislature to be voting on the final version of the 2024-25 State Budget bill this week. This did not come to fruition, however, and with members already traveling back to their districts for the weekend, there will not be a vote on the 2024-25 State Budget this week.

With June 27 approaching quickly, we expect to hear an announcement on an agreement between legislative leadership and the Governor sometime over the weekend or early next week. If a deal is struck, the Legislature would have to wait at least 72 hours after Budget Bill Jr. is in print before approving the bill and sending it to Governor Newsom. Budget Bill Jr. will make the necessary changes to AB 107 to reflect the deal between the Governor and legislative leadership and allow the Governor to sign both bills at once.

We will also be watching to see how the Governor and legislative leadership iron out the final details of the Proposition 98 funding structure over the three-year budget window (2022-23, 2023-24, and 2024-25). If it is different than what the Legislature approved in SB 154, then another vehicle will be necessary to reconcile the differences and reflect the deal.

Senate Education Committee

On Wednesday, the Senate Education Committee, chaired by Senator Josh Newman (D-Fullerton), met and approved 30 bills, including the following noteworthy measures:

- AB 1858 (Ward, D-San Diego) would prohibit a local educational agency (LEA) from conducting high-intensity active shooter drills and would require an LEA to use a trauma-informed approach to the design and execution of any drill
- AB 2112 (Muratsuchi, D-Torrance) would require the State Superintendent of Public Instruction to establish a workgroup to develop and provide recommendations to the Legislature on specified elements of the Expanded Learning Opportunities Program
- AB 2245 (Carrillo, J., D-Palmdale) would delete the exemption in current law that service by teachers at a regional occupational center or program does not count towards permanent status
- AB 2595 (Rivas, L., D-Sylmar) would, contingent upon an appropriation, require the California Department of Education (CDE) to establish a pilot process for state reimbursement for providing summer meals to guardians of pupils receiving summer meals at public libraries
- AB 2640 (Kalra, D-San Jose) would strengthen the process for students to opt out of the dissection of animals in schools, would require the CDE to develop a template for students to use to opt out, and would make compliance with opt-out requirements subject to the Uniform Complaint Procedures
- B 2768 (Berman, D-Menlo Park) would expand eligibility for the Golden State Teacher Grant program to a prospective teacher who commits to working in a nonpublic, nonsectarian school for students with exceptional needs
- AB 2927 (McCarty, D-Sacramento) is an urgency measure that would add personal finance as a high school graduation requirement commencing the 2030-31 school year and require an LEA serving high school students to offer a personal finance course beginning with the 2027-28 school year
- AB 2968 (Connolly, D-San Rafael) would require LEAs, as part of school safety plans, to establish a procedure to identify appropriate refuge shelter for all pupils and staff to be used in the event of an evacuation order and create defensible spaces

All the above bills, with the exception of AB 2968, have cleared the July 3 deadline for measures to be approved by second house policy committees and will now go to the Senate Appropriations Committee. AB 2968 still needs to clear the Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee.

Leilani Aguinaldo

Governor Newsom Signs TK ELPAC Bill

By Patti F. Herrera, EdD
School Services of California Inc.'s *Fiscal Report*
June 17, 2024

On Friday, June 14, 2024, Governor Gavin Newsom signed Assembly Bill 2268 (Muratsuchi, D-Torrance) into law, exempting transitional kindergarten (TK) students from taking the English Language Proficiency Assessments of California (ELPAC). The law went into effect immediately upon his signature, thereby exempting TK students from the ELPAC beginning in the 2024-25 school year.

As reported on June 13, 2024 (see *Fiscal Report* article, "[TK ELPAC Exemption Bill Heads to Governor](#)"), the State Board of Education will be exploring options for identifying and supporting emerging bilingual TK students in the coming months, beginning with its July 2024 meeting.

Note: Public data posted by the CDE has been incomplete, often outdated, and occasionally inaccurate, forcing legislators to pass laws based on old data, researchers to delay inquiries, and journalists to grapple with inaccurate information.

Lack of Reliable Education Data Hamstrings California Lawmakers and the Public

State agency blames understaffing and promises changes

By Diana Lambert
EdSource
June 20, 2024

Public data posted by the California Department of Education has been incomplete, often outdated and occasionally inaccurate, forcing legislators to pass laws based on old data, researchers to delay inquiries and journalists to grapple with inaccurate information.

Californians, living in a state known globally as a center of innovation and technology, have had to cope with a state education agency that has admittedly lacked the staffing and the policies to provide much-needed data, EdSource reporting has found.

As a result, there are gaps in the knowledge needed by lawmakers, researchers, journalists and others to evaluate state programs and policies, from teacher demographics, to how many English learners become fluent in English each year, to how districts have spent a \$50 million court settlement to improve early literacy.

Obtaining data from the California Department of Education (CDE) has been difficult, said Christopher Nellum, executive director of The Education Trust-West, one of the state's most prominent social justice and advocacy organizations. There have been delays in the public release of data and a lack of consistency when it comes to the annual publication of key data sets, he said.

“In an ideal world, we would have a legislature in a state that is making data-informed decisions about legislation, and then making data-informed decisions about assessing the efficacy or impact of investments, or the interventions, and this is difficult in the state of California right now,” Nellum said.

The CDE collects data about student achievement and demographics, enrollment, course information, discipline, graduation rates, staff assignments and other data, much of it mandated by legislation.

Some data, publicly available on the CDE’s DataQuest website, has not been updated by the department for as long as seven years. The last time the ethnic breakdown of high school graduates was made available was 2016-17, while the latest data for teacher demographics, physical fitness test results, course enrollment and class size is from 2018-19. Data on homeless student enrollment from 2019 through 2021 wasn’t downloaded to the site until 2023, and college-going rates and stability reports from 2017 through 2019 weren’t updated until 2022, according to the CDE website.

The dashboard that tracks the annual progress of K-12 students on standardized tests, chronic absenteeism, suspensions and graduation was not fully updated until December – the first time since 2019.

Cindy Kazanis, the director of the Analysis, Measurement and Accountability Reporting Division at CDE, said many of the delays in reporting data have resulted from “not having enough boots on the ground.” The department is in the process of recruiting and hiring 17 new staffers.

New state mandates and changes in the way data is collected also have impacted data collection, Kazanis said. The five-year delay in updating some data is because the department has a backlog of reports and data that must be reconfigured because the state changed course codes in 2018-19, she said.

Legislation based on old data

An EdSource examination of recent state education bills shows that legislative staff have sometimes had to rely on outdated CDE data to complete analysis meant to help legislators make decisions about whether to pass laws.

One example is an analysis of Assembly Bill 2097, which used department data from 2018-19, the most recent year it was available, to show computer science offerings in California high schools, and the number and gender of students enrolled in them. The bill, if passed, will require school districts to offer computer science courses to high school students, who will be required to complete a one-year course before graduating.

An analysis of Assembly Bill 2429 also relied on data from five years ago. The legislation mandates health education courses, required by some districts to graduate, including instruction on the dangers of fentanyl use. The legislation passed on June 13.

“The committee may wish to consider that course-taking data, which is important for policy analysis and evaluation, has not been updated by the CDE since the 2018-19 school year,” stated the analysis. “The CDE reports that this data will be updated in 2024.”

Since 2018, legislators also have required that several new datasets be added to the CDE website, including absenteeism by reason, a stability rate, restraint and seclusion, special education, college-going rates, teacher assignment monitoring outcomes, five-year graduation rates and homeless students by dwelling type, according to the CDE.

Assembly Bill 1340, signed by Gov. Gavin Newsom in October, mandates that the department post test scores, suspensions, rates of absenteeism, and graduate and college-going rates for students with disabilities, disaggregated by federal disability category, on its website.

The analysis of the bill for the Assembly Education Committee was terse. “When this committee is asked to evaluate the effect of a policy on a subset of students with disabilities — for example, students who are visually impaired — it requires data about this subgroup of students’ progress on academic and other measures. Under current CDE practice, a single number for all students with disabilities is shown, obscuring important information about students’ progress, which is needed for evidence-based policymaking and to provide transparent information for the public,” it read. Legislators could not be reached to comment.

Unreliable public information

EdSource journalists working on news stories have struggled in several cases to obtain accurate, up-to-date data from the California Department of Education. This year, EdSource had to twice remove data after publication because the analysis was based on incorrect data that the department had published on its website. In both cases, school district officials notified CDE that they had inadvertently submitted incorrect data to the department, but the agency did not correct the information online.

The timing of data releases has also been an issue. When CDE refused to publicly release state test scores after districts began releasing the information to parents, EdSource enlisted legal help to require CDE to comply with the California Public Records Act.

In September 2022, just months before the election that re-elected Tony Thurman as state superintendent of public instruction, the CDE refused an EdSource request for Smarter Balanced test scores, saying they would not be released until sometime later in the year. EdSource wrote about the delay and enlisted an attorney to write a letter outlining why the data was public information. Within a week, the department announced the scores would be released in October, before the election. The Legislature subsequently required the department to release test scores annually by Oct. 15.

Nonprofits, schools share data

Because of the difficulty obtaining education data from the state, many nonprofits and collaboratives have started collecting their own data or creating online tools, so the public can more easily access CDE data.

The Education Trust-West, which has campaigned for clear and accessible data through its Data for the People initiative for over a decade, developed a data visualization tool that uses public data on California K-12 and higher education systems. Because much of the data comes from the CDE, information is limited to what the department has made available.

CORE Districts, a collaborative of nine California school districts serving more than a million students, collects data directly from districts for its Insights Dashboard. CORE collects data from its member districts, as well as 124 other school districts and charter schools, so that comparisons can be made. But the effort doesn’t come near reporting on all nearly 1,000 districts.

“We regularly get requests from researchers to look at our data,” said Rick Miller, CORE Districts’ chief executive officer. “Going through the CDE process is so cumbersome.”

Lack of data stymies researchers

Education data that is not being collected or made publicly available recently became the central topic of a gathering of California researchers discussing educator diversity, said Kai Mathews, project director for the California Educator Diversity Project at UCLA.

“What we realized is that some people had some information that’s not publicly available, and it largely depended on past relationships,” Mathews said. “So some data is actually probably collected, it’s just not publicly shared with all of us.”

Mathews and Nellum agree that a lack of updated teacher demographic data is particularly perplexing, given the teacher shortage and the number of workforce issues facing teachers. The Education Trust-West has had to delay some of its work because it hasn’t been able to obtain teacher data, Nellum said.

“That is bad for students. It’s bad for schools. And, of course, it’s bad for any sort of hope we have of advancing equity,” Nellum said.

EdSource requested updated teacher demographic information from CDE earlier this year for a series of stories on recruiting and retaining Black teachers, an issue Superintendent of Public Instruction Thurmond had called a priority. The data was last updated in 2018-19, despite being submitted to the department annually by school districts. After sending five email requests over a month, the reporter never received the data from the CDE. Instead, the reporter used data from 2020-21, the most recent year available, from the National Center for Education Statistics.

Alix Gallagher, the director of strategic partnerships at Policy Analysis for California Education (PACE), says the lack of data on universal transitional kindergarten makes it unclear whether the state is optimizing the annual investment it is making in the grade. California will spend an estimated \$3 billion a year by 2025-26, when universal transitional kindergarten (TK) will be offered to all 4-year-olds, Gallagher wrote in a commentary on the PACE website.

The state should collect data on the features of transitional kindergarten programs and on student outcomes from transitional kindergarten through second grade, to better understand the effectiveness of transitional kindergarten, she wrote.

“Right now there isn’t publicly available data for roughly the first third of a kid’s career in the public schools,” Gallagher told EdSource. “We now have universal access to TK, kindergarten, first, second and third grades. And, at the end of third grade, kids take the SBAC (Smarter Balanced Assessment). And that’s the first time, as a system, we know anything about kids’ learning.”

In fact, this year’s test scores show 57% of third-graders reading below grade level and 55% doing mathematics below grade level.

CDE data division staffing up

An annual \$3 million investment from the state will allow CDE to add 17 new employees to improve data reporting to the public, Kazanis said. Twelve of the new employees have been hired. The Analysis, Measurement and Accountability Reporting Division currently has 66 employees.

Some of those resources are headed to CDE as part of the state's launch-of the first phase of its Cradle-to-Career Data System sometime this year. The longitudinal data system will provide tools to help students achieve their goals and deliver information on education and workforce outcomes, according to the website. It may also give researchers the data they are seeking.

"I'm hopeful though, because the Cradle-to-Career data system is working on a teacher dashboard, which I know will have a lot of the data that we have been waiting for," said Nellum, who also is a member of the Cradle-to-Career (C2C) Advisory Board. Nellum spoke to EdSource for this story as a representative of The Education-Trust West and not as a member of the C2C board.

Eight of the employees will make up the new Data Visualization and Insights Office. It will collect data at the request of state policymakers and the California State Board of Education and work to make publicly available data more user-friendly, Kazanis said.

The state funding includes \$300,000 to move the release date of the California School Dashboard data up incrementally each year until the annual release date is Oct. 15. This is expected to happen in 2026. Last year, data which includes test scores, graduation rates and student demographics was released on Dec. 15. Two data teams work on the dashboard full-time all year, Kazanis said.

The influx of new staff is expected to allow the department to revamp DataQuest to make it more user-friendly, Kazanis said. The new teacher reports, for example, will allow the user to make comparisons among districts, she said.

Seven new positions will focus entirely on generating teacher data, Kazanis said.

"We've wanted to get out from under this backlog, but part of it was recognizing that we did need more resources, and we need dedicated resources to be focused on teacher data."

Friday: California launches the Cradle-to-Career data system, a long-awaited project to track student progress

Note: The California Supreme Court pulled the "Taxpayer Protection and Government Accountability Act" initiative from consideration for the November 5, 2024, General Election ballot, citing it is a conditional revision and not a constitutional amendment.

California Democrats Score Big Win as Supreme Court Blocks Anti-Tax Ballot Measure

By Dan Walters
CalMatters
June 20, 2024

The century-long and often tortured history of California making law through ballot measures took a new turn Thursday when the state Supreme Court blocked an initiative that would have made it much more difficult to raise state and local taxes.

Unanimously, the court agreed with Gov. Gavin Newsom and a Legislature controlled by fellow Democrats that the Taxpayer Protection Act, as it's called shorthand, would be a revision of the state constitution and cannot be proposed via initiative, rather than a constitutional amendment as its proponents contended.

“No speculation regarding potential future consequences is needed to conclude that the TPA is a revision on its face,” the opinion declared. “The measure would fundamentally restructure the most basic of governmental powers. The TPA would exclude the levying of new taxes from the Legislature’s control by requiring voter approval of all such measures.”

The ruling was a victory not only for Newsom and legislative leaders, but for the Democratic Party’s most powerful political allies in public employee unions, which were prepared to spend tens of millions of dollars to defeat it.

“We applaud the Supreme Court’s decision to remove the Taxpayer Deception Act from the ballot,” Lorena Gonzalez, who heads the California Labor Federation, said in a statement. “This unconstitutional measure was another cynical and self-serving effort by corporate interests to put their greed ahead of the needs of all Californians.”

It was a crushing defeat for the California Business Roundtable and anti-tax groups such as the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association, which had hoped that the measure, which would have required voter approval of new taxes, would block the tendency of Democratic officials in a deeply blue state to expand programs and raise taxes to pay for them when needed.

Recent polling has indicated that Californians feel overtaxed, which would have helped the measure’s backers potentially win in November. Fear of that outcome propelled Democratic officials to ask the Supreme Court to block the measure from reaching the ballot. They won the case exactly one week before the final deadline for determining what will make the ballot.

The tax initiative was just one example of how business and other conservative interests have turned to ballot measures — both initiatives to make new laws and referendums to overturn legislative acts and counteract policies they consider to be onerous.

Just days ago, for instance, Newsom and legislators agreed to make changes in California’s unique Private Attorneys General Act rather than face a business-sponsored ballot measure that would have repealed the 21-year-old law allowing employees to pursue class-action lawsuits for violation of employment laws.

Last year, a compromise was struck to water down a law that would have raised wages of fast-food workers and undermined the industry’s franchise model. The Legislature is also trying to head off another pending measure that would toughen sentences for certain crimes.

State law once mandated that when measures qualified for the ballot, they could not be removed. In 2014, however, legislation was passed to allow the removal of measures by their sponsors if their issues had been adequately addressed by the Legislature.

“By allowing an initiative proponent to withdraw their measure closer to the election, it allows for the possibility of reasoned compromise and a better result between the people’s elected government and the people’s initiative alternative,” the lead sponsor of the legislation, then-Senate President Pro Tem Darrell Steinberg, said at the time.

In practice, however, it empowered conservative interests to compel a liberal Legislature to pay attention to their demands by qualifying counteracting measures for the ballot.

Thursday's Supreme Court decision may give liberals a pathway, in some instances, to knock hostile measures off the ballot.



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DATE: June 27, 2024

TO: Robert G. Nelson
Superintendent

AT: Fresno Unified School District

FROM: Your SSC Governmental Relations Team

RE: *SSC's Sacramento Weekly Update*

2024-25 State Budget Agreement Reached

Last Saturday, June 22, 2024, Governor Gavin Newsom, Senate President pro Tempore Mike McGuire (D-North Coast), and Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon (D-Salinas) [announced](#) they had reached an agreement on the 2024-25 State Budget package.

The bill that codifies the deal is [Senate Bill \(SB\) 108](#), which will amend [Assembly Bill \(AB\) 107](#)—the main State Budget bill that reflected the Legislature's approach to the 2024-25 fiscal year. Of the trailer bills released, the most relevant to education is [SB 153](#), which is the education omnibus budget trailer bill. The *Fiscal Report* article below, entitled "2024-25 State Budget Agreement Reached," provides a high-level overview of SB 153.

