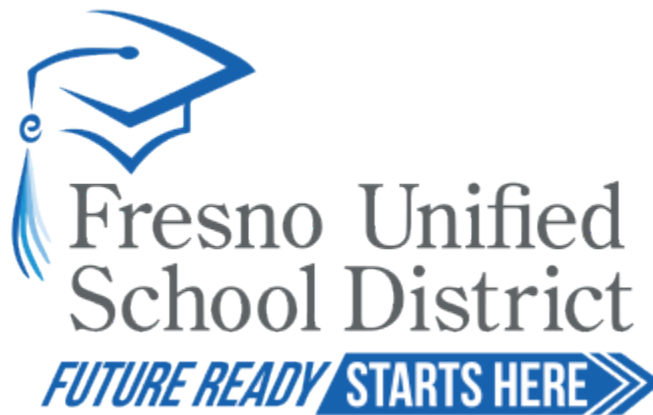




## BOARD COMMUNICATIONS - AUGUST 07, 2026

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

Page

**1. OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**  
**Mao Misty Her, Superintendent**

1.1 [Superintendent Calendar Highlights.docx](#) 

3

**2. OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT**  
**Ben Amuku Drati, Ed.D., Deputy Superintendent**

2.1

**3. OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF**  
**Ambra O'Connor, Chief of Staff**

**4. OFFICE OF BUSINESS & FINANCIAL SERVICES**  
**Patrick Jensen, Chief Officer**

4.1 [School Services of California Weekly Update Report for June 26 through July 16.docx](#) 

4

[School Services of California Weekly Update Report for June 26 through July 16.pdf](#) 

4.2 [July Legislative Committee Meeting.docx](#)   
[July Legislative Committee Meeting.pdf](#) 

39

5. **OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS**  
Adela G. Duncan, Chief Officer
6. **OFFICE OF ENGAGEMENT & EXTERNAL PARTNERSHIPS**  
Wendy McCulley, Chief Officer
7. **OFFICE OF HUMAN RESOURCES & LABOR RELATIONS**  
David Chavez, Chief Officer
8. **OFFICE OF THE INSTRUCTIONAL DIVISION**  
Carlos Castillo, Ed.D., Chief Officer
- 8.1 [2026/27 District English Learner Advisory Committee Meeting Schedule](#) 
- 8.2
9. **OFFICE OF OPERATIONAL SERVICES**  
Paul Idsvoog, Chief Officer
10. **OFFICE OF TECHNOLOGY SERVICES**  
Paoze Lee, Chief Officer

89

Board Communications Approved by:  
Mao Misty Her, Superintendent



Fresno Unified School District  
Board Communication

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

Date: August 07, 2026

Phone Number: (559) 457-3884

Regarding: Superintendent Calendar Highlights

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

- Met with Latino Educational Equity Roundtable
- Gave interview with Fresno State Today regarding serving as Fresno Unified Superintendent
- Attended two Foundation for Fresno Unified Students Board Meetings
- Visted the Sunnyside High School football team
- Met with district staff and Joanne Cullinan, President of Cullinan Education Center, to discuss Orton-Gillingham training and coaching
- Led onboarding for new Principals and Vice Principals
- Attended Central Valley Community Foundation Governance Committee Meeting and Program Review Committee Meetings
- Led day one of the Principal Institute
- Attended the Fresno Unified Family Back-to-School Event and Portrait of a Learner Launch
- Visited Jefferson, Rowell, Webster, and Yokomi Elementary Schools as well as Tehipite Middle School
- Attended the 2026/27 Fresno Unified School District Community Kick-off
- Held interviews for Director of State and Federal
- Made 45 student home visits

If you have any questions about the information in this communication, or require further information, please contact Misty Her at (559) 457-3884.