On Wednesday morning, Governor Newsom signed AB 107 into law anticipating the Legislature's approval of the rest of the agreed-upon State Budget package. That same morning he also signed [SB 154](#) into law, which suspends the Proposition 98 minimum guarantee for K-14 education in 2023-24 and creates a maintenance factor.

On Wednesday evening, both the Assembly and Senate approved the rest of the State Budget package including the aforementioned SB 108 and SB 153. The Governor has 12 days to sign these bills once they are presented to him, although he is expected to sign the measures sooner rather than later. As a reminder, budget bills go into effect immediately upon signature, so the 2024-25 State Budget package takes effect as soon he signs those measures.

Statewide School Facilities Bond Update

Technically, the deadline for the Legislature to place measures before voters on the November 5 General Election ballot is today, June 27. However, on Monday, Senate President pro Tempore Mike McGuire confirmed that the Legislature will waive this statute and extend the timeline to place measures on the ballot to July 3, which is the last day the Legislature is in session before going on its monthlong summer recess.

The reason the extension is necessary is that the Legislature is still negotiating the details of two bond proposals, one of which is a statewide school facilities bond. Two big issues that still need to be decided for the facilities bond is the overall price tag of the proposed bond and whether to include the California State University and University of California systems in the proposal. Additionally, there has been discussion of changing the structure of the School Facility Program to account for local ability to raise funds. We will be looking for these details when the final bond bill is unveiled, likely over the weekend in order to meet the 72-hours in print rule to be voted on by July 3.

Policy Committee Hearings

With the July 3 deadline for bills to clear second house policy committees vastly approaching, both the Assembly and Senate Education Committees met to consider more than 40 measures. Some of the noteworthy bills that they approved that would have implications for local educational agencies (LEAs) include:

- [AB 1917](#) (Muratsuchi, D-Torrance) would require school board members to be trained on K-12 public education governance laws by January 1, 2027, and at least once during their tenure serving as an LEA official
- [AB 1919](#) (Weber, D-San Deigo) would require an LEA, beginning July 1, 2026, to adopt at least one of the best practices for restorative justice practice implementation as identified by the California Department of Education (CDE)
- [AB 1955](#) (Ward, D-San Diego) would prohibit an employee or contractor of an LEA from being required to disclose any information related to a student’s sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression to any other person without the student’s consent
- [AB 2226](#) (Muratsuchi) would expand compulsory education to include kindergarten beginning with the 2026-27 school year
- [AB 2316](#) (Gabriel, D-Encino) would prohibit an LEA from offering, selling, or otherwise providing any food or beverages containing specific food dye additives
- [AB 2534](#) (Flora, R-Modesto) would require teachers applying for jobs at new LEAs to disclose their previous employment history and would require the LEAs to inquire with all prior employers about any credible complaints, investigations, or disciplinary actions related to egregious misconduct
- [AB 3216](#) (Hoover, R-Folsom) would require an LEA governing board to, by July 1, 2026, develop, adopt, and update every five years a policy to limit or prohibit the use by its pupils of smartphones while the pupils are at a school site
- [SB 445](#) (Portantino, D-Burbank) would require the CDE to develop and issue guidance advising LEAs on best practices in translating a pupil’s individualized education program documents into the native language of a limited-English proficient parent
- [SB 897](#) (Newman, D-Fullerton) would eliminate the sunset date for the District of Choice program and extend the program indefinitely

- [SB 1283](#) (Stern, D-Los Angeles) would authorize an LEA to adopt a policy to limit or prohibit the use by its pupils of social media while the pupils are at a school site or while the pupils are under the supervision and control of a school employee

With the exception of AB 1955, AB 2316, and SB 1283, the above bills will now go to the second house Appropriations Committee where their fiscal implications will be scrutinized. AB 1955 will go to the Assembly floor for a vote concurring the amendments taken in the Senate. AB 2316 will be heard in the Senate Health Committee next week before it can go to the Senate Appropriations Committee, while SB 1283 needs to clear the Assembly Privacy and Consumer Protection next week before it goes to the Assembly floor for consideration.

Another bill that was heard this week is [AB 2088](#) (McCarty, D-Sacramento). This is the measure that would establish a statutory right of first refusal to current, regular non-probationary classified employees of K-14 districts relating to part-time and full-time vacant positions. A similar bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom last year.

AB 2088 was approved by the Senate Labor, Public Employment, and Retirement Committee with a 4-1 vote and will now go to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

No Sacramento Update Next Week

Due to the fourth of July holiday, we will not be providing the *Sacramento Weekly Update* next week. We will return to our regular production schedule the week ending July 12. We at School Services of California Inc. wish you a happy Independence Day!

Leilani Aguinaldo

2024-25 State Budget Agreement Reached

By Kyle Hyland
School Services of California Inc.'s *Fiscal Report*
June 24, 2024

On June 22, 2024, Governor Gavin Newsom, Senate President pro Tempore Mike McGuire (D-North Coast), and Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon (D-Salinas) [announced](#) they had reached an agreement on the 2024-25 State Budget package.

The Assembly and Senate are expected to take action on the numerous bills needed to enact the State Budget this week. The bill that will make edits to the main 2024-25 State Budget bill, also known as budget bill jr., is [Assembly Bill \(AB\)/Senate Bill \(SB\) 108](#). Changes to the 2023-24 Enacted State Budget will be done through [AB 109/SB 109](#).

For policy changes impacting TK-12 education, [AB/SB 153](#) is the bill to note as it is the education omnibus budget trailer bill. AB/SB 153 is a 336-page bill making various changes to the Education Code, including the following:

- Adopts the following Proposition 98 framework:
 - Withdraws \$7.9 billion from the Proposition 98 reserve in 2023-24 to fund \$5.3 billion in Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) costs and \$2.6 billion in deferred, unallocated TK-12 categorical programs
 - Authorizes the deferral of \$3.6 billion in Proposition 98 funding from 2023-24 to 2024-25, and the deferral of \$246 million in Proposition 98 funding from 2024-25 to 2025-26
 - Establishes an obligation schedule for \$6.2 billion General Fund from 2022-23, which will begin in 2026-27 with \$622 million General Fund per year until 2035-36
- Provides the statutory 1.07% LCFF cost-of-living adjustment (COLA)
- Prohibits local educational agencies (LEAs) from adopting the use of instructional materials or curriculum that would subject students to unlawful discrimination
- Includes technical changes to adjust transitional kindergarten (TK) average daily attendance (ADA) computation for charter schools and aligns TK curriculum to the California Preschool/Transitional Kindergarten Learning Foundations
- Makes changes to the Learning Recovery Emergency Block Grant
- Beginning July 1, 2025, authorizes LEAs to earn additional ADA, up to ten days or the number of student absences, through attendance recovery programs
- Requires LEAs to include instructional continuity plans as part of their school safety plans
- Beginning July 1, 2025, LEAs that had school closures or a material decrease in attendance are required to provide an affidavit with specified information

- Restores \$100 million for the Inclusive Early Education Expansion Program that was proposed to be reappropriated for Proposition 98 backfill
- Makes various changes to the Expanded Learning Opportunities Program
- Appropriates \$25 million one-time for professional development related to the literacy screener for reading difficulties, and makes technical changes to allow ongoing funding to be provided through the K-12 Mandate Block Grant process
- Suspends the authority of LEAs to lay off certificated and classified employees utilizing the “summer layoff window” between July 1, 2024, and July 1, 2025
- Requires the California Department of Education to develop model referral protocols for addressing student behavioral health concerns by January 1, 2025, and requires LEAs to certify that their employees received youth behavioral training by July 1, 2029
- Eliminates \$550 million General Fund planned for 2024-25 for the California State Preschool, Transitional Kindergarten, and Full-Day Kindergarten Facilities Grant Program and the planned funding for the School Facility Program in 2024-25
- Requires the Fiscal Crisis and Management Assistance Team to provide recommendations related to funding and financing mechanisms related to judgments and settlements from child sexual abuse lawsuits
- Makes modifications to the Golden State Teacher Grant Program

Summarized here are only some of the highlights of what will be included in the 2024-25 State Budget should it be enacted in law as currently drafted in trailer bills. The Legislature is poised to vote on the State Budget package this week and we will dig into the details of these new provisions of law through a series of *Fiscal Report* articles, with an emphasis on the significant changes since the May Revision.

Ultimately, the upcoming [School Finance Conference](#) will provide a comprehensive overview of the 2024-25 State Budget, its effects on LEAs, and how to implement these changes locally. Stay tuned.

Note: AB 1955 brought hundreds of people to the Capitol on Wednesday to either express their support or opposition to the measure that would ban LEAs from adopting notification policies requiring school staff to “out” transgender students to their parents.

Bill Banning Parent Notification Policies in California Schools Gains Momentum Amid Protest

By Jenavieve Hatch
The Sacramento Bee
June 27, 2024

After two hours of protest and emotional testimony Wednesday afternoon, the Assembly Committee on Education approved a bill that would prevent California school boards from passing parental notification

policies that require school staff to “out” trans students to their parents if the student requests to use different pronouns or go by a different name.

Assembly Bill 1955, sponsored by Assemblyman Chris Ward, D-San Diego, passed the Senate earlier this month, and received support from education committee chair Al Muratsuchi, D-Torrance, and the committee’s other Democratic members. Muratsuchi is a co-sponsor of the bill. The bill will now head back to the Assembly and, if it passes, to Gov. Gavin Newsom’s desk.

The committee hearing chamber was nearly full Wednesday afternoon, with hundreds of people from across the state lining up to voice their support or opposition of the bill. More members of the public opposed the bill than supported it, though both sides had more than 60 people in attendance to voice their opinions.

Republican Assemblymen Heath Flora, R-Ripon, and Josh Hoover, R-Folsom, did not support the bill.

Hoover voiced concerns about the bill “encouraging parents to be kept in the dark.”

“How can parents best support their student if they are kept in the dark?” he asked Ward.

Ward, a gay member of the Legislative LGBTQ Caucus, grew increasingly emotional as he sought to explain how personal the coming out process is for gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender individuals. A student’s choice to come out as transgender at school before they do so at home may be an important part of their process, even if their parents are supportive.

“Coming out is a difficult experience,” Ward said. “I think what we have conflated here is that somehow this is preventing, obstructing, or otherwise making it difficult to have these conversations with a youth and their parent.”

“Even if it’s a loving relationship,” Ward said, after pausing briefly to hold back tears, a parent is “the last person you want to reject you ... When you are jumping ahead an individual’s timeline, it can do an incredible amount of harm.”

Ward confirmed to the committee that his bill would not prohibit a teacher from sharing this information with a student’s parents. Rather, it would make it illegal to force them to do so.

The policies “have torn apart the fabric of (California) communities,” Ward said, “and have put teachers in a very awkward space, and have turned school board meetings into an absolute circus, and away from the core mission of having to talk about the bread and butter of fulfilling that district’s mission.”

‘Forced outing’? School board members say no

LGBTQ advocates and supporters of the bill who oppose parental notification policies refer to them as “forced outing policies.”

Proponents of the bill say the rhetorical change is unfair.

“We are constantly hearing that this an ‘outing policy’,” Sonja Shaw told The Bee before the hearing, in which she was the lead opposing witness.

Shaw is the president of the Chino Valley Unified School District, which became the first district in California to pass the policy last August. In the year since Chino Valley passed its policy, the district has been embroiled in a legal case with the state Attorney General Rob Bonta. (Bonta's wife, Assemblywoman Mia Bonta, D-Oakland, a former school board member and sitting member of the education committee, supported the bill Wednesday).

Shaw said that the policies only apply to students who specifically request a name or pronoun change, or request to use facilities that do not align with their biological sex — not if a teacher suspects the student is trans, or hears it from someone else.

“It’s really bizarre to me that you’re saying a child can come out to potentially thousands of their peers and hundreds of staff members, but not their parents,” she said. “No one is reporting a conversation ... The child’s already coming out. And as the school district official, we have a really, really great responsibility to ensure that child’s safety and there has to be things put in place to make sure they’re safe, and the other children are safe if this is going to take place in school.”

Thirty minutes before the hearing, Republican Assemblyman and right-wing firebrand Bill Essayli, R-Riverside, led an event outside the Capitol with Assembly Republican Leader James Gallagher (R-Yuba City) and parents’ rights activists, including Shaw.

“There is a false narrative that there is an agenda to somehow hurt or harm children based on their gender ideology”, said Essayli. “That cannot be further from the truth. There is also a false argument that this is designed to forcibly out children, that’s also not true.”

Essayli echoed Shaw’s point: that parents will only be notified if the student requests a formal change.

“If the school is going to be involved in changing (a student’s) gender, then you better damn well believe that the parents are going to be involved as well.”

‘There’s nothing wrong with being trans’

But the bill’s proponents tell a different story — and say parental notification policies serve as a smokescreen for a rising anti-trans movement gaining steam among the Christian right and parents’ rights groups like Moms for Liberty.

Kristi Hirst, a former Chino Valley teacher and one of Ward’s witnesses at the Wednesday hearing, cited the surge in phone calls to an LGBTQ crisis hotline managed by the Rainbow Youth Project.

After the Chino Valley school board passed their policy last August, Rainbow Youth Project launched a California-specific hotline for people concerned about the parental notification policies. The hotline received 5,934 phone calls, and around 1,500 of those calls were about Chino Valley specifically, according to the non-profit Executive Director Lance Preston.

“A lot of young people call in distress,” Preston told The Bee on Wednesday. “They have a fear of being outed, a fear of being rejected by families if they are.” Some students who attended Gay Straight Alliance meetings grew anxious that the school would tell their parents they attended.

Preston said the hotline also gets calls from parents and teachers unsure what their rights are, and that of the students who called, more than 80% report increased instances of being bullied at school since the parental

notification policies were instated. One young person was evicted from their home, and another said they experienced physical violence.

Preston said that it isn't simply the passing of the policies, but the rhetoric used by community members who support them, that can cause harm to trans kids.

Trans kids being called "delusional," for example, "creates crisis equally, if not more, than the policy itself." School then becomes a place of anxiety rather than a safe place to learn.

In the hearing Wednesday, Assembly Democrats shared this sentiment.

"First and foremost, there's nothing wrong with being trans," said a visibly emotional Assemblywoman Dawn Addis, D-Morro Bay, wearing a pair of Pride flag earrings at the close of the bill's discussion.

"It's not a pathology. I didn't realize sitting up here how emotional it would be to say what I'm saying. We're talking about kids and about humans. There's really nothing wrong with kids being who they are."

Note: Governor Newsom gave his long-awaited State of the State this week with a 28-minute pre-recorded speech.

Gov. Newsom Vigorously Defends, Praises California, His Own Contributions in State of State

28-minute speech warns that the California way of life is under attack

By John Fensterwald
EdSource
June 25, 2024

Gov. Gavin Newsom sharply contrasted California with red-state America during a [pre-recorded State of the State address](#) Tuesday, warning ominously that the state's values and status as "a beacon of hope" are "under assault."

"Forces are threatening the very foundation of California's success — our pluralism, our innovative spirit, and our diversity," he said. To underscore his claim, he liberally juxtaposed images during [his 28-minute speech](#): Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis signing a ban on abortion with Newsom embracing an LGBTQ marcher at a Pride rally; headlines of congressional Republicans rejecting bipartisan immigration reform with National Guard members whom Newsom deployed to the border to intercept fentanyl.

The partisan, politically charged talk came two days before the first debate between President Joe Biden and former President Donald Trump and five months before a national election that Newsom called "another extraordinary moment in history." Newsom, who has assumed the informal role as an articulate surrogate for Biden, underscored the importance of the president's re-election for Californians.

"For generations, we've stood for progress: championing women's rights and LGBTQ rights, protecting the environment, and expanding civil rights," he said. "Conservatives and delusional California bashers want to

roll back social progress, social justice, racial justice, economic justice, clean air, clean water and basic fundamental fairness.”

Primarily, though, Newsom’s talk both defended and lauded the “California way” and his administration’s accomplishments — in enhancing innovation and job creation, stopping drugs at the border, lowering crime, expanding environmental protections and providing shelter for the homeless.

He pointed to the elimination of 9,300 unsafe homeless encampments while turning former hotels and apartments into 15,300 units of housing and the progress with the Delta conveyance to protect water supplies, the “largest climate resilience project in the nation.” California is driving the electric vehicle industry and new industries to combat climate change, he said.

While critics portray California’s cities as lawless dystopias, the governor said the state’s violent crime rate has dropped to half of its peak in 1992; California has a lower homicide rate than 29 other states, including Florida and Texas, he said. He attributed California’s gun safety laws as a cause and asserted that 140,000 more Americans would be alive if the nation had California’s homicide rate.

Newsom devoted little of the address to education but pointed to the expansion of after-school and summer programs for low-income schools and the creation of community schools — a \$4 billion initiative he protected from possible cuts — as accomplishments. At community schools, he said, students will receive family support, free meals and tutoring.

He also cited the state-funded hiring and training of literacy coaches in high-poverty schools, the creation of universal transitional kindergarten — a new grade for 4-year-olds — and, starting next year, the screening of all young students for possible learning challenges, including dyslexia, while introducing a new, state-funded multi-language screener.

Together, he boasted, these K-12 initiatives comprise “some of the most transformative policies in our state’s history, and most significant in our nation.”

In a vague reference to the state’s efforts to thwart censorship of social studies textbooks and novels from school libraries by conservative school boards, Newsom said California has acted “to protect a student’s right to learn, and a teacher’s right to teach.”