Cabinet Approval:



Name and Title: Mao Misty Her, Superintendent

Fresno Unified School District  
Board Communication

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

Date: August 07, 2026

Phone Number: 457-3907

Regarding: School Services Weekly Update Reports for June 26 through July 16, 2026

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 26 through July 16, 2026, are attached and include the following articles:

**June 26**

- Revenue Strength Continues Despite Economic Headwinds – June 23, 2026
- Decision Time has Come for Newsom's Proposal to Shift Control of the California Department of Education – June 23, 2026
- A Proposed 5% Tax on Billionaires Will Appear on Californians' Ballots this November After Negotiations to Sideline the Measure Failed – June 25, 2026

**July 02**

- Tri-Party Budget Agreement Details – June 29, 2026
- Bill to Create a New Boss of the California Department of Education Squeaks By – July 01, 2026
- Transgender Athletes Still Protected in California, Supreme Court Rules – June 30, 2026

**July 10**

- Budget Significantly Expands State Preschool Eligibility – July 09, 2026
- California Judge Rejects Injunction to Halt Distributing Billions to Repair School Facilities – July 09, 2026
- Does Crowning California's Governor the Education Czar Mean Academic Results Will Improve? – July 09, 2026

**July 16**

- It's Time to Calculate Your Annual Gann Limit – July 14, 2026
- CalPERS Just Had One of Its Best Years in a decade. Why it Matters to Taxpayers – July 13, 2026
- California Allocates Dedicated Funding to Identify Homeless Students – July 14, 2026

If you have any questions about the information included in this communication, or need further information, please contact Kim Kelstrom at (559) 457-3907.

Cabinet Approval:



Name and Title: Patrick Jensen, Chief Financial Officer



500 Capitol Mall

•  
Suite 1700

•  
Sacramento

•  
California 95814

•  
TEL: 916 . 446 . 7517

•  
FAX: 916 . 446 . 2011

•  
[www.sscal.com](http://www.sscal.com)

DATE: June 26, 2026

TO: Misty Her  
Superintendent

AT: Fresno Unified School District

FROM: Your SSC Governmental Relations Team

RE: ***SSC's Sacramento Weekly Update***

---

### **2026-27 State Budget Update**

As of this writing, legislative leadership and the Newsom Administration have yet to announce an agreement on the 2026-27 State Budget package although a handful of budget trailer bills have gone into print today; the education omnibus trailer bill has yet to be released.

As a reminder, the Legislature approved its version of the State Budget, Assembly Bill (AB) 109 (Gabriel, D-Encino), on Monday, June 15, 2026. Under the California Constitution, the Governor has 12 days to sign or veto a bill presented to him. If the 12th day falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, however, the deadline is extended to the next business day. Because the 12th day falls on Saturday, June 27, Governor Gavin Newsom has until Monday, June 29, 2026, to sign or veto AB 109.

With June 29 approaching quickly, we expect an announcement on a budget agreement between the Governor and legislative leadership shortly. Once an agreement is reached, the Legislature must wait at least 72 hours after budget bill jr., as it is colloquially known, is in print before it may approve the measure and send it to Governor Newsom. Budget bill jr. will amend AB 109 to reflect the final budget agreement negotiated by the Governor and legislative leadership.

We will also be watching how the Governor and legislative leadership resolve the remaining details of the State Budget through the budget trailer bills, which contain the implementing statutory language necessary to carry out the budget.

The final process towards an Enacted Budget is anything but linear as bills emerge before a budget deal is announced. Stay tuned!

## **Senate Education Committee**

On Wednesday, June 24, 2026, the Senate Education Committee, chaired by Senator Sasha Renée Pérez (D-Pasadena), held a lengthy hearing and approved 30 measures, including the following noteworthy bills:

- AB 1381 (Muratsuchi, D-Torrance) requires the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to create a certificated employee section within the statewide misconduct database. Beginning July 1, 2027, prospective employers would be required to review the database before hiring credentialed employees.
- AB 2149 (Garcia, D-Rancho Cucamonga) requires the Legislative Analyst’s Office to annually assess and publicly report on the state’s progress in closing student achievement gaps and recommend actions to help the state meet performance goals established through the Closing the Achievement Gap (CTAG) Plan.
  - This bill is part of the California School Boards Association’s (CSBA) “Closing the Achievement Gap” bill package.
- AB 2202 (Muratsuchi) establishes the CTAG Commission as an advisory body to the State Board of Education to evaluate the effectiveness of state policies and supports aimed at closing student achievement gaps.
  - This bill is part of CSBA’s “Closing the Achievement Gap” bill package.
- AB 2225 (Patel, D-San Diego) requires the development of a statewide CTAG Plan that establishes goals, benchmarks, and recommendations to better align state agencies and improve support for local educational agencies in closing student achievement gaps.
  - This bill is part of CSBA’s “Closing the Achievement Gap” bill package.
- AB 2325 (Alvarez, D-San Diego) establishes the Pathways to Bilingual Teaching Program to expand educator preparation pathways leading to bilingual authorization.
- AB 2490 (Valencia, D-Anaheim) expands eligibility for the emergency career substitute teaching permit by allowing qualified individuals with relevant career experience to serve as substitute teachers for up to 70 cumulative days in a school year.
- AB 2514 (Ransom, D-Stockton) requires the working group developing the CTAG Plan to include recommendations for creating a statewide “State of the Achievement Gap Dashboard” to publicly track the state’s progress in closing student achievement gaps.
  - This bill is part of CSBA’s “Closing the Achievement Gap” bill package
- AB 2526 (Muratsuchi) revises the allocation formula for the special education low-incidence disability program, contingent upon an increase in funding, to also support students eligible to take the California Alternate Assessments.
- AB 2555 (Patel) establishes a standardized statewide English learner reclassification process based primarily on demonstrated English language proficiency, while strengthening parent engagement, providing alternate pathways for some English learners with disabilities, and requiring additional state monitoring and reporting.

Next Thursday, July 2, 2026, is the deadline for second-house policy committees to approve legislation before bills advance to either the Appropriations Committee or the respective house floor. Upon adjournment on July 2, the Legislature is also scheduled to begin its monthlong summer recess, provided Governor Newsom has signed the 2026-27 State Budget, and will reconvene on Monday, August 3, 2026.

*Leilani Aguinaldo*

## Revenue Strength Continues Despite Economic Headwinds

By Wendi McCaskill, EdD  
School Services of California’s *Fiscal Report*  
June 23, 2026

In its June 2026 *Finance Bulletin*, the Department of Finance reports that General Fund revenues for May exceeded the Governor’s May Revision projections, as do fiscal year-to-date (YTD) revenues. May receipts were higher than projections by \$813 million (5.6%), and YTD revenues exceeded expectations by \$162 million (0.1%).

### Revenue Trends

Revenue performance in May was strong across the major tax categories. Personal income tax receipts exceeded projections for the month by \$970 million (13.1%), with the overage due entirely to above forecast withholdings. This was partially offset by lower non-withholding payments and higher refunds. On a YTD basis, personal income tax collections exceeded projections slightly by close to \$274 million (0.2%).

Corporation tax receipts underperformed expectations for the month but exceeded YTD expectations. May revenues fell \$21 million (1.6%) below projections. YTD, corporation tax collections are \$24 million (0.1%) higher than expected.

Sales and use tax receipts came in well above projections for May by \$279 million (6.5%) and are slightly above projections for the fiscal year, exceeding expectations by \$279 million (0.9%).

| “Big Three” Taxes<br>In millions |                 |                              |                            |                  |                              |                          |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|
|                                  | May 2026        |                              |                            | 2025-26 YTD      |                              |                          |
|                                  | Forecast        | June <i>Finance Bulletin</i> | Difference                 | Forecast         | June <i>Finance Bulletin</i> | Difference               |
| Personal Income Tax              | \$7,423         | \$8,392                      | \$970 <sup>2</sup>         | \$134,940        | \$135,214                    | \$274                    |
| Corporation Tax                  | \$1,301         | \$1,280                      | -\$21                      | \$34,091         | \$34,115                     | \$24                     |
| Sales and Use Tax                | \$4,299         | \$4,579                      | \$279                      | \$31,992         | \$32,271                     | \$279                    |
| <b>Total</b>                     | <b>\$13,023</b> | <b>\$14,251</b>              | <b>\$1,228<sup>1</sup></b> | <b>\$201,023</b> | <b>\$201,600</b>             | <b>\$577<sup>1</sup></b> |