Diversity in demographics and in thought is California’s strength, he said. “Weird, wild, free-spirited California. A place that can elect Ronald Reagan and Jerry Brown — back to back,” he said.

Through revolutions in farmworker rights, free speech, love, computing and biotechnology, “we are building a state that transforms the world over and over again,” Newsom said.

In a news conference outside the Capitol an hour after the speech was released, Republican leaders laid out a vastly different counter-narrative.

“We have crime out of control, inflation out of control,” said state Sen. Brian Dahle, R-Bieber. “\$24 billion for homeless, and we’ve actually increased homelessness. For the first time in the state’s history, we’ve deployed CHP (California Highway Patrol) to Oakland, San Francisco and Bakersfield to combat crime.”

“Republicans in California have not controlled a statewide office or the Legislature for decades, so (Gavin Newsom) needs to look in the mirror and understand that he’s running the state into the ground,” Dahle said.

Assembly Republican Leader James Gallagher, R-Yuba City, called Newsom “unhinged” for diverting attention from his own performance by attacking Republicans in Congress.

“Let me tell you what the state of the state is right now. It’s a husband and wife sitting around that kitchen table, head in hands, trying to figure out how to pay the bills,” Gallagher said. “It’s parents who are afraid to send their kids to the local park because they’re afraid they might be attacked because it’s human devastation on our streets in every city. People lost in homelessness.

“And the problem has only gotten worse since Gavin Newsom has been governor,” he said.

Newsom had planned to give the State of the State address in March but delayed it while awaiting the outcome of Proposition 1 on the March primary ballot, which he had championed. The initiative, which passed narrowly, channeled \$6.4 billion to assist Californians facing chronic homelessness and mental health or drug abuse problems.



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DATE: July 12, 2024
TO: Robert G. Nelson
Superintendent
AT: Fresno Unified School District
FROM: Your SSC Governmental Relations Team
RE: *SSC's Sacramento Weekly Update*

K-14 Facilities Bond Makes General Election Ballot

Prior to the Legislature leaving for its summer recess last week, Governor Gavin Newsom and legislative leadership came to an agreement on a \$10 billion K-14 facilities bond proposal to place before voters on the November 5, 2024, General Election ballot.

The finalized agreement was released to the public via Assembly Bill (AB) 247 (Muratsuchi, D-Torrance) on Saturday, June 29, giving legislators enough time to meet the 72-hour rule, which requires bills to be in print in their final form at least three days before being approved by the Legislature. On Wednesday, July 3, the Senate and Assembly both approved AB 247 and sent it to the Governor's Office where it was signed by Acting Governor Mike McGuire (Governor Newsom and Lieutenant Governor Eleni Kounalakis were both out of state, making Senate President pro Tempore McGuire the Acting Governor).

With AB 247 officially approved, it will join nine other statewide ballot measures that voters will decide this November.

As a reminder, the last school facilities bond placed before voters failed with 53% of voters rejecting the measure. However, that \$15 billion proposal was placed on the March 3, 2020, primary election ballot (just one day before Governor Newsom declared a state of emergency for COVID-19 and 16 days before he issued the stay-at-home order), included funding for the California State University (CSU) and University of California (UC) systems, and had the unfortunate designation of Proposition 13 (2020).

The proponents hope that the cheaper price tag (\$10 billion versus \$15 billion), the type of ballot the proposal is on (General Election versus primary election), the exclusion of the UC and CSU systems, and the proposition number of the measure (Proposition 2 versus Proposition 13) will be enough to get voters to approve the measure.

For more information about the bond proposal, we have included our *Fiscal Report* article entitled "K-14 School Facilities Bond Bill Signed," below.

Legislature Goes on Summer Recess

After committee hearings last Wednesday, July 3, the Legislature left for its monthlong summer recess and will not return to Sacramento until Monday, August 5. When they do return, legislators will have two significant legislative deadlines remaining:

- August 16—Deadline for the Appropriations Committee to approve bills
- August 31—Last day for the Legislature to approve bills

After August 31, legislators will return to their districts and go deeper into campaign mode as 100 out of the 120 seats that comprise the state Legislature are up for grabs this November.

Once the legislative session ends, the attention turns to Governor Newsom, who has until September 30 to sign or veto legislation sent to him at the end of session. While the Governor can allow bills to become law without his signature (there are no pocket vetoes in California), it is very unlikely that will happen.

Leilani Aguinaldo

K-14 School Facilities Bond Bill Signed

By Ella Conolley
School Services of California Inc.'s *Fiscal Report*
July 11, 2024

Right before summer recess commenced, [Assembly Bill \(AB\) 247](#) (Muratsuchi, Statutes of 2024) was approved by the Legislature and signed by Acting Governor Mike McGuire on July 3, 2024. AB 247 places a \$10 billion K-14 statewide school facilities bond before voters on the November 5, 2024 General Election ballot (see "[Education Facilities Bond Agreement Reached](#)" in the July 2024 *Fiscal Report*).

When the bill was being considered by the Senate Education Committee last week, interest holders raised concerns about the current school facility funding program. Specifically, they argued that lower-wealth school districts are left with insufficient support due to the 60% state match to 40% local system disproportionately benefiting wealthier districts. Moreover, they also criticized the financial hardship designation, the first-come-first-serve model, lack of statewide facility assessment system, and neglect of broader infrastructure needs of community schools. With this disadvantage, it was insisted that more aggressive amendments are needed in order to avoid a potential lawsuit.

AB 247 intends to address the equity concerns listed above by introducing a sliding scale for state grants and prioritizing higher funding levels for lower-wealth districts to close disproportionate support levels. Further, the bond proposal enhances state funding through supplemental grants for specific needs (such as transitional kindergarten facilities, school kitchens, and gymnasiums) and puts forth a program to replace facilities that are over 75 years old. In addition, up to 10% of the \$3.3 billion for new construction and up to 10% of the \$4.0 billion for modernization would be made available specifically for small school districts. Finally, AB 247 mandates districts to maintain a five-year facilities master plan to ensure equitable access to resources. With AB 247 officially approved, it will join nine other statewide ballot measures that voters will decide this November. We will go into further detail about this bond proposal at our upcoming [School Finance Conference](#) on July 18, 2024.

Note: There will be ten ballot measures for voters to decide this November, including the aforementioned school facilities bond.

Introducing the 2024 California Ballot Propositions. Here's What They Would Do

By Nicole Nixon And Hannah Poukish
The Sacramento Bee
July 10, 2024

Ballot propositions for California's November 2024 election were numbered late Wednesday, giving voters a look at the ten measures they'll decide on this fall.

They include \$20 billion in proposed bonds for climate and schools, a proposal to reform sentencing for drug crimes and retail theft, and measures to close a loophole for involuntary servitude in the California constitution, further raise the state's minimum wage and more.

Other qualified measures were removed or pulled from the ballot in the days and weeks leading up to its certification, both via courts and backroom dealmaking between initiative proponents, lawmakers and the governor. Gov. Gavin Newsom and top legislative Democrats were also crafting a competing ballot measure to address retail theft, but abandoned the effort at the last moment.

Here's a look at the ballot propositions certified and numbered by the Secretary of State:

Proposition 2, education facilities bond: Prop. 2 asks voters to approve \$10 billion in bond financing for aging educational facilities. If approved, \$8.5 billion would go toward updating or building new K-12 buildings. The remaining \$1.5 billion would be used for community colleges. It's the second time in five years voters are being asked to allow the state to take on debt for school infrastructure – voters rejected a \$15 billion school bond in March 2020.

Proposition 3, marriage equality: This ballot measure would eliminate outdated language from California's Constitution that says marriage is a union between one man and one woman. Voters enshrined this definition, effectively banning same-sex marriages, when they approved Proposition 8 in 2008. Courts eventually struck down the decision, but the wording remains on the books.

Californians will once again decide whether to change the Constitution's language this November. Assemblyman Evan Low, D-Campbell is the author behind ACA 5. The proposition arrived on the ballot after the Legislature passed the amendment with unanimous support.

Proposition 4, climate bond: Similar to Prop. 2, lawmakers placed Prop. 4 on the ballot to request \$10 billion in bond funds for a variety of climate projects. The bond comes after two years of significant budget deficits which saw California's climate spending scaled back.

If approved, \$3.8 billion would go toward safe drinking water and drought and flood resilience; \$1.5 billion for wildfire resilience; \$1.2 billion to protect against sea level rise; and other allocations for biodiversity, outdoor access, clean air and more.

Proposition 5, local government funding: Prop. 5 would lower the supermajority vote required by voters to approve local bonds to finance housing and infrastructure projects in their communities. Currently, a two-thirds vote is needed, but this constitutional amendment would lower the threshold to 55%.

If passed, it would be easier for local governments to issue bonds to develop affordable housing and other projects in their jurisdictions. Opponents say there should be broad consensus among voters before a local government goes into debt to take out bonds.

Proposition 6, slavery: Prop. 6 would remove all language allowing slavery and involuntary servitude from California's constitution. Currently, the constitution reads "Slavery is prohibited. Involuntary servitude is prohibited except to punish crime."

That language would be amended to read "Slavery and involuntary servitude is prohibited." It would also ban the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation from punishing inmates for refusing a work assignment. A companion bill created a voluntary work program in the prison system.

The proposition was placed on the ballot by California lawmakers and was a priority for the legislature's Black Caucus. Its members said California is one of just 16 states that still allows involuntary servitude for incarcerated people.

Proposition 32, minimum wage: This ballot initiative would bump up California’s minimum wage to \$18 an hour over the next couple years. If it passes, all minimum wage workers who earn \$16 an hour right now, would see their pay gradually increased by a dollar each year until it reaches \$18 on January 1, 2026.

The measure does require larger businesses with more than 25 employees to reach \$18 at a faster pace, by the start of 2025. However, if an economic downturn occurs, the Governor has the power to suspend increases twice, which could delay when an \$18 minimum wage actually reaches Californians.

Proposition 33, rent control: A vote in favor of this measure would expand rent control in California. If the proposition passes, it would get rid of a nearly three decade-old law, known as the Costa-Hawkins Rental Housing Act, that bans rent control on single-family homes finished after February 1, 1995.

Cities and counties would have more power to limit rent increases for incoming and existing tenants, making it harder for landlords to hike up prices. The measure would also insert new language into California law that prohibits the state from limiting how cities and counties expand or maintain rent control. It’s backed by the Aids Healthcare Foundation and is the third time since 2018 that voters will decide on the issue: Similar ballot initiatives, in 2018 and 2020, failed by 19 and 20 points, respectively.

Proposition 34, funding for patient care: Prop. 34 requires certain organizations that use a federal drug discount program to spend at least 98% of those funds on direct patient care. Proponents who put the measure on the ballot say it is meant to go after the Aids Healthcare Foundation, which critics accuse the nonprofit of spending millions on political causes (such as Prop 34) rather than patient care and housing. The AHF has called Prop 34 “a wolf in sheep’s clothing.”

Proposition 35, permanent Medi-Cal funding: Prop. 35 would make permanent a tax on health insurers, also known as the MCO tax, which is currently set to expire in 2026. Newsom and legislative leaders recently renewed the tax to help fill budget deficits. Implementing the MCO tax also allows the state to draw down additional federal funds to pay for Medi-Cal, the state’s health care program for poor residents.

The measure requires funds from the tax to be used specifically for Medi-Cal and prohibits the state from using the money to replace existing funds. The MCO tax is expected to bring in between \$6 and \$9 billion by the end of 2026, but analysis by the Legislative Analyst’s Office said the long-term fiscal effects of the measure are uncertain.

Proposition 36, criminal penalties: This measure would revise Prop. 47, a 2014 ballot initiative that downsized some lower-level crimes to misdemeanors and put in place a \$950 threshold for shoplifting felonies. The ballot measure’s backers, which include San Francisco Mayor London Breed and the California District Attorneys Association, argue Prop. 47 has led to increased crime and retail theft.

The proposed changes would raise penalties and sentences for some drug and theft offenses. For example, fentanyl would be added to the list of drugs that warrant a felony charge if the person also possesses a gun, increasing the punishment from up to one year in jail to up to four years in prison. Another major revision would hike up punishments for convicted shoplifters with two or more prior theft-related convictions.

Gov. Newsom and other Democratic leaders in the legislature are opposed to Prop. 36. They have floated their own 14-bill package to reduce retail theft instead, and had been crafting their own counter-initiative to put on the ballot, before Newsom abruptly abandoned that effort on July 2.

WHAT'S NOT GOING TO BE ON YOUR 2024 BALLOT

Earlier this month the California Supreme Court ordered a sweeping anti-tax measure off the November ballot.

Justices unanimously decided the Taxpayer Protection Act, as it was called, was considered a constitutional revision rather than an amendment because it would fundamentally shift the powers of state government. The measure had sought to require voter sign-off on every new tax or tax increase, both at the state and local level.

Following the ruling, lawmakers delayed a competing measure that would have made it harder to raise voter thresholds on ballot questions by ordering it to the November 2026 ballot.

Five other measures were withdrawn after a crush of last-minute dealmaking between ballot campaigns, Newsom and lawmakers. They include a referendum on a law banning oil drilling within certain distances of homes and schools; reforms to a law known as PAGA that allows aggrieved employees to sue their employers for wage violations; two initiatives dealing with health care and a requirement for high school students to take a financial literacy class.

Note: Funding for Title I low-income schools would see a 25% cut in spending under a Republican-led House Appropriations Committee proposal for fiscal year 2025 approved Wednesday in a 31-25 party line vote.

House Committee Approves 25% Cut to Title I

The Republican-led plan for FY 2025 proposes an 11% overall cut to the U.S. Department of Education.

By Kara Arundel
K-12 Dive
July 11, 2024

Funding for Title I low-income schools would see a 25% cut in spending, or a \$4.7 billion reduction, under a Republican-led House Appropriations Committee proposal for fiscal year 2025 approved Wednesday in a 31-25 party line vote.

That cut, Democratic lawmakers said, would result in 72,000 fewer teaching positions. House Republicans, however, attributed the recommendation to a continual decline in student test scores despite annual increases to Title I and the one-time historical aid for COVID-19 recovery.

Last year, House Republicans had proposed an 80% cut to Title I, sparking pushback from school administrators and others. Ultimately, Title I funding got a slight increase of \$20 million over FY 2023 spending.

Overall, the fiscal 2025 plan calls for \$72 billion, 11% below the FY 24 spending level, for the U.S. Department of Education. That amount falls \$10 billion below President Joe Biden's proposed budget for the fiscal year that begins Oct. 1.

"Valuable taxpayer dollars are directed to maximize results and benefits for the nation," said House Appropriations Committee Chair Tom Cole, R-Okla., in a statement Wednesday.

The committee's plan for the Education Department remains largely unchanged from one approved by the House Appropriations education subcommittee last month.

Some key spending proposals for early education through college include:

- Increases for special education (\$30 million), charter schools (\$10 million), and career and technical education (\$10 million).
- An additional \$25 million for Child Care and Development Block Grants, for a total of \$8.7 billion.
- Maintains funding for Pell Grants at the maximum award of \$7,395 per student.

Democrats lambasted the Republican bill, calling it an "assault on education."

"For the second year in a row, House Republicans are trying to pass a funding bill that furthers their goal of the complete destruction of public education, fully obstructing the path for children to achieve the American dream," said Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro, D-Conn., in a statement.

Senate appropriators have not released their FY 2025 plan for the Education Department.

In a June 27 statement, Phillip Lovell, associate executive director of equitable education advocacy group All4Ed, urged House Republicans to reconsider proposed cuts to education.

"These drastic reductions will have severe consequences for our nation's students and educators," Lovell said. "Title I funding supports our most vulnerable students, ensuring they have access to quality education and resources necessary for success."

In a joint statement from the Association for Career and Technical Education and Advance CTE, the groups said they appreciated the legislation's investments in CTE but were concerned about funding reductions in other areas.

"These proposed federal spending cuts for major education and workforce development programs will likely cause significant disruptions in connecting learners, particularly our nation's most vulnerable populations, to CTE programs and the broader postsecondary and career opportunities they provide," the organizations said.

Jodi Grant, executive director of Afterschool Alliance, which supports after-school programs, said in a statement the organization was disappointed with the proposed \$1.3 billion level funding recommended for the Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Centers.

"The country's afterschool and summer learning programs are hurting, as costs skyrocket and pandemic relief winds down," Grant said. "Without additional support, programs will be forced to cut back on hours and activities, and some will have to close their doors."

House GOP leaders, however, said budget reductions and cuts, in general, are necessary to save taxpayers money.

"With today's approval by the full Committee, we are one step closer to delivering on our continued commitment to restoring trust with the American people by laying a foundation for transparency and fiscal

responsibility in the appropriations process,” said Rep. Robert Aderholt, R-Ala., chair of the Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Subcommittee, in a statement issued Wednesday.



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DATE: July 26, 2024
 TO: Robert G. Nelson
 Superintendent
 AT: Fresno Unified School District
 FROM: Your SSC Governmental Relations Team
 RE: *SSC's Sacramento Weekly Update*

With the Legislature still enjoying its summer recess, it was another slow week in Sacramento. The only big education finance news was that the Department of Finance (DOF) released its latest bulletin, which reflects state economic data through June 2024. We provide an update on the bulletin below.