<sup>1</sup>Total revenues are limited to the “Big Three” taxes and do not include all state revenues reported in the *Finance Bulletin*

<sup>2</sup>There may be slight discrepancies in totals due to rounding

### Economic Conditions

Recent national indicators point to continued economic expansion at a moderating pace. Following a notable fourth-quarter deceleration to 0.5% in late 2025, U.S. real gross domestic product growth in the first quarter of 2026 was revised down from 2.0% to 1.6% at an annualized rate. This downward revision was attributed

to changes in the stock of goods that businesses hold for sale or for production and in personal consumption expenditures.

Inflation showed continued upward pressure in May. Headline inflation increased to 4.2% year-over-year, driven in part by a rise in gasoline prices, with gasoline inflation accelerating to 40.5% year-over-year. Core inflation edged up slightly to 2.9%.

Labor market conditions remained relatively stable nationally, while California continued to experience declines in employment and labor force size. In May 2026, the U.S. unemployment rate held steady at 4.3% for the third month in a row, while California's unemployment rate remained at 5.3% for the third consecutive month as well. California's labor force contracted, decreasing by 52,800 persons. The number of employed Californians dropped by 44,100 persons. The state added a net 3,100 jobs in May, although gains were uneven across sectors. These trends indicate a labor market that remains stable overall but continues to lag national conditions and exhibits variability across industries.

The housing market in California shows price growth and mixed sales activity. The median sale price of existing family homes increased 2.9% month over month and 0.4% year over year, while sales volume rose 3.9% from March to April and 4.1% year over year.

## **Outlook**

Overall, the state's revenue picture through May remains favorable, supported by strong performance in personal income and sales and use taxes. At the same time, moderating economic growth, evolving inflation pressures, and uneven labor market conditions continue to suggest a measured economic environment moving forward.

We will continue to track these economic changes and their impact on California and share further analysis as additional details emerge.

---

*Note: The fate of Governor Newsom's proposal to create a governor-appointed education commissioner should become clearer within the next week when a tri-party State Budget agreement is expected to be announced.*

## **Decision Time has Come for Newsom's Proposal to Shift Control of the California Department of Education**

By John Fensterwald  
*EdSource*  
June 23, 2026

The fate of Gov. Gavin Newsom's proposal to shift control of the California Department of Education from the state superintendent of public instruction to a new education commissioner answering to future governors and the State Board of Education will become clearer within the next week.

Supporters and opponents disagree not only on the merits of the proposal but also on how it should move forward.

Ted Lempert, president of Children Now and a leading advocate for the change, expects the plan to be included in Newsom's 2026-27 budget package, with final details negotiated between the governor and legislative leaders before the July 1 budget deadline.

Assemblymember David Alvarez, D-San Diego, believes that Assembly Bill 2117, which he co-authored, will become the vehicle for enacting an alternate version of Newsom's reorganization concept, with passage after lawmakers return from their summer recess.

And David Goldberg, president of the California Teachers Association, hopes that CTA's opposition helps to kill the concept within the next week or so.

"The undemocratic nature of this (Newsom's approach) is just something that's impossible to get around," he said.

### **Newsom's hardly novel idea**

Newsom's proposal is neither new nor radical. A majority of states have a governance structure in which the governor or the state board of education appoints the chief education officer responsible for running the state's education bureaucracy. Today, only 12 states elect their state superintendent, down from 33 a century ago.

Numerous commissions and studies have urged California to realign its education governance structure under an experienced education manager — the equivalent of secretaries running other state departments.

California's current and three previous elected state superintendents have been legislators without a background in running a complex education system. Electing a superintendent every four years "creates incentives" to overstate positive data and potential reforms to enhance their reelection, concluded a lengthy report released in December by Policy Analysis for California Education (PACE), a nonprofit research institute based at Stanford University.

The PACE authors criticized the lack of coherence and weak accountability when governors and legislators create educational programs and reforms, but then lack the authority to implement them, which is the state superintendent's job.

PACE recommended appointing an education executive as the first step toward a broader realignment of the state's education governance system. Newsom embraced that recommendation in his proposed state budget in January.

"It's time to modernize the management of our educational system," he said in his State of the State speech to the Legislature in January. "I believe that's an important and long overdue reform."

Newsom is proposing to make the switch through the budget process, as part of a massive trailer bill accompanying the 2026-27 budget, which will be completed within the next week. That process would short-circuit the legislative process of proposing legislation that each house of the Legislature would consider and amend after public hearings.

That is one reason Goldberg of CTA dismisses the proposal as undemocratic. Another is that it would defy the will of the public one month after people voted for a constitutional office with ballot language that said

the state superintendent “heads the Department of Education and carries out policies set by the State Board of Education.”

Goldberg noted that voters have repeatedly rejected efforts to weaken the office of the superintendent. Four times in the past century, voters have rejected initiatives to abolish the state superintendent position, the last in 1968.

But Newsom is proposing to restructure the position, not eliminate it. State superintendents would remain the chief advocates for policies and cite their election as evidence that voters support those positions.

Newsom envisions future state superintendents as a coordinator of education, from early to higher education. They would become a voting member of the State Board of Education and the community colleges’ Board of Governors, in addition to existing roles as a UC regent and CSU trustee.

CTA and other opponents have characterized the plan as a power grab by Newsom and the Legislature, even though Newsom, in his last months in office, would not benefit from any of the changes.

CTA historically has played a central role in the election of the state superintendent, combining its campaign resources with the organizational strength of its more than 300,000 members. No candidate has been elected without CTA’s support since former State Superintendent Bill Honig’s reelection in 1990.

If San Diego Unified trustee Richard Barrera, who beat out three prominent Democratic legislators in the open primary this month, prevails in November, he would be the fifth straight CTA-backed superintendent.

### **Confusing lines of authority**

What’s been lost in the debate, said Lempert, is that Newsom and legislators would be fixing the mistakes of a cumbersome and fractured oversight authority that they have created by statute over decades.

The PACE report cited California’s complex system of identifying hundreds of districts that need academic assistance. With the state Department of Education, county offices of education and the California Collaborative for Educational Excellence, a small agency, all dividing responsibilities, districts have found the assistance inconsistent and sometimes confusing.

Lempert also points to the state’s conflicting and ambiguous responses to the Covid pandemic for creating frustration among districts and parents. Critics of the current system point to the uneven rollout of multibillion-dollar investments in transitional kindergarten, expanded learning programs and community schools.

In the future, an education commissioner would coordinate new programs, but ultimately, Lempert said, “the buck stops at the governor,” who would be “ultimately responsible for the implementation.”

### **Uncertain future for legislation**

Assemblymember Alvarez was also dissatisfied with running the realignment through the budget process. So he and Assemblywoman Darshana Patel, who chairs the Assembly Education Committee and is also from San Diego, created AB 2117 to flesh out Newsom’s plan and give the Legislature more say.

The bill would:

- Require Senate confirmation of the new education commissioner's appointment;
- Require independent evaluations of major education investments, such as community schools, that cost more than \$500 million annually;
- Redefine the elected state superintendent's role as an independent evaluator of the effectiveness and efficiency of state education programs; and
- Replace four governor-appointed members of the State Board of Education with members appointed by the Legislature.

The Assembly easily passed the bill last month; the Senate must also approve it by July 2 for it to move forward. Alvarez said last week that he fully expects it will, notwithstanding Newsom's preference for backroom negotiations.

Lempert's Children Now collected signatures from leaders of 950 organizations and advocacy groups on an 80-word statement that calls for the realignment plan.

"By making this long overdue change this year, we can do right by kids and bring California in line with other states," the statement says.

Signers include the California School Boards Association, the Association of California School Administrators, the California County Superintendents and the California Association of School Business Officials.

Lempert and Newsom can argue that those most familiar with the state education bureaucracy are most in support of changing it.

---

*Note: A proposed 5% tax on billionaires will appear on Californians' ballots this November after negotiations to sideline the measure