July 2024 DOF Finance Bulletin

The July 2024 Finance Bulletin includes the latest state revenue figures to close out the 2023-24 fiscal year. The year-to-date General Fund revenues were \$3.2 billion, or 1.5%, above the most recent forecast. Although June personal income tax (PIT) revenues fell below forecast for the month by \$145 million, PIT revenue outperformed estimates by \$1.3 billion, or 1.1%, for the full 2023-24 fiscal year. Corporation taxes and sales and use tax exceeded forecasted figures for the month as well as for the full 2023-24 fiscal year (though just barely when it comes to sales and use tax). The “Big Three” tax collections for the 2023-24 fiscal year are listed in the table below.

2023-24, Comparison of Actual and Forecast Year-to-Date “Big Three” Tax Revenues

(Dollars in Millions)

	Forecast	Actual	Difference	Percent Difference
Personal Income	\$119,740	\$121,066	\$1,326	1.1%
Corporation	\$40,411	\$41,428	\$1,017	2.5%
Sales & Use	\$34,543	\$34,550	\$7	0.0%

Source: DOF Bulletin

The due date for second quarter estimated payment for PIT and corporation taxes falls in June, representing 40% of the estimated tax payments for the tax year. PIT and corporation taxes exceeded projections for estimated payments in June by 5.6% and 2.1%, respectively. The prepayment for the Pass-Through Entity Elective Tax, also due in June, was 0.1% below forecast.

California is currently tied with Nevada for the second highest state unemployment rate at 5.2%. This rate remains unchanged since May. Only the District of Columbia surpasses California with an unemployment rate of 5.4%. In June, the state's labor force and household employment increased by 7,200 and 17,500 persons, respectively. Unemployment decreased by 10,300. Nonfarm payroll jobs increased by 22,500 in June. All sectors did not see an increase in jobs; however, manufacturing, other services, construction, and mining and logging all experienced job loss.

Building activity has increased by 2.4% since April 2024 and 5.1% since May 2023. Although the median sales price of existing single-family homes is up 7.5% since June 2023, there was a 0.8% month-to-month decline in the median sale price of existing single-family homes from a record high of \$908,040 in May 2024 to \$900,720 in June 2024. Clearly, housing affordability remains an ongoing concern in California.

You can find the July 2024 DOF Bulletin and all the data [here](#).

Leilani Aguinaldo

The CDE Certifies the 2024-25 Advance Principal Apportionment

By Dave Heckler and Wendi McCaskill
School Services of California Inc.'s *Fiscal Report*
July 24, 2024

On July 18, 2024, the California Department of Education (CDE) certified the 2024-25 Advance Principal Apportionment (Advance). The Advance is based on a local educational agency's (LEA) prior-year (2023-24) Second Principal Apportionment funding, which was certified in June, and funding provided for in the 2024-25 Enacted Budget, as well as the education omnibus budget trailer bill (Senate Bill 153 [Committee on Budget, Statutes of 2024]).

The Advance represents the first calculation of the 2024-25 fiscal year's funding, establishes an LEA's monthly state aid payment for July 2024 through January 2025, and includes funding for various state programs, including, but not limited to:

- The Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF)
- Special Education
- The Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELO-P)

Although Education Protection Account (EPA) funding is not allocated through the Principal Apportionment, EPA estimates are included on the Advance Apportionment Summary available [here](#).

The 2024-25 Enacted Budget included a statutory cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) of 1.07% for LEAs, as well as additional county office of education funding for Local Control and Accountability Plan support. The 2024-25 Adults in Correctional Facilities (AICF) funds are used to fund the 2023-24 program. As such, the 2024-25 Enacted Budget includes an 8.22% statutory COLA for the AICF program. The ELO-P does not receive a statutory COLA. As anticipated, Rate 2 for the ELO-P decreased by \$223.40 from 2023-24 due to a 1.61% increase in average daily attendance (ADA) for grades TK-6. Estimated entitlements for Arts and Music in Schools (Proposition 28) funding are included in the Advance. Revised entitlements for Proposition 28 will be certified at the 2024-25 First Principal Apportionment (P-1).

While these changes were incorporated into the Advance, the Advance does not include funding for the LCFF Equity Multiplier. Stability rate data needed for entitlement calculations is not expected to be available until December 2024. Funding for the LCFF Equity Multiplier will be included in the 2024-25 P-1 certification in February 2025.

While it provides needed funding to begin the school year, **the Advance should not be used for budgeting purposes as it is “merely a means to begin allocating funds” by the CDE.** LEAs should instead utilize the [funding rates](#) provided by the CDE multiplied by the ADA and unduplicated pupil percentage, where applicable. Further, to ensure the accurate recognition of revenues received and to be received, the CDE provides both an Advance Apportionment Summary Excel file that reflects total state aid, by LEA, for all programs included in the Advance and a Payment Schedule Summary—LEA detail Excel file that provides each LEA's monthly payment for the months of July through January. Both of these excel files are available through the CDE's [Funding Excel Files, FY 2024–25 Advance - Principal Apportionment \(CA Dept of Education\)](#) page. The CDE provides information on calculations for each program included in the Advance [here](#).

Note: Last month President Joe Biden announced a new program that will allow undocumented immigrant spouses of U.S. citizens to apply for permanent residency without returning to their home countries, if they have lived in the U.S. for at least ten years and have no criminal record.

Biden Immigration Order Could Help Thousands of California Children

By Zaidee Stavely
EdSource
July 25, 2024

Tens of thousands of children in California stand to benefit from a new executive order by the Biden administration that would provide a pathway to citizenship for their parents.

Advocates said the new program will improve children's financial security, physical health, mental health and will help them stay focused in school.

Biden announced in June a new program that will allow undocumented immigrant spouses of U.S. citizens to apply for permanent residency without returning to their home countries, if they have lived in the U.S. for at least 10 years and have no criminal record. In the past, undocumented spouses of U.S. citizens could apply for permanent residency, but they had to return to their home countries to finalize the process and could be barred from the U.S. for up to 10 years. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services will begin accepting applications in August.

The Department of Homeland Security estimates that about 500,000 spouses of U.S. citizens and 50,000 children of applicants who are stepchildren of U.S. citizens will be eligible for the new program nationwide. About 120,000 spouses of U.S. citizens will be eligible for the program in California, according to an analysis by the organization FWD.us of data from the 2022 American Community Survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau.

Many of those eligible likely have children. An estimated 1 in 10 children in California have at least one undocumented parent, according to the National Center for Children in Poverty. It is not clear how many of them also have a U.S. citizen parent.

"When this was announced, it was like a huge sigh of relief," said Mayra Alvarez, president of The Children's Partnership, a nonprofit children's advocacy organization based in Los Angeles. "The opportunity that families are going to be able to stay together as they apply for permanent residency is a direct commitment to child well-being. It's an acknowledgment that parents and caregivers are critical to children's healthy development."

Some research shows that the fear of deportation of a parent or caregiver impacts children's ability to do well in school.

"Absenteeism, repeating a grade and dropping out are all more likely" for children who have an undocumented parent, said Carolyn Sattin-Bajaj, associate professor of education at UC Santa Barbara. She added that undocumented parents are also less likely to apply for public programs for which their U.S. citizen children are eligible, like Head Start, food stamps and public health insurance.

Modesto resident Mirna Cisneros, whose husband and three children are U.S. citizens, said she was elated when she found out about the new policy.

“Imagine, I even cried when I found out,” Cisneros said in Spanish. Still, she said she won’t truly believe it until she is actually able to apply for permanent residency.

Cisneros came to the U.S. from Mexico in 1999, when she was 17. She met her husband in Florida, and later moved with him to California. Though her husband is a U.S. citizen, she has not been able to obtain permanent residency through him. She was going to apply, but stopped the process after realizing that she would have to return to Mexico and might have to stay there for 10 years.

Cisneros said her three children, who are 17, 16 and 11 years old and are also U.S. citizens, have told her many times they are afraid she will be deported. She said her middle son told her, “‘Mamá, I’m always thinking about what will happen if they grab you and take you to Mexico. I’m going to miss you. What will happen if we can’t see you?’”

If she is able to get permanent residency, she said, it would allow her to work in better-paying jobs to help support her family. She currently bakes and decorates cakes from her home.

Being able to apply for permanent residency would also give her children more flexibility and freedom to choose where they want to attend college, Cisneros said. Her oldest daughter is set to graduate from high school next year and has told her she wants to attend college out of state, in Florida, but because Cisneros avoids traveling by plane because of her immigration status, her daughter has been planning to give up that dream to attend school closer to home.

“We know that as soon as they’re able to get a work permit and have the stability of knowing that they’re not going to be deported, that parent will be able to access better employment. That will mean better salaries, better types of jobs that allow parents to be more engaged in their children’s schooling, and that’s going to lead to mental and physical health benefits for parents and children,” said Wendy Cervantes, director of immigration and immigrant families at the Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP). The nonprofit organization was one of two dozen groups that sent a letter to the Biden administration in May asking for the change in policy.

Cervantes pointed to research about how children benefited when their parents received work permits and protection from deportation through the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, introduced by then-President Barack Obama in 2012 that has allowed hundreds of thousands of people who were brought to the United States as children to temporarily remain in the country and obtain work permits. In one study, children whose mothers were eligible for the deferral program had 50% fewer diagnoses of adjustment and anxiety disorders.

However, Sattin-Bajaj expressed concern that many immigrants may be hesitant to apply because of the upcoming presidential election and the uncertainty of whether such a policy would be maintained under a new administration, particularly if led by former President Donald Trump.

“I don’t have a lot of confidence that there’s euphoria right now, because things move so slowly, and it feels like a storm is brewing,” said Sattin-Bajaj.

Top Republican leaders have rejected the program. Karoline Leavitt, the Trump campaign national press secretary, issued a statement saying, “Biden only cares about one thing — power — and that’s why he is

giving mass amnesty and citizenship to hundreds of thousands of illegals who he knows will ultimately vote for him and the Open Border Democrat Party.”

Those who qualify for the new program would not be able to vote until they receive citizenship, and they would not be able to apply for citizenship until three years after they get permanent residency.

Speaker of the House Mike Johnson issued a statement saying he expects the program to be challenged in court and accused President Joe Biden of trying to “play both sides.”

“The President may think our homeland security is some kind of game that he can try to use for political points, but Americans know this amnesty plan will only incentivize more illegal immigration and endanger Americans,” Johnson said.

Note: Former Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa announced he will be running for governor in 2026, joining Lieutenant Governor Eleni Kounalakis, former Senate President pro Tempore Toni Atkins, State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond, and former State Controller Betty Yee as declared candidates for California’s chief executive.

Former Los Angeles Mayor Joins Growing California Governor Race to Succeed Gavin Newsom in 2026

By Lindsey Holden
The Sacramento Bee Capitol Alert
July 24, 2024

Former Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa on Tuesday announced he will run for California governor in 2026, joining a growing group of candidates jockeying to succeed Gov. Gavin Newsom.

Villaraigosa previously ran for the office in 2018 against Newsom, finishing third in the primary behind the governor and Republican John Cox. He has a long history in California politics, serving as Assembly speaker, a member of the Los Angeles City Council and eventually the city’s mayor.

Villaraigosa left office in 2013 and has not served in elected office since that time.

He will compete for the governor job against Lt. Gov. Eleni Kounalakis, former Senate President Pro Tem Toni Atkins, state Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond and former state Controller Betty Yee.

Attorney General Rob Bonta is considering a run, but he told The Sacramento Bee in May that he’s waiting to make his decision until after the November election. U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra may also be contemplating a bid, but he didn’t provide a direct answer to the question of whether he would run when asked in June.

The field remains wide open, although Kounalakis has already raised significant funds. Her campaign announced earlier in the month she already has more than \$9 million on hand for the race.

In a campaign video he released on Tuesday, Villaraigosa touted his work as mayor and Assembly speaker. He plans to focus on the state budget, education and lowering costs for small businesses and middle class families.

“We have serious problems, and money alone won’t fix them,” Villaraigosa said in a statement. “We need to focus on better outcomes, fixing what’s broken and investing in what works. I’m a problem solver, and with your support, that’s exactly what I’ll do as governor.”

Fresno Unified School District
Board Communication

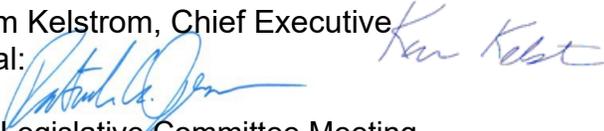
BC Number BFS-2

From the Office of the Interim Superintendent

To the Members of the Board of Education

Prepared by: Kim Kelstrom, Chief Executive

Cabinet Approval:



Date: August 02, 2024

Phone Number: 457-3934

Regarding: July Legislative Committee Meeting

The purpose of this board communication is to provide the Board information shared at the July 11, 2024, Legislative Committee Meeting.

Budget and Economic Update:

Ms. Aguinaldo provided a budget and economic update.

On July 02, 2024, the Governor signed the final budget and included the following highlights:

- Withdrawal from Proposition 98 reserves to pay for the Local Control Funding Formula and categorical programs
- Cash deferrals from June 2024 to July 2024
- Maintain the May Revise proposed Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) of 1.07%
- The Learning Recovery Block Grant 2024/25 balance will require a needs assessment plan for 2025/26 and 2026/27 to identify students in the greatest need of recovery supports based on chronic absenteeism and English language and mathematic assessments.
- Attendance recovery provides attention on learning loss and provides added opportunity for chronic absenteeism in 2025/26
- Expanded Learning Opportunities Program requires funds to be spent within two years of receipt

Independent Study changes were made per SB 153 which eliminates requirement to participate for a minimum of three days before earning attendance credit and increases the number of days for short term independent study to 15 days.

A \$10 million facilities bond is officially on the ballot for November 2024 of which \$8.5 million is for K-12 districts.

A Personal Finance Course, per AB 2927, has been approved to add a one-semester course to the graduation class of 2031.

Legislative Update – The Governor has until September 30, 2024, to sign or veto the current bills in legislation. The following bill proposals were discussed:

- AB 1947 (Rivas, Luz) – Support – Current law allows preschool programs to schedule up to two days of staff training per contract period. This would increase training, up to, six days.
- AB 2134 (Muratsuchi) – Support – Changes the transfer of sick leave for teachers and classified staff to require no time frame for transfer and must be converted into days.
- AB 2345 (Patterson, Jim) – Support – New applicants for the provisional internship permit and short-term staff permit to complete CPR certification prior to the Commission on Teacher Credentialing issuing a permit by July 01, 2025.

- AB 2901 (Aguiar-Curry) – K-12 public schools offering up to 14 weeks of paid leave for employees experiencing pregnancy, miscarriage, childbirth, termination of pregnancy, or recover from those conditions.
- AB 3216 (Hoover) – Watch – Requires districts to adopt and update every 5 years a policy to limit or prohibit smartphones on campus.
- AB 2097 (Berman) – Watch – Require school districts and charter schools that serve grades 9-12 to adopt a plan by January 01, 2026, to offer at least one computer science course in each of their high schools.
- AB 2268 (Muratsuchi) – Support – Exempts students in transitional kindergarten (TK) from being assessed for English language development.
- AB 2429 (Alvarez) – Support – Requires a health education course as a graduation requirement and include instruction on the dangers associated with fentanyl use.
- AB 2137 (Quirk-Silva) – Support – Requires local educational agencies with at least 15 homeless pupils to include in the Local Control and Accountability Plan specific actions to facilitate the enrollment, attendance, participation, retention, and educational success of homeless pupils.
- AB 2711 (Ramos) – Support – This bill was amended and instead specifies that a pupil who voluntarily discloses their use of controlled substance, alcohol, tobacco product or intoxicant of any kind in order to seek help shall not be suspended solely for that disclosure.
- AB 1955 (Ward) – Establishes Support Academic Futures and Educators for Today’s Youth (SAFETY) Act and prohibits enacting or enforcing policies that require disclosure of a student’s gender identify, sexual orientation, or gender expression without the student’s consent. This includes employees and contractors.

The School Services Legislative Committee July 2024 report is attached. The next Legislative Committee meeting is scheduled for August 08, 2024.

If you have any questions pertaining to the information in this communication or require additional information, please contact Kim Kelstrom at 457-3907.

Approved by Interim Superintendent

Mao Misty Her  _____

Date: 08/02/24

Fresno Unified School District

**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
JULY 11, 2024**

2023-2024 Legislative Session

Prepared By:

**Leilani Aguinaldo
Director, Governmental Relations**



Public Education's Point of Reference for Making Educated Decisions



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Legislative and Economic Update

School Services of California, Inc.
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Fresno Unified School District
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Legislative and Economic Update

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Governor Newsom Signs 2024-25 State Budget Package

By: Kyle Hyland

July 8, 2024

On July 2, 2024, Governor Gavin Newsom signed the final bills that comprise the 2024-25 State Budget package into law.

Below, we highlight the relevant State Budget bills that have been signed by the Governor and of which your local educational agency should be aware. As budget bills, all these measures went into effect immediately upon Governor Newsom's signature.

SB 108—Budget Bill Junior

[Senate Bill \(SB\) 108](#), or “budget bill junior,” reflects the budget agreement reached between the Administration and the Legislature. SB 108 makes the necessary amendments to [Assembly Bill \(AB\) 107](#)—the main 2024-25 State Budget bill that the Governor signed on June 27 (see “[State Budget Bill Signed, Fiscal Emergency Declared](#)” in the June 2024 *Fiscal Report*)—which captures the deal reached between the parties.

This bill contains some provisional language to implement the TK-12 portion of the 2024-25 State Budget, but most implementing language is included in the trailer bills summarized below.

SB 153—Education Omnibus Budget Trailer Bill

[SB 153](#) is the education omnibus budget trailer bill, which contains the TK-12 provisions of the 2024-25 State Budget. Trailer bills contain the implementing language of the State Budget and thus enact the corresponding changes to state law. You can find a high-level overview of SB 153 in our June 2024 *Fiscal Report* article, entitled “[2024-25 State Budget Agreement Reached.](#)”

SB 163—Early Learning and Childcare Trailer Bill

[SB 163](#) is the early learning and childcare trailer bill, which provides for statutory changes necessary to enact childcare-related provisions of the 2024-25 State Budget. The bill includes the following provisions:

- Authorizes the enrollment of two-year-olds in the California State Preschool Program (CSPP) until July 1, 2027
- Specifies that a CSPP classroom must maintain 5.0% of its enrollment for students with disabilities
 - Deletes the requirement for CSPP classrooms to set aside at least 7.5% of preschool slots for children with disabilities beginning with the 2025-26 fiscal year and at least 10.0% of slots beginning with the 2026-27 fiscal year

- Codifies the plan for the state to fund over 200,000 new childcare slots above 2020-21 slot levels (including the 118,800 new slots that have been added to date, plus an estimated 11,000 general childcare slots funded in the Budget Act of 2024 and ongoing)
- Specifies components of the report the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) must submit within 60 days of federal approval of a new single rate structure for setting childcare reimbursement rates
- Requires the CDSS to include a plan for setting new reimbursement rates under the alternative methodology by no later than July 1, 2025
- Requires the CDSS and the California Department of Education to develop and implement a streamlined request for application process for current childcare and development contractors to award new childcare and development contracts
- Requires the CDSS, by May 14, 2025, and annually thereafter, to provide the Legislature with a proposed list of quality improvement activities funded via the federal Child Care and Development Fund

AB 171—Employment Trailer Bill

[AB 171](#) is the employment trailer bill, which contains the employment provisions of the 2024-25 State Budget. Existing law requires, until June 30, 2025, an exclusive representative be entitled to schedule an in-person meeting at a worksite during employment hours if a public employer has not conducted an in-person new employee orientation within 30 days. AB 171 extends this sunset date by two years to June 30, 2027.

School Finance Conference

For comprehensive details and analysis of the 2024-25 State Budget package, be sure to tune into our [School Finance Conference](#), which will be offered via live webinar on Thursday, July 18, 2024. Our presentation will dive into many specifics of the State Budget, including those not mentioned in this article.

FISCAL REPORT

PUBLIC EDUCATION'S POINT OF REFERENCE FOR MAKING EDUCATED DECISIONS

2024-25 State Budget Agreement Reached

By: Kyle Hyland

June 24, 2024

On June 22, 2024, Governor Gavin Newsom, Senate President pro Tempore Mike McGuire (D-North Coast), and Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon (D-Salinas) announced they had reached an agreement on the 2024-25 State Budget package.

The Assembly and Senate are expected to take action on the numerous bills needed to enact the State Budget this week. The bill that will make edits to the main 2024-25 State Budget bill, also known as budget bill jr., is Assembly Bill (AB)/Senate Bill (SB) 108. Changes to the 2023-24 Enacted State Budget will be done through AB 109/SB 109.

For policy changes impacting TK-12 education, AB/SB 153 is the bill to note as it is the education omnibus budget trailer bill. AB/SB 153 is a 336-page bill making various changes to the Education Code, including the following:

- Adopts the following Proposition 98 framework:
 - Withdraws \$7.9 billion from the Proposition 98 reserve in 2023-24 to fund \$5.3 billion in Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) costs and \$2.6 billion in deferred, unallocated TK-12 categorical programs
 - Authorizes the deferral of \$3.6 billion in Proposition 98 funding from 2023-24 to 2024-25, and the deferral of \$246 million in Proposition 98 funding from 2024-25 to 2025-26
 - Establishes an obligation schedule for \$6.2 billion General Fund from 2022-23, which will begin in 2026-27 with \$622 million General Fund per year until 2035-36
- Provides the statutory 1.07% LCFF cost-of-living adjustment (COLA)
- Prohibits local educational agencies (LEAs) from adopting the use of instructional materials or curriculum that would subject students to unlawful discrimination
- Includes technical changes to adjust transitional kindergarten (TK) average daily attendance (ADA) computation for charter schools and aligns TK curriculum to the California Preschool/Transitional Kindergarten Learning Foundations
- Makes changes to the Learning Recovery Emergency Block Grant
- Beginning July 1, 2025, authorizes LEAs to earn additional ADA, up to ten days or the number of student absences, through attendance recovery programs
- Requires LEAs to include instructional continuity plans as part of their school safety plans
- Beginning July 1, 2025, LEAs that had school closures or a material decrease in attendance are required to provide an affidavit with specified information

- Restores \$100 million for the Inclusive Early Education Expansion Program that was proposed to be reappropriated for Proposition 98 backfill
- Makes various changes to the Expanded Learning Opportunities Program
- Appropriates \$25 million one-time for professional development related to the literacy screener for reading difficulties, and makes technical changes to allow ongoing funding to be provided through the K-12 Mandate Block Grant process
- Suspends the authority of LEAs to lay off certificated and classified employees utilizing the “summer layoff window” between July 1, 2024 and July 1, 2025
- Requires the California Department of Education to develop model referral protocols for addressing student behavioral health concerns by January 1, 2025, and requires LEAs to certify that their employees received youth behavioral training by July 1, 2029
- Eliminates \$550 million General Fund planned for 2024-25 for the California State Preschool, Transitional Kindergarten, and Full-Day Kindergarten Facilities Grant Program and the planned funding for the School Facility Program in 2024-25
- Requires the Fiscal Crisis and Management Assistance Team to provide recommendations related to funding and financing mechanisms related to judgments and settlements from child sexual abuse lawsuits
- Makes modifications to the Golden State Teacher Grant Program

Summarized here are only some of the highlights of what will be included in the 2024-25 State Budget should it be enacted in law as currently drafted in trailer bills. The Legislature is poised to vote on the State Budget package this week and we will dig into the details of these new provisions of law through a series of *Fiscal Report* articles, with an emphasis on the significant changes since the May Revision.

Ultimately, the upcoming [School Finance Conference](#) will provide a comprehensive overview of the 2024-25 State Budget, its effects on LEAs, and how to implement these changes locally. Stay tuned.

State Budget Bill Signed, Fiscal Emergency Declared

By: SSC Governmental Relations Team

June 27, 2024

On Wednesday, June 26, 2024, Governor Gavin Newsom announced that he had signed [Assembly Bill 107](#), the main budget bill approved by the Legislature on June 13, 2024, and [Senate Bill \(SB\) 154](#), the Proposition 98 suspension bill. Later in the day, as part of the three-party budget agreement announced last weekend, the Assembly and Senate both approved nearly 20 budget bills, including [SB 153](#), the education omnibus trailer bill, and [SB 108](#), the “budget bill junior,” to implement the final budget agreement between legislative leaders and Governor Newsom (see [“2024-25 State Budget Agreement Reached”](#) in the June 2024 *Fiscal Report*).

Additionally, in order to reach far into the state’s rainy day funds, the Governor needed to declare a [fiscal emergency](#). The proclamation allows the state to suspend the transfer of moneys to the Budget Stabilization Account (BSA) required by the Constitution and return funds that have been transferred to the BSA to the General Fund for use to address the budget emergency.

Once the budget bills reach his desk, which is expected in the next day or two, the Governor will have 12 days to sign this second round of budget bills. We anticipate he will do so before the timeline runs out in order for the 2024-25 State Budget to be enacted by the beginning of the fiscal year.

2024-25 Enacted Budget Affects Independent Study

By: Patti F. Herrera, EdD and Wendi McCaskill

July 1, 2024

Governor Gavin Newsom signed the 2024-25 Enacted Budget on Saturday, June 29, 2024, including the education trailer bill that makes several changes to independent study statutes effective immediately.

Specifically, [Senate Bill \(SB\) 153](#) (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review, Statutes of 2024) makes the following changes:

- Eliminates the requirement for students to participate for a minimum of three consecutive school days before earning average daily attendance (ADA) in independent study
- For traditional and course-based independent study programs, increases the duration a student can participate in short-term independent study to 15 days or fewer and the duration of long-term independent study to 16 days or more, cumulatively
- Authorizes local educational agencies (LEAs) to collect written agreements at any time during the school year in which a student participates in short-term independent study and retains current law requiring that written agreements be collected before the commencement of the student's long-term independent study program
- Expands pupil work product, for purposes of general ADA, to include the daily time value spent by a pupil engaged in asynchronous instruction, regardless of whether work product is produced, if the computer program documents student participation, and requires LEAs to maintain documentation of each hour or fraction thereof of work product and the time the pupil was engaged in asynchronous instruction

Independent study board policies and written agreements are conditions of funding. Therefore, we encourage LEAs to look at their policies and agreements and, to the extent that they include any of the provisions that have been changed due to the signing of SB 153, update them immediately before the start of the 2024-25 school year.

Education Facilities Bond Agreement Reached

By: Wendi McCaskill

July 1, 2024

On June 29, 2024, timely amendments were made to [Assembly Bill \(AB\) 247](#) (Muratsuchi, D-Torrance), jointly authored by Assembly Members Fong and Wilson and Senators Glazer and Newman, reflecting the Senate and Assembly agreement on the proposed statewide school facilities bond. If enacted, AB 247 will place a \$10 billion statewide school facilities bond—the Kindergarten through Grade 12 Schools and Local Community College Public Education Facilities Modernization, Repair, and Safety Bond Act of 2024—before voters on the November 5, 2024, General Election ballot.

The \$10 billion in bond proceeds will provide a total of \$8.5 billion to K-12 and \$1.5 billion to community colleges. Of the \$8.5 billion provided to K-12, funds would be allocated according to the following schedule:

- \$3.3 billion for new construction
- \$4.0 billion for modernization projects
- \$600 million for charter school facilities
- \$600 million for career technical education programs

Notably, the bond measure also includes equity-based provisions. The bond would establish a sliding scale for state and local match provisions which would increase the state grant amount from 50% to 55% for new construction and from 60% to 65% for modernization projects based on a local educational agency's ability to generate local funds and percentages of low income, foster care, and English learner students. Financial hardship provisions would increase the number of school districts eligible to receive up to 100% of state grants due to financial challenges. In addition, up to 10% of the \$3.3 billion for new construction and up to 10% of the \$4.0 billion for modernization would be available specifically for small school districts.

AB 247 is expected to pass out of the Senate Education Committee this afternoon and we expect it to be voted on by the full Legislature on Wednesday, July 3, 2024, before their summer recess begins. We will continue to track this measure through the process and provide pertinent updates along the way. In addition, our upcoming [School Finance Conference](#) on July 18, 2024, will include additional detail on the provisions of the bond and their implications.

Legislature Approves Personal Finance Course Legislation

By: Kyle Hyland

June 28, 2024

On Thursday, June 27, 2024, the Assembly and Senate approved Assembly Bill (AB) 2927 (McCarty, D-Sacramento), an urgency measure that will add a one-semester course in personal finance to the graduation requirements beginning with the class of 2031.

With the passage of AB 2927, the sponsors of the “California Personal Finance Act” agreed to remove their ballot initiative from consideration on the November 5 General Election ballot. The initiative would have asked voters to approve a measure similar to AB 2927.

Since statutes triggered by ballot measures are much more difficult to amend in the future than bills approved by the Legislature, Assemblymember Kevin McCarty worked with the sponsors of the ballot initiative to fast-track AB 2927 through the legislative process. The reason that AB 2927 needed to be fast-tracked is that June 27, 2024, was the deadline for the Secretary of State to finalize the list of ballot propositions for the November ballot and the last day proponents could withdraw their initiative for consideration.

AB 2927 adds a personal finance course as a high school graduation requirement beginning with the 2030-31 school year. This means that local educational agencies serving high school students will need to offer a one-semester course in personal finance beginning with the 2027-28 school year. The bill also permits students, beginning with the class of 2031, to exempt themselves from the requirement to complete a one-semester course in economics, a point of contention for some during the legislative hearings.

The bill triggers the Instructional Quality Commission to develop and recommend a curriculum guide on a personal finance course to the State Board of Education (SBE). The SBE must approve the curriculum for the personal finance course by May 31, 2026.

While the bill has not yet been signed by Governor Gavin Newsom, he issued his support for the legislation via a [press release](#) the day the Legislature approved the measure. We expect that he will sign AB 2927 into law shortly.

Governor Newsom Signs TK ELPAC Bill

By: Patti F. Herrera, EdD

June 17, 2024

On Friday, June 14, 2024, Governor Gavin Newsom signed Assembly Bill 2268 (Muratsuchi, D-Torrance) into law, exempting transitional kindergarten (TK) students from taking the English Language Proficiency Assessments of California (ELPAC). The law went into effect immediately upon his signature, thereby exempting TK students from the ELPAC beginning in the 2024-25 school year.

As reported on June 13, 2024 (see *Fiscal Report* article, "[TK ELPAC Exemption Bill Heads to Governor](#)"), the State Board of Education will be exploring options for identifying and supporting emerging bilingual TK students in the coming months, beginning with its July 2024 meeting.

Bill Report

SCHOOL SERVICES OF CALIFORNIA, INC.

**Legislative Report Prepared for:
Fresno Unified School District
Status as of July 9, 2024**

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Early Childhood Education

[AB 1947 \(Rivas, Luz\)](#)

Amended: 7/1/2024

Title: California State Preschool Programs: Contracting Agencies: Staff Training Days

Status: Senate Appropriations Committee

Position: Support

Summary:

Current law allows California State Preschool Programs to schedule up to two days of staff training per contract period, using state reimbursement funding. This bill instead authorizes up to six days of staff training. In addition, if a program's enrollment is at least 25% dual language learner children, and the program schedules at least three days of staff training, then at least one staff training day must be used to provide staff development that is specific to supporting dual language learner children.

Employees

[AB 796 \(Weber\)](#)

Amended: 6/25/2024

Title: Athletic Trainers

Status: Senate Floor—Third Reading

Position: Support

Summary:

As amended, this bill establishes certification and training requirements for athletic trainers and prohibits individuals from calling themselves athletic trainers unless they meet those requirements.

[AB 2088 \(McCarty\)](#)

Amended: 5/16/2024

Title: K-14 Classified Employees: Part-Time or Full-Time Vacancies: Public Postings

Status: Senate Appropriations Committee

Position: Oppose

Summary:

This bill establishes a statutory right of first refusal for current, regular nonprobationary classified employees of school and community college districts relating to part-time and full-time vacant positions. Current classified employees must meet the minimum qualifications for the vacant position and must apply for the position within ten business days of receiving notice for the new classified position. As amended May 16, 2024, the bill clarifies that education employers may post the position to the general public during the ten-day period and may offer the position to an external candidate after the ten-day period. Assembly Bill 2088 does not apply to management or confidential positions, or employees on performance improvement plans or involved in formal discipline.

AB 2134 (Muratsuchi)**Amended:** 5/16/2024**Title:** School Employees: Transfer of Leave of Absence for Illness or Injury**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee**Position:** Support**Summary:**

This bill changes the following related to the transfer of sick leave for teachers and classified staff at school districts and county offices of education:

- Clarifies that there is no time frame during which unused sick leave must be transferred between public school employers
- Requires unused sick leave to be transferred between school employers in days, not hours

AB 2345 (Patterson, Jim)**Amended:** 4/1/2024**Title:** Short-Term Staff Permits: Provisional Intern Permits: Teaching Permits for Statutory Leave: Designated Subjects Career Technical Education Teaching Credentials: Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Certification**Status:** Signed by the Governor, Chapter 65, Statutes of 2024**Position:** Support**Summary:**

Starting July 1, 2025, this bill requires new applicants for the provisional internship permit and short-term staff permit to complete CPR certification prior to the Commission on Teacher Credentialing issuing a permit.

AB 2901 (Aguiar-Curry)**Amended:** 5/16/2024**Title:** School and Community College Employees: Paid Disability and Parental Leave**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee**Position:****Summary:**

This bill requires K-12 public schools and community college districts to provide up to 14 weeks of paid leave for employees experiencing pregnancy, miscarriage, childbirth, termination of pregnancy, or recovery from those conditions. It requires the leave of absence to be with full pay and prohibits a leave of absence taken from being deducted from any other leaves of absence available to the employee pursuant to state or federal regulations or laws.

Governance and District Operations

[AB 1917 \(Muratsuchi\)](#)

Amended: 7/1/2024

Title: Local Educational Agencies: Governance Training

Status: Senate Appropriations Committee

Position: Support

Summary:

As amended, this bill would require all local educational agency (LEA) governing board members to receive training in K-12 public education governance laws at least once during their tenure. The training would include the following:

- Open meeting laws, including the Ralph M. Brown Act
- Public education school finance laws, including laws related to the creation and approval of an LEA budget
- Laws related to personnel and employees
- Public school accountability laws related to pupil learning and achievement
- The training may be provided by an LEA, an association of LEAs, or a different entity.

[AB 3074 \(Schiavo\)](#)

Amended: 4/16/2024

Title: School or Athletic Team Names: California Racial Mascots Act

Status: Senate Appropriations Committee—Suspense File

Position: Support

Summary:

The bill would prohibit, beginning July 1, 2026, public schools, except for public schools operated by an Indian tribe or tribal organization, from using any “derogatory Native American term,” as defined, as a school or athletic team name, mascot, or nickname.

AB 3216 (Hoover)**Amended:** 5/16/2024**Title:** Pupils: Use of Smartphones**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee**Position:** Watch**Summary:**

Assembly Bill 3216 requires, rather than allows, local educational agencies to adopt and update every five years a policy to limit or prohibit student use of smartphones while at school or under the supervision and control of school employees. The policy must be adopted by July 1, 2026.

Instruction

AB 1821 (Ramos)**Amended:** 4/1/2024**Title:** Pupil Instruction: Course of Study: Social Sciences: Treatment of Native Americans**Status:** Senate Desk**Position:** Support**Summary:**

As amended April 1, 2024, this bill requires the adopted course of study for grades 1-6 for social sciences to provide a foundation for understanding the Spanish colonization of California and the Gold Rush era, including the treatment and perspectives of Native Americans during those periods. The bill further requires the adopted course of study for grades 7-12 for social sciences to include content on the treatment and perspectives of Native Americans, to the extent a school provides instruction on the Spanish colonization of California or the Gold Rush era.

AB 1871 (Alanis)**Amended:** 4/1/2024**Title:** Adopted Course of Study for Grades 7 to 12: Social Sciences: Personal Financial Literacy**Status:** Senate Desk**Position:****Summary:**

This bill, with respect to the adopted course of study for grades 7-12, would require the social sciences area of study to also include instruction on personal financial literacy.

AB 2097 (Berman)**Amended:** 6/3/2024**Title:** Pupil Instruction: High Schools: Computer Science Courses: Implementation Guide**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee—Suspense File**Position:** Watch**Summary:**

As amended June 3, 2024, this bill requires school districts and charter schools that serve grades 9-12 to adopt a plan by January 1, 2026, to offer at least one computer science course in each of their high schools according to the following timeline:

- By the 2026-27 school year, in at least one high school per school district
- If a school district has only one high school, then by no later than the 2027-28 school year
- By the 2027-28 school year, all charter schools maintaining any of grades 9-12
- By the 2027-28 school year, at least 50% of the high schools per school district
- By the 2028-29 school year, all high schools in a school district

If a traditional classroom setting is not feasible, then the school district or charter school shall include in its plan to offer a virtual or distance course option for computer science. As amended, the bill no longer adds computer science as a high school graduation requirement.

AB 2222 (Rubio, Blanca)**Amended:** 3/18/2024**Title:** Science of Reading: Accreditation: Professional Development: Instructional Materials**Status:** Assembly Education Committee—Bill Did Not Meet Deadline**Position:** Watch**Summary:**

Require all public schools to teach students to read using the “science of reading,” a phonics-based approach to reading. By March 1, 2026, local educational agencies shall ensure participation in the California Department of Education-approved professional development and training, and by June 30, 2027, teachers of students in grades TK-5 must have completed the training.

AB 2229 (Wilson)**Amended:** 4/8/2024**Title:** California Healthy Youth Act: Menstrual Health Education**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee—Suspense File**Position:****Summary:**

This bill adds menstrual health to the instruction in comprehensive sexual health education students are to receive in grades 7-12.

AB 2268 (Muratsuchi)**Amended:** 5/8/2024**Title:** English Learners: Initial Identification: English Language Proficiency Assessment**Status:** Signed by the Governor, Chapter 15, Statutes of 2024**Position:** Support**Summary:**

Exempts students in transitional kindergarten (TK) from being assessed for English language development using the English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC). The bill further excludes students in TK from being assessed for initial identification as an English learner upon their initial enrollment.

AB 2429 (Alvarez)**Amended:** 5/6/2024**Title:** Pupil Instruction: Health Education Courses: Fentanyl**Status:** Signed by the Governor, Chapter 67, Statutes of 2024**Position:** Support**Summary:**

Starting with the 2026-27 school year, if a school district or charter school requires a health education course as a graduation requirement, then the course must include instruction in the dangers associated with fentanyl use.

AB 2927 (McCarty)**Amended:** 6/24/2024**Title:** Pupil Instruction: High School Graduation Requirements: Personal Finance**Status:** Signed by the Governor, Chapter 37, Statutes of 2024**Position:** Support**Summary:**

As amended June 24, 2024, the bill does the following:

- Commencing with the 2027-28 school year, requires local educational agencies to offer a separate, stand-alone one-semester course in personal finance in all of its high schools
- Adds personal finance as a high school graduation requirement commencing with the 2030-31 school year as a separate, stand-alone one-semester course
- Clarifies that any pupil graduating in the 2030-31 school year who completes a separate, stand-alone one-semester course in personal finance may elect to be exempt from the requirement to complete a one-semester course in economics currently required to graduate high school
- Requires the Instructional Quality Commission (IQC) to develop, by May 31, 2026, a curriculum guide and resources for a separate, stand-alone one-semester course in personal finance.

AB 2999 (Schiavo)**Amended:** 7/3/2024**Title:** Pupil Instruction: Homework Policy**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee**Position:****Summary:**

As amended on July 3, 2024, this bill requires, by the start of the 2028-29 school year, local educational agencies to adopt a homework policy with the goal of promoting evidence-based homework practices to support pupil learning and well-being, and to ensure consistency and clarity in assigning homework. Development of the policy shall involve significant interest holder participation, and the policy shall be discussed at a minimum of two separate regularly scheduled board meetings. The homework policy shall be updated at least once every five years.

AB 3010 (Bauer-Kahan)**Amended:** 4/29/2024**Title:** Pupil Instruction: Mindfulness, Distress Tolerance, Interpersonal Effectiveness, and Emotional Regulation**Status:** Senate Floor—Consent**Position:** Watch**Summary:**

As amended April 29, 2024, this bill requires the Instructional Quality Commission to consider including information on evidence-based schoolwide programs to support students in developing skills in mindfulness, distress tolerance, interpersonal effectiveness, and emotional regulation, the next time the State Board of Education revises the Health Education Curriculum Framework for public schools.

SB 1094 (Limón)**Amended:** 6/17/2024**Title:** Pupil Instruction: Course of Study: Social Sciences: Civic Engagement**Status:** Assembly Appropriations Committee—Suspense File**Position:** Support**Summary:**

This bill requires social sciences to include principles of democracy and the state and federal constitutions, as well as civic engagement experiences with governmental institutions. Amendments to the bill remove the previously proposed requirement for pupils to complete one civic engagement with a local, state, or national governmental institution, at least once while in grades 1-6 and at least once while in either grade 7 or 8.

Miscellaneous

[AB 1815 \(Weber\)](#)

Amended: 5/23/2024

Title: Discrimination: Race: Hairstyles

Status: Senate Floor—Third Reading

Position: Support

Summary:

This bill would remove the term “historically” from the definitions of race, thus defining race to include traits associated with race, including hair texture and protective hairstyles.

[AB 2137 \(Quirk-Silva\)](#)

Amended: 6/11/2024

Title: Homeless and Foster Youth

Status: Senate Appropriations Committee—Suspense File

Position: Support

Summary:

This bill would make various changes related to homeless and foster youth. Among its provisions, this bill would require local educational agencies (LEAs) with at least 15 homeless pupils to include in the Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) specific actions to facilitate the enrollment, attendance, participation, retention, and educational success of homeless pupils. If the number of homeless pupils identified is less than 10% of the number of pupils identified as eligible for free or reduced-price meals, then the LEA is required to include in the LCAP strategies for ensuring the accurate identification of homeless pupils. The district must consult with its homeless liaison to develop actions to address these requirements.

[AB 2508 \(McCarty\)](#)

Amended: 4/1/2024

Title: Student Financial Aid: California Kids Investment and Development Savings (Kids) Program: Foster Youth

Status: Senate Appropriations Committee

Position: Support

Summary:

Expands California Kids Investment and Development Savings (KIDS) Program (CaKIDS) eligibility to all foster youth, in grades 1-12, inclusive. Each foster child enrolled in public school will receive an additional \$500 in their college savings account.

SB 1374 (Becker)**Amended:** 7/3/2024**Title:** Net Energy Metering**Status:** Assembly Appropriations Committee**Position:****Summary:**

By July 1, 2025, this bill requires the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to update its tariffs for situations with multiple meters to give credit for self-consumption in an equivalent way to how self-consumption is handled for single-family homes, multifamily residential customers, and non-residential customers with a single meter. Recent PUC rule changes disadvantage non-residential utility customers—including apartment buildings, schools, community colleges, universities, water agencies, city facilities, farms, and shopping centers—by taking away any benefit for self-consuming their own on-site (usually solar) generation, if it is metered separately from their other usage.

Nutrition

AB 2316 (Gabriel)**Amended:** 7/3/2024**Title:** Pupil Nutrition: Substances: Prohibition**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee**Position:** Support**Summary:**

As amended, beginning December 31, 2027, this bill prohibits a public school from offering, selling, or otherwise providing any food containing specified substances, including, among others, red 40. The bill permits a public school to sell food containing the prohibited substances as part of a school fundraising event. However, any fundraising event on school premises that sells food with those prohibited items must take place at least 30 minutes after the end of the school day or be off campus altogether.

AB 2595 (Rivas, Luz)**Amended:** 6/26/2024**Title:** School Nutrition: Guardian Meal Reimbursement**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee—Suspense File**Position:** Support**Summary:**

This bill requires the California Department of Education (CDE) to establish a pilot process for federal summer meal program operators to receive state reimbursement, adjusted annually for inflation, for meals served to guardians of eligible pupils receiving a meal pursuant to a summer meal program hosted at a public library. It also requires the CDE to develop guidance for summer meal program operators participating in the federal Seamless Summer Option or the Summer Food Service Program on how to serve guardians a meal at public library summer meal program sites. As amended, the bill would limit reimbursement to one guardian per eligible pupil.

School Safety and Student Discipline

[AB 1919 \(Weber\)](#)

Amended: 4/15/2024

Title: Pupil Discipline: Suspension: Restorative Justice Practices

Status: Senate Appropriations Committee

Position: Watch

Summary:

As amended April 15, 2024, this bill would require, beginning July 1, 2026, that local educational agencies adopt at least one of the best practices for restorative justice practice implementation developed and made available by the California Department of Education (CDE). The CDE is required to develop such practices for implementation and post them to the CDE website by June 1, 2024.

[AB 2351 \(Lowenthal\)](#)

Amended: 5/2/2024

Title: Suspensions and Expulsions: Acts Occurring Outside of School Hours

Status: Assembly Appropriations Committee—Bill Did Not Meet Deadline

Position:

Summary:

Until January 1, 2028, this bill would authorize suspension or recommendation for expulsion if certain conduct (such as sexual harassment, hate violence, harassment, threats, or intimidation) occurs during or outside of school hours, is sufficiently severe or pervasive to have the actual and reasonably expected effect of materially disrupting classwork, creating substantial disorder, or creating an intimidating or hostile educational environment. A pupil may not be suspended or expelled for an act that occurs outside of school hours unless other means of correction fail to bring about proper conduct.

[AB 2441 \(Kalra\)](#)

Amended: 7/3/2024

Title: School Safety: Mandatory Notifications

Status: Senate Appropriations Committee

Position:

Summary:

- Eliminates criminal penalties for “willful disturbance” of a school or school meeting by students.
- As amended, this bill would expressly authorize, instead of require, an employee who is physically threatened by a pupil to report the incident, and would eliminate the duty of a school principal to report it
- The bill instead would require, whenever an employee is subject to an attack by a pupil that causes bodily harm sufficient to require immediate medical attention, the employee to notify specified law enforcement authorities and would eliminate the duty of the school principal to report it.

AB 2481 (Lowenthal)**Amended:** 5/7/2024**Title:** Social Media-Related Threats: Reporting**Status:** Senate Judiciary Committee**Position:** Support**Summary:**

Creates a two-tiered reporting mechanism for “social media-related threats”—content posted on a social media platform that promotes, incites, facilitates, or perpetrates certain enumerated harmful outcomes. Any person would be able to report such threats to social media platforms and receive a response under specified timeframes as to whether the content violates the platform’s terms and conditions. Additionally, with regard to the biggest social media platforms, certain “verified reporters”—school counselors, principals, and licensed mental health professionals—would be entitled to expedited review of any reports of social media-related threats. Reports of severe risks from verified reporters must be undertaken by a human. Large platforms would be required to annually post on their websites information relating to reports received by verified reporters. This bill would be enforced via a private right of action.

AB 2583 (Berman)**Amended:** 6/27/2024**Title:** School Zones: Speed Limits**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee**Position:** Support**Summary:**

As amended, this bill would reduce the school zone speed limit from 25 miles per hour to 20 miles per hour commencing January 2028.

AB 2711 (Ramos)**Amended:** 7/3/2024**Title:** Suspensions and Expulsions: Voluntary Disclosures**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee**Position:** Support**Summary:**

This bill originally required schools to document other means of correction before suspending a student on the basis of unlawfully possessing, using, or being under the influence of a controlled substance, an alcoholic beverage, or an intoxicant of any kind, or having possessed or used tobacco products. The bill also previously removed these acts from the list of acts for which a student may be recommended for expulsion. The bill was significantly amended on July 3, 2024, and the new bill instead specifies that a pupil who voluntarily discloses their use of a controlled substance, alcohol, tobacco product or intoxicant of any kind in order to seek help through services or supports shall not be suspended solely for that disclosure.

AB 3038 (Essayli)**Amended:** 4/1/2024**Title:** School Safety: Armed School Resource Officers.**Status:** Assembly Education Committee—Bill Did Not Meet Deadline**Position:** Oppose**Summary:**

This bill would require a school district or a charter school to hire or contract with at least one armed school resource officer authorized to carry a loaded firearm to be present at each school during regular school hours and any other time when pupils are present on campus.

SB 1011 (Jones)**Title:** Encampments: Penalties**Status:** Senate Public Safety Committee—Bill Did Not Meet Deadline**Position:****Summary:**

Prohibits a person from sitting, lying, sleeping, or storing, using, maintaining, or placing personal property upon a street or sidewalk if a homeless shelter is available to the person. Prohibits a person from sitting, lying, sleeping, or storing, using, maintaining, or placing personal property upon a street, sidewalk, or other public property within 500 feet of a public or private school, an open space, or a major transit stop.

Note: Fresno USD opposed a similar bill—SB 31 (Jones)—in 2023 that would have prohibited a person from sitting, lying, sleeping, or storing, using, maintaining, or placing personal property upon any street, sidewalk, or other public right-of-way within 1000 feet of a school, daycare center, park, or library. SB 31 failed passage in the Senate Public Safety Committee.

SB 1026 (Smallwood-Cuevas)**Amended:** 3/11/2024**Title:** School Safety: School Security Departments: Contracted Private Licensed Security Agencies**Status:** Senate Education Committee—Bill Did Not Meet Deadline**Position:** Watch**Summary:**

As amended, this bill requires local educational agencies that have a security department or that contract with a private licensed security agency to specify both of the following:

- The parameters on the use of weapons, including handcuffs, pepper spray, batons, and firearms, on the school campus

The roles and responsibilities of school administrators, school security personnel, and contracted school security officers, for the purpose of ensuring the safety of personnel and pupils, consistent with assigning school administrators primary responsibility for de-escalation

SB 1063 (Grove)**Amended:** 6/27/2024**Title:** Pupil Safety: Identification Cards**Status:** Assembly Floor—Consent**Position:** Support**Summary:**

As amended, commencing July 1, 2025, this bill requires schools that serve students in grade 7-12 to include on student identification cards the number for the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline.

SB 1283 (Stern)**Amended:** 6/26/2024**Title:** Pupils: Use of Social Media**Status:** Assembly Privacy and Consumer Protection Committee**Position:****Summary:**

This bill authorizes local educational agencies to limit or prohibit the student use of social media while at school or under the supervision and control of school employees.

Student Health

AB 1955 (Ward)**Amended:** 5/22/2024**Title:** Support Academic Futures and Educators for Today's Youth Act**Status:** To Enrollment**Position:****Summary:**

This bill establishes the Support Academic Futures and Educators for Today's Youth (SAFETY) Act, which would prohibit a local educational agency (LEA) from enacting or enforcing policies that require disclosure of a student's gender identity, sexual orientation, or gender expression without the student's consent. The bill would also prohibit an employee or contractor of an LEA from disclosing information about the student's gender identity, sexual orientation, or gender expression without their consent. The bill would also require the California Department of Education to develop supports and community resources for the support of parents, guardians, and families of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning students.

AB 2052 (Jones-Sawyer)**Amended:** 4/8/2024**Title:** School-Based Health and Education Partnership Program**Status:** Assembly Appropriations Committee—Suspense File—Bill Did Not Meet Deadline**Position:** Support**Summary:**

This bill requires the Department of Public Health to collaborate with the California Department of Education's Office of School-Based Health Programs to award grants for expansion, renovation, and retrofitting of existing school health centers. Preference shall be given to centers that are in medically underserved areas, experiencing health disparities in child and adolescent access to care, and schools with more than 55% unduplicated pupils.

AB 2110 (Arambula)

Title: Medi-Cal: Adverse Childhood Experiences Trauma Screenings: Providers

Status: Assembly Appropriations Committee—Suspense File—Bill Did Not Meet Deadline

Position: Support

Summary:

Allows community health workers and doulas to receive Medi-Cal reimbursement for providing adverse childhood experiences screenings. Under current law, Medi-Cal providers receive \$29 per trauma screening for children and adults with Medi-Cal coverage, but the list of eligible providers does not include community health workers or doulas.

AB 2998 (McKinnor)

Amended: 6/20/2024

Title: Opioid Overdose Reversal Medications: Pupil Administration

Status: Senate Appropriations Committee

Position:

Summary:

As amended, this bill prohibits school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools from preventing a student 12 years old or older from carrying or administering an opioid reversal medication.

SB 954 (Menjivar)

Amended: 6/3/2024

Title: Sexual Health

Status: Assembly Appropriations Committee

Position: Support

Summary:

By the 2025-26 school year, this bill requires public schools to make free internal and external condoms available to all pupils in grades 9-12. The condoms shall be placed in a minimum of two locations on school grounds where the condoms are easily accessible to pupils during school hours without requiring assistance or permission from school staff. Pupils shall be notified through existing school communication channels that free condoms are available and where the condoms can be obtained on school grounds.

This bill also requires public schools serving grades 7-12 to allow condoms to be made available through educational or public health programs, such as organizations providing instruction for purposes of the California Healthy Youth Act, pupil peer health groups, pupil health fairs, and school-based health centers. This bill prohibits a retail establishment from refusing to furnish nonprescription contraception to a person solely on the basis of age by means of any conduct, such as requiring the customer to present identification for purposes of demonstrating their age. As amended, implementation of these provisions is contingent upon a State Budget appropriation for this purpose.

SB 976 (Skinner)**Amended:** 7/3/2024**Title:** Protecting Our Kids From Social Media Addiction Act**Status:** Assembly Appropriations Committee**Position:** Watch**Summary:**

This bill prohibits an addictive internet-based service or application from providing an addictive feed to a minor without parental consent. It prohibits an addictive internet-based service or application from sending notifications to minors between 12:00 a.m.-6:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., from Monday through Friday from September through May, unless the operator has obtained parental consent.

An addictive internet-based service or application must enable a parent to:

- Prevent their child from receiving notifications between specific hours chosen by the parent
- Limit their child's access to the platform to a length of time per day specified by the parent
- Limit their child's ability to view the number of likes or other forms of feedback on pieces of media within an addictive feed
- Require that the default feed provided to the child when entering the platform be one in which pieces of media are not prioritized for display based on information provided by the user
- Set their child's account to private mode

An "addictive internet-based service or application" means an Internet website, online service, online application, or mobile application that offers or provides users with an addictive feed as a significant part of the service provided by that Internet website, online service, online application, or mobile application.

"Addictive feed" means an Internet website, online service, online application, or mobile application, or a portion thereof, in which multiple pieces of media generated or shared by users are, either concurrently or sequentially, recommended, selected, or prioritized for display to a user based, in whole or in part, on information provided by the user, or otherwise associated with the user or the user's device.

SB 997 (Portantino)**Amended:** 6/17/2024**Title:** Pupil Health: Opioid Antagonists and Fentanyl Test Strips**Status:** Assembly Appropriations Committee—Suspense File**Position:** Watch**Summary:**

This bill authorizes local educational agencies (LEAs) to adopt a policy that allows pupils in middle schools and high schools and adults to carry an over-the-counter opioid antagonist for the emergency treatment of persons suffering from an opioid overdose. LEAs that adopt such a policy must include a requirement that students have received instruction in the administration of the opioid antagonist. It also requires public middle schools and high schools to stock and distribute fentanyl test strips and to notify pupils about the presence and location of fentanyl test strips.

SB 1318 (Wahab)**Amended:** 6/17/2024**Title:** Pupil Health: Suicide Prevention Policies: Pupil Suicide Crisis**Status:** Assembly Appropriations Committee**Position:** Support**Summary:**

This bill would require, on or before July 1, 2026, the California Department of Education to update the model policy to address crisis intervention protocols in the event of a pupil suicide crisis including the process by which staff and external agencies are deployed to address a pupil suicide crisis, limiting the involvement and notification of law enforcement to situations in which a pupil's life is in imminent danger and their needs cannot be addressed by a mental health professional, and the assessment process that law enforcement officers should follow to determine whether the pupil experiencing a suicide crisis is endangered by parental notification. The bill would require, by July 1, 2026, the governing board or body of a local educational agency to update their pupil suicide prevention policy to include these crisis intervention protocols.

Fresno Unified School District
Board Communication

BC Number BFS-3

From the Office of the Interim Superintendent

To the Members of the Board of Education

Prepared by: Kim Kelstrom, Chief Executive

Cabinet Approval:




Date: August 02, 2024

Phone Number: 457-3907

Regarding: Joint Health Management Board Financial Updates

The purpose of this board communication is to provide the Board the financial updates reported at the July 25, 2024, meeting of the Joint Health Management Board (JHMB).

The Third Quarter Health Fund Report for the 2023/24 fiscal year provides a review of actual JHMB income and expenditures from July 01, 2023 through March 31, 2024. It also provides projected income and expenditures for the entire fiscal year 2023/24 compared to the budget for the same time period (Attachment I). Per the language in each of the district's collective bargaining agreements, the attached is provided by the health plan consultant.

For 2023/24, the report further shows a projected year-end surplus of \$17.9 million, a decrease compared to the approved budget of \$2.5 million mainly due to increased medical and prescription claims.

In addition, based on the increased trends, the consultants have revised the 2024/25 Adopted Budget that will be recognized in a budget revision to the Board of Education. The change has adjusted the surplus from \$22.3 million at adopted budget to \$14.5 million to recognize the increased costs in medical and prescription costs.

If you have any questions pertaining to the information in this communication, or require additional information, please contact either Kim Kelstrom at 457-3907 or Patrick Jensen at 457-6226.

Approved by Interim Superintendent

Mao Misty Her  _____

Date: 08/02/24

MEMORANDUM

TO: Joint Health Management Board – Employee Unit Representatives
FROM: Giovanni Pacheco, Principal
DATE: June 27, 2024
RE: Quarterly Health Fund Report for July 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024

Attached is the Quarterly Health Fund Report for the first three quarters of the 2023/24 fiscal year for the JHMB. This report provides a review of Income and Expenditures compared to Budget for the 2023/24 fiscal year. The Plan is managed by the Joint Health Management Board. We continue to modify and update the format as we work through all the aspects of managing the coverage and funding the Plan.

Adjusting for the tenthly District contributions, the first nine months of the year are showing a surplus of \$16,314,434 compared to the budget surplus of \$26,957,748 for the fiscal year. Plan income is projected to be 0.26% higher than the annual budgeted amount per Active for the full fiscal year, while plan expenses are expected to be 5.12% above budget on a per capita basis at the end of the year. The attached exhibit provides detailed information and is summarized in the table below.

Please note that the figures contained in this report are based on data available to the JHMB. Audited figures may differ from those set forth in this report.

	<u>Third Quarter of 2023/24 Fiscal Year (Actual)</u>	<u>Budget (Projected Period)</u>
	<u>July 1, 2023 – March 31, 2023</u>	<u>July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024</u>
Income ¹	\$169,220,543	\$221,461,657
Expenditures	\$152,906,109	\$194,503,909
Surplus / (Deficit)	\$16,314,434	\$26,957,748
Transfer of Reserves	\$0.00	\$0.00
Net Surplus / (Deficit)	\$16,314,434	\$26,957,748
Encumbered Reserves	\$94,824,393	\$99,430,281
Unencumbered Reserves	115,822,607	\$126,465,921
Total Reserves	\$210,647,000	\$225,896,202

¹Income amount has been annualized to account for the tenthly District contributions

Please note that expenses shown in the vendor reports can differ slightly from the paid amounts shown in the District's Monthly Financial Report, as adjustments, credits, and delayed postings on the vendor side result in differences in the monthly costs compared to the amounts shown as paid by the District. The annual costs shown in this report have been adjusted to account for these differences and match the audited year-end financial report prepared by the District.

Definitions

Encumbered Reserves: A part of the Total Reserves amount that includes money held to cover the Incurred But Not Reported (IBNR) liability as well as assets held in the OPEB Irrevocable Trust.

Unencumbered Reserves: A part of the Total Reserves amount and is money that is available to pay claims in excess of Encumbered Reserves. This reserve covers the claim fluctuation and unexpected contingencies and is available to cover future cost increases to the Plan.

Total Reserves: represents the combination of Encumbered and Unencumbered Reserves. This is the amount that represents the Plan's ability to meet future contingencies and obligations.

Encls.

Fresno Unified School District

Exhibit I: YTD Income and Expenditures with Projected Budget Period



	Current Period				Current + Projected Period				Budget		
	Jul-23 - Mar-24	Tenthsly Cost per Active	Monthly Cost per Active	Difference from Budget ³	Jul-23 - Jun-24	Tenthsly Cost per Active	Monthly Cost per Active	Difference from Budget ³	Jul-23 - Jun-24	Tenthsly Cost per Active	Monthly Cost per Active
	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)	(H)	(I)	(J)	(K)
Number of Employees	Employees	Dependents	Members		Employees	Dependents	Members		Employees	Dependents	Members
1. Actives	8,720	13,388	22,107		8,745	13,406	22,151		8,606	13,432	22,038
2. Retirees	4,981	3,110	8,091		4,976	3,010	7,986		5,685	3,222	8,907
3. Monthly Average	13,701	16,497	30,199		13,721	16,416	30,137		14,291	16,654	30,945
INCOME											
4. Employer Contributions ¹	\$148,866,883	\$2,276.31	\$1,896.93	3.47%	\$192,801,529	\$2,204.75	\$1,837.29	0.22%	\$189,332,000	\$2,200.00	\$1,833.33
5. Employee Contributions	16,093,284	246.08	205.07	-1.85%	21,932,401	250.80	209.00	0.03%	21,576,862	250.72	208.93
6. Retiree Contributions	3,183,345	48.68	40.56	-5.99%	4,239,529	48.48	40.40	-6.37%	4,456,184	51.78	43.15
7. COBRA Contributions	794,796	12.15	10.13	3.40%	1,062,773	12.15	10.13	3.40%	1,011,521	11.75	9.79
8. Prescription Rebates	0	0.00	0.00		0	0.00	0.00		0	0.00	0.00
9. Insurance Revenue	1,099,336	16.81	14.01		1,099,336	12.57	10.48		0	0.00	0.00
10. Low Income Premium Subsidy	1,204,597	18.42	15.35	-42.68%	1,895,973	21.68	18.07	-32.53%	2,765,503	32.13	26.78
11. Other Income	263,314	4.03	3.36	354.38%	282,853	3.23	2.70	265.02%	76,259	0.89	0.74
12. Interest	1,683,746	25.75	21.46	3.70%	2,217,902	25.36	21.14	2.16%	2,136,622	24.83	20.69
13. Investment Increase/Decrease	0	0.00	0.00		0	0.00	0.00		0	0.00	0.00
14. Zelis Credit Rebates	65,140	1.00	0.83	-19.67%	91,816	1.05	0.87	-15.32%	106,706	1.24	1.03
15. Active Reserve Assessment ⁶	32	0.00	0.00		32	0.00	0.00		0	0.00	0.00
16. Retiree Reserve Assessment ⁶	3,245	0.05	0.04		3,245	0.04	0.03		0	0.00	0.00
17. Authorized Transfer to Reserves ²	0	0.00	0.00		0	0.00	0.00		0	0.00	0.00
18. Inter-District Transfer	0	0.00	0.00		0	0.00	0.00		0	0.00	0.00
19. Total Income	\$173,257,719	\$2,649.27	\$2,207.72	2.95%	\$225,627,390	\$2,580.12	\$2,150.10	0.26%	\$221,461,657	\$2,573.34	\$2,144.45
EXPENSES											
Benefits											
20. Active Medical Claims	\$65,916,507	\$1,007.92	\$839.94	9.06%	\$89,067,889	\$1,018.52	\$848.77	10.21%	\$79,534,521	\$924.18	\$770.15
21. Retiree Medical Claims	10,917,185	166.93	139.11	63.81%	13,473,319	154.07	128.39	51.19%	8,770,258	101.91	84.92
22. Kaiser Health Plan	15,655,884	239.39	199.49	3.51%	20,971,736	239.82	199.85	3.69%	19,904,334	231.28	192.74
23. Aetna MAPPO Premium	16,546,508	253.01	210.84	-15.07%	22,613,456	258.59	215.49	-13.20%	25,637,568	297.90	248.25
24. Active Prescription Drug	17,316,844	264.79	220.66	-6.26%	23,850,314	272.74	227.28	-3.45%	24,310,171	282.48	235.40
25. Retiree Prescription Drug	4,188,664	64.05	53.37	33.68%	5,471,539	62.57	52.14	30.59%	4,123,270	47.91	39.93
26. EGWP Premium	0	0.00	0.00		0	0.00	0.00		0	0.00	0.00
27. Prescription Drug Fee	73,860	1.13	0.94	-0.09%	96,409	1.10	0.92	-2.47%	97,281	1.13	0.94
28. Blue Cross/Aetna PPO Fee	1,358,908	20.78	17.32	32.05%	1,699,704	19.44	16.20	23.52%	1,354,216	15.74	13.11
29. Delta Health Admin	1,796,794	27.47	22.90	-12.90%	2,661,884	30.44	25.37	-3.50%	2,714,658	31.54	26.29
30. Claremont EAP	244,180	3.73	3.11	-19.65%	328,789	3.76	3.13	-19.08%	399,888	4.65	3.87
31. Halcyon Mental Health	3,605,487	55.13	45.94	-9.55%	4,721,060	53.99	44.99	-11.42%	5,245,261	60.95	50.79
32. PhysMetrics	438,077	6.70	5.58	-25.53%	573,381	6.56	5.46	-27.11%	774,144	9.00	7.50
33. Standard Life Insurance	413,762	6.33	5.27	-6.56%	563,061	6.44	5.37	-4.91%	582,706	6.77	5.64
34. Delta Dental Claims	7,236,971	110.66	92.22	-5.56%	10,117,341	115.70	96.41	-1.26%	10,083,710	117.17	97.64
35. Delta Dental Admin Fees	434,423	6.64	5.54	-5.31%	606,236	6.93	5.78	-1.17%	603,700	7.01	5.85
36. Pacific Union Dental	486,936	7.45	6.20	6.88%	651,230	7.45	6.21	6.90%	599,545	6.97	5.81
37. VSP Vision ⁸	1,229,288	18.80	15.66	21.56%	1,784,300	20.40	17.00	31.95%	1,330,779	15.46	12.89
38. Stop Loss Premium	681,596	10.42	8.69	-0.58%	908,629	10.39	8.66	-0.88%	902,159	10.48	8.74
39. Community Medical Provider	620,956	9.49	7.91	-7.15%	840,964	9.62	8.01	-5.96%	880,032	10.23	8.52
40. WellPATH	212,621	3.25	2.71	-28.10%	312,328	3.57	2.98	-21.02%	389,152	4.52	3.77
41. Transfer out to OPEB	1,000,000	15.29	12.74	-34.20%	2,000,000	22.87	19.06	-1.59%	2,000,000	23.24	19.37
42. Transfer out to IBNR	0	0.00	0.00	-100.00%	1,105,888	12.65	10.54	-1.59%	1,105,888	12.85	10.71
43. ACA PCORI Fee	75,502	1.15	0.96	59.43%	75,502	0.86	0.72	19.23%	62,321	0.72	0.60
44. Total Benefits, Premiums & Fees	\$150,450,952	\$2,300.53	\$1,917.11	3.44%	\$204,494,960	\$2,338.47	\$1,948.72	5.14%	\$191,405,562	\$2,224.09	\$1,853.41
Operating Expenses											
45. Salaries	\$416,278	\$6.37	\$5.30	-11.30%	\$570,666	\$6.53	\$5.44	-9.06%	\$617,550	\$7.18	\$5.98
46. Staff Benefits	269,695	4.12	3.44	-5.79%	363,872	4.16	3.47	-4.94%	376,711	4.38	3.65
47. Supplies	3,632	0.06	0.05	-20.98%	5,143	0.06	0.05	-16.31%	6,048	0.07	0.06
48. Auditor	25,000	0.38	0.32	-27.12%	25,000	0.29	0.24	-4.93%	25,880	0.30	0.25
49. Delta Fund Administrator Fees	214,938	3.29	2.74	-8.12%	291,821	3.34	2.78	-6.70%	307,828	3.58	2.98
50. MMA Consultant Fees	179,670	2.75	2.29	-28.28%	292,170	3.34	2.78	-12.78%	329,670	3.83	3.19
51. Delta Team Care Fees	132,600	2.03	1.69	0.32%	176,085	2.01	1.68	-0.37%	173,940	2.02	1.68
52. Claremont Partners: General	437,153	6.68	5.57	-2.20%	578,932	6.62	5.52	-3.14%	588,218	6.83	5.70
53. Claremont Partners: PBM Consulting (PSG)	0	0.00	0.00		0	0.00	0.00		0	0.00	0.00
54. Taylor English Duma Legal Fees	31,500	0.48	0.40	-67.10%	78,750	0.90	0.75	-38.49%	126,000	1.46	1.22
55. KHK Law: Outside Counsel	54,926	0.84	0.70	106.51%	73,445	0.84	0.70	106.51%	35,000	0.41	0.34
56. JHMB Training / Education Expenses	95,486	1.46	1.22	143.16%	108,405	1.24	1.03	106.45%	51,676	0.60	0.50
57. Other Operating Expenses	591,532	9.05	7.54	97.10%	690,266	7.89	6.58	72.00%	394,938	4.59	3.82
58. Communications	2,747	0.04	0.04	-94.43%	18,969	0.22	0.18	-71.23%	64,888	0.75	0.63
59. Total Operating Expenses	\$2,455,157	\$37.54	\$31.28	4.28%	\$3,273,526	\$37.43	\$31.19	3.98%	\$3,098,347	\$36.00	\$30.00
60. Total Expenses	\$152,906,109	\$2,338.07	\$1,948.39	3.45%	\$207,768,486	\$2,375.90	\$1,979.92	5.12%	\$194,503,909	\$2,260.10	\$1,883.41
61. Surplus / (Deficit) ⁴	\$20,351,610	\$311.19	\$259.33	88.25%	\$17,858,905	\$204.22	\$170.19	92.08%	\$26,957,748	\$313.24	\$261.04
Beginning Reserve Balance											
62. Encumbered Reserves											
63. OPEB Irrevocable Trust	\$69,772,872				\$69,772,872				\$69,772,872		
64. Reserve Liability for IBNR	\$25,051,521				\$25,051,521				\$25,051,521		
65. Total Encumbered Reserves	\$94,824,393				\$94,824,393				\$94,824,393		
66. Unencumbered Reserves ⁷	\$99,508,173				\$99,508,173				\$99,508,173		
67. Total Reserves	\$194,332,566				\$194,332,566				\$194,332,566		
68. Operating Surplus / (Deficit)	\$20,351,610				\$17,858,905				\$26,957,748		
69. Transfer In from Reserves	\$0				\$0				\$0		
70. Adjusted Unencumbered Reserves	\$119,859,783				\$117,367,078				\$126,465,921		
71. Target Unencumbered Reserves ⁵	\$33,979,135				\$34,628,081				\$32,417,318		
Ending Reserve Balance											
72. Encumbered Reserves											
73. OPEB Irrevocable Trust	\$69,772,872				\$73,272,872				\$73,272,872		
74. Reserve Liability for IBNR	\$25,051,521				\$26,157,409				\$26,157,409		
75. Total Encumbered Reserves	\$94,824,393				\$99,430,281				\$99,430,281		
76. Unencumbered Reserves	\$119,859,783				\$117,367,078				\$126,465,921		
77. Total Reserves	\$214,684,176				\$216,797,359				\$225,896,202		

¹ Current + Projected Period amount calculated based on tenthsly budget amounts, not monthly

² District contribution subject to final negotiations

³ Difference from Budget percentages calculated based on Monthly Cost per Active

⁴ Surplus / (Deficit) percentage calculated as Total Expenses (row 58) divided by Total Budgeted Income (row 18)

⁵ Target Unencumbered Reserves calculated as 2.0 months of total annual expenses.

⁶ Active and Retiree Assessments were suspended beginning in May 2023

⁷ Beginning Unencumbered Reserve Balance includes an audit adjustment of -\$3,754,190. The original pre-audit adjustment total was \$69,297,400.

⁸ Vision coverage moved from MES to VSP effective 1/1/2024. \$677,548 of the 2023/24 fiscal year vision costs were paid prior to the change in carrier.

Fresno Unified School District
Board Communication

BC Number BFS-4

From the Office of the Interim Superintendent

To the Members of the Board of Education

Prepared by: Kim Kelstrom, Chief Executive

Cabinet Approval:

Date: August 02, 2024

Phone Number: 457-3934

Regarding: 2024/25 State Adopted Budget Update

The purpose of this communication is to provide the Board an update regarding the final 2024/25 State Adopted Budget.

The district's 2024/25 Adopted Budget was approved by the Board on June 20, 2024. The approval included assumptions based on the Governor's May Revise. The State Budget was enacted on June 26, 2024. The main financial change was cash deferrals in June to July. However, due to the date in signing the budget, the June 2023 cash had already been apportioned to school districts. Below are the impacts to the Fresno Unified 2024/25 Adopted Budget presented by School Services of California:

- "Withdraws \$7.9 billion from the Proposition 98 reserve in 2023-24 to fund \$5.3 billion in Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) costs and \$2.6 billion in deferred, unallocated TK-12 categorical programs"
- "Authorizes the deferral of \$3.6 billion in Proposition 98 funding from 2023-24 to 2024-25, and the deferral of \$246 million in Proposition 98 funding from 2024-25 to 2025-26"
- "Establishes an obligation schedule for \$6.2 billion General Fund from 2022-23, which will begin in 2026-27 with \$622 million General Fund per year until 2035-36"
- "Provides the statutory 1.07% LCFF cost-of-living adjustment (COLA)"
- "Prohibits local educational agencies (LEAs) from adopting the use of instructional materials or curriculum that would subject students to unlawful discrimination"
- "Makes changes to the Learning Recovery Emergency Block Grant"
- "Beginning July 1, 2025, authorizes LEAs to earn additional ADA, up to ten days or the number of student absences, through attendance recovery programs"
- "Requires LEAs to include instructional continuity plans as part of their school safety plans"
- "Beginning July 1, 2025, LEAs that had school closures or a material decrease in attendance are required to provide an affidavit with specified information"
- "Restores \$100 million for the Inclusive Early Education Expansion Program that was proposed to be reappropriated for Proposition 98 backfill"
- "Makes various changes to the Expanded Learning Opportunities Program"
- "Appropriates \$25 million one-time for professional development related to the literacy screener for reading difficulties, and makes technical changes to allow ongoing funding to be provided through the K-12 Mandate Block Grant process"
- "Suspends the authority of LEAs to lay off certificated and classified employees utilizing the "summer layoff window" between July 1, 2024 and July 1, 2025"
- "Requires the California Department of Education to develop model referral protocols for addressing student behavioral health concerns by January 1, 2025, and requires LEAs to certify that their employees received youth behavioral training by July 1, 2029"
- "Eliminates \$550 million General Fund planned for 2024-25 for the California State Preschool, Transitional Kindergarten, and Full-Day Kindergarten Facilities Grant Program and the planned funding for the School Facility Program in 2024-25"
- "Requires the Fiscal Crisis and Management Assistance Team to provide recommendations related to funding and financing mechanisms related to judgments and settlements from child sexual abuse lawsuits"

- “Makes modifications to the Golden State Teacher Grant Program”

If you have any questions pertaining to the information in this communication or require additional information, please contact Kim Kelstrom at 457-3907.

Approved by Interim Superintendent

Mao Misty Her  _____

Date: 08/02/24

Fresno Unified School District
Board Communication

BC Number BFS-5

From the Office of the Interim Superintendent
To the Members of the Board of Education
Prepared by: Pamela Bartlett, Administrative Analyst
Cabinet Approval:

Date: August 02, 2024

Phone Number: 457-6204


Regarding: District's Bond Rating Affirmed by Moody's Investors Service

The purpose of this communication is to inform the Board that Fresno Unified School District's Aa3 rating was affirmed by Moody's Investor's Service.

In the Moody's Investors Service update to potential investors dated July 11, 2024, the credit opinion labeled the district's outlook as "stable". "The affirmation of the rating is primarily driven by the district's strong financial position, offset by the expectation that it will normalize to historic levels in the next few years."

In the rationale, the Moody's report noted "the district's growing central valley economy and healthy finances with reserves at 26% of operating revenues. Long-term enrollment trends will remain relatively stable with projected 1% annual declines, consistent with similarly rated peers. The district's finances will stay sound despite projected spend downs, benefiting from prudent management, conservative budgeting practices and an adopted reserve policy." Moody's has also considered the district's plan to seek voter approval on an additional General Obligation Bond authorization in the amount of \$500 million when issuing this rating.

The Moody's Investors Services press release is attached.

The Board authorized the Issuance and Sale of General Obligation Bonds, Election of 2020 (Measure M), Series C in the aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$60 million; additionally, the Board also authorized the issuance and sale of 2024 Refunding General Obligation Bonds, in the aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$53 million. Both resolutions were adopted at the May 22, 2024 Board of Trustees Meeting.

If you have any questions pertaining to the information in this communication, or require additional information, please contact Patrick Jensen at 457-6225.

Approved by Interim Superintendent

Mao Misty Her 

Date: 08/02/24

MOODY'S

RATINGS

Rating Action: Moody's Ratings assigns Aa3 to Fresno USD, CA's GOs and affirms outstanding ratings; outlook is stable

11 Jul 2024

New York, July 11, 2024 -- Moody's Ratings (Moody's) has assigned a Aa3 to Fresno Unified School District, CA's General Obligation Bonds Election of 2020, Series C and 2024 Refunding General Obligation Bonds (Federally Taxable) in the expected par amounts of approximately \$60 million and \$18 million, respectively. Concurrently, we have affirmed the district's outstanding A1 issuer, Aa3 GO and A2 lease revenue ratings, and maintained the stable outlook. Post issuances, the district will have about \$1 billion in total debt outstanding.

The affirmation of the ratings is primarily driven by the district's strong financial position, offset by the expectation that it will normalize to historic levels in the next few years.

RATINGS RATIONALE

The A1 issuer rating reflects the district's growing central valley economy and healthy finances with reserves at 26% of operating revenues. Long-term enrollment trends will remain relatively stable with projected 1% annual declines, which is consistent with similarly rated peers. The district's finances will stay sound despite projected spend downs, benefiting from prudent management, conservative budgeting practices and an adopted reserve policy. The rating also incorporates low resident income (66% of US median) and wealth (approximately \$69,000) levels and increasing but affordable debt profile. Leverage will continue to increase given the upcoming issuances and the district's plan to return to voters for an additional GO authorization in the expected amount of \$500 million.

The Aa3 rating on the district's GO bonds is one notch higher than the issuer rating. The one notch distinction reflects bond security features that include the physical separation through a "lockbox" for pledged property tax collections and a security interest created by statute.

The A2 rating on the lease revenue bonds is one notch lower than the A1 issuer rating. The one-notch distinction reflects both the absence of California GO bond security features, and the weaker legal structure of a standard abatement lease despite the more essential nature of the asset.

RATING OUTLOOK

The stable outlook reflects the expectation that the district's economy will continue to grow and the district's financial profile will remain sound, supported by management's conservative budgeting practices. Despite projected spend downs, the district's finances will remain solid and in line with similarly rated peers. The outlook also reflects a projected increase in leverage given the district's tentative future debt plans and the expectation that this debt will remain affordable.

FACTORS THAT COULD LEAD TO AN UPGRADE OF THE RATINGS

- Maintenance of reserves and liquidity at 30% of operating revenues
- Continued improvement of resident income to 80% of US median

FACTORS THAT COULD LEAD TO A DOWNGRADE OF THE RATINGS

- Substantial decline of reserves and liquidity to below 17.5% of operating revenues
- Significant increase in leverage to 400% of operating revenues

LEGAL SECURITY

The district's GO bonds are secured by an unlimited property tax pledge of all taxable property within the district's boundary. The portion of district's ad valorem property tax levy restricted for debt service is collected, held and transferred directly to the paying agent by Fresno County on behalf of the district.

The lease revenue bonds are structured as a standard California abatement lease, secured by the district's covenant to annually budget and appropriate lease payments for the use and occupancy of the leased asset. Lease payments are made by the district to the Central Valley Support Services Joint Powers Agency (CVSS) for the use and occupancy of the district's Central Kitchen, which we consider more essential.

USE OF PROCEEDS

The net proceeds of the Series C Bonds will be used to finance school construction and improvements to the school facilities.

The net proceeds of the Refunding Bonds will be used to provide funds to refinance on an advance basis certain outstanding general obligation bonds of the district, and

to pay related costs of issuance.

PROFILE

Fresno Unified School District serves the City of Fresno (A1 stable), a small portion of the City of Clovis (Aa2), and unincorporated areas of Fresno County. The district is about 155 miles southeast of the City of San Jose (Aa1 stable). With 104 schools and approximately 69,865 students for fiscal 2023 enrollment, the district is the third largest public school district in California (Aa2 negative) as measured by enrollment.

METHODOLOGY

The principal methodology used in these ratings was US K-12 Public School Districts Methodology published in January 2021 and available at <https://ratings.moodys.com/rmc-documents/70054>. Alternatively, please see the Rating Methodologies page on <https://ratings.moodys.com> for a copy of this methodology.

REGULATORY DISCLOSURES

For further specification of Moody's key rating assumptions and sensitivity analysis, see the sections Methodology Assumptions and Sensitivity to Assumptions in the disclosure form. Moody's Rating Symbols and Definitions can be found on <https://ratings.moodys.com/rating-definitions>.

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Process.

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Fresno Unified School District
Board Communication

BC Number BFS-6

From the Office of the Interim Superintendent
To the Members of the Board of Education
Prepared by: Ashlee Chiarito, Ed.D., Executive Officer
Cabinet Approval:

Date: August 02, 2024

Phone Number: 457-3934

Regarding: Federal Program Monitoring – Conclusion

The purpose of this communication is to update the Board on the most recent Federal Program Monitoring (FPM) review which concluded on May 17, 2024. As previously communicated to the Board on June 07, 2024, the California Department of Education (CDE) facilitates reviews of school districts to ensure compliance with federal funding regulations. Fresno Unified is reviewed every two years for this purpose, rotating between an online and onsite review.

For the 2023/24 school year, CDE conducted an onsite review for the district. The review concluded on May 17th, and resulted in 6 findings. Staff is pleased to report that all findings have been resolved. With these resolutions in place, the FPM review has formally concluded.

If you have any questions pertaining to the information in this communication, or require additional information, please contact Ashlee Chiarito at 457-3934.

Approved by Interim Superintendent

Mao Misty Her 

Date: 08/02/24

Fresno Unified School District
Board Communication

BC Number HR-1

From the Office of the Interim Superintendent
To the Members of the Board of Education
Prepared by: Kim Villescaz, Executive Officer
Cabinet Approval: 

Date: August 02, 2024

Phone Number: 457-3656

Regarding: The Wallace Foundation Equity-Centered Pipeline Initiative

The purpose of this communication is to provide the Board with an update on the work of the Equity-Centered Pipeline Initiative (ECPI) funded by The Wallace Foundation.

Background

Fresno Unified was selected as one of eight districts nationwide to participate in the five-year initiative. The grant provides approximately \$4 million to Fresno Unified and up to \$8 million total to support the partnerships with San Diego State University, National University, the California Department of Education (CDE), and the California Commission on Teaching Credentialing (CTC). There are seven domains that must be addressed in each year of the grant. Updates are provided in each of the domains.

Leader Standards

The district has adopted the California Professional Standards for Educational Leaders (CPSEL) for all site and department leaders. Small groups are in the process of identifying areas of equity within each standard. Handbooks will be created to support leader reflective practice and support.

High-quality pre-service principal preparation

The district partnered with San Diego State University in May 2022 to begin Leadership Cohort XVII with twenty participants who graduated in May 2023. The recruitment process has started to select the next group to participate in Cohort XIX. We have partnered with National University to increase the applicant eligibility pool,

Selective hiring and placement

A cross-departmental team will be researching and benchmarking practices in other school districts. The affinity group of Black Educators United worked with the Human Resources leadership team to identify areas of concern and possible actions related to recruitment, hiring, and retention.

Evaluation and support

This domain provides for differentiated support for leaders at various stages of their career. New leaders participated in a summer onboarding combined with leadership coaching support. Co-Administrators participated in a summer institute called Leadership Camp that focused on Coaching for Equity. Affinity groups have started and continued to grow to provide an opportunity for networking and support with like groups of leaders. LatinX, AAPI (Asian American Pacific Islander), Men of Color in Educational Leadership (MCEL), Black Women Educators United (BWEU), and African American Principals United (AAPU) all supported our leaders of color.

Principal supervisors

The supervisors of schools participated in professional learning communities in year one based on their own set of supervisor standards to develop skills as coaches who differentiate support based on principal need. We will be building an aspiring supervisor program to provide opportunities for those principals seeking central office positions.

Leader Tracking System

An information system will be developed to be able to track and access data related to aspiring and existing leaders. A work team has been doing the foundational work and will be utilizing the Wallace provided technical assistance to begin the development of the system in year three. The data is currently housed in different forms across departments and is not easily accessible for purposes of succession planning, hiring, professional development, and program improvement.

Systems and sustainability

A District Partnership Team made up of the Superintendent, department leaders, university program leads, state agency leads, and Wallace Foundation representatives meet bimonthly to monitor process and address actions in the Fresno Unified Workplan. Cross departmental work teams have been developed to reduce siloed efforts to ensure leadership development efforts are owned across departments. Wallace domain actions are supported by other funding sources for sustainability.

Fresno Unified serves as the fiscal agent for all partners and monitors workplans and budgets in support of the grant. The total award for year four is \$1,345,000 to be distributed as follows: \$700,000 to Fresno Unified, \$300,000 to San Diego State University, \$300,000 to National University, and \$45,000 to the Commission on Teaching Credentialing (CTC).

If you have any questions pertaining to the information in the communication or require additional information, please contact Kimberly Villescaz, Executive Officer of Leadership Development, at 457-3656.

Approved by Interim Superintendent

Mao Misty Her  _____

Date: 08/02/24

Fresno Unified School District
Board Communication

BC Number ID-1

From the Office of the Interim Superintendent
To the Members of the Board of Education
Prepared by: Marie Williams, Ed. D., Instructional Superintendent
Cabinet Approval: 

Date: August 02, 2024
Phone Number: 457-3731

Regarding: Independent Contractor Services Agreement with K12 Insight

The purpose of this board communication is to provide the Board information regarding an independent contractor services agreement with K12 Insight that will be presented for ratification on August 14, 2024.

K12 Insight helps school districts deliver superior customer experiences using Let's Talk – the only all-in-one customer experience and intelligence platform purpose-built for education. Let's Talk gives school communities (including students, staff and families) an accessible way to ask questions, report concerns, and provide feedback from any device or channel, including forms, text messages, phone calls, chatbot, and more.

The 2023/24 contract agreement was submitted by the Superintendent's Office for board approval; however, beginning in 2024/25, School Leadership will oversee submission of the agreement. Services between K12 Insight and Fresno Unified School District will begin from July 01, 2024 to June 30, 2025. School Leadership omitted to submit the contract in time for inclusion in the June 2024 bundle approved on June 20, 2024.

If you have any questions pertaining to the information in this communication, or require additional information, please contact Marie Williams at 457-3554.

Approved by Interim Superintendent

Mao Misty Her  _____

Date: 08/02/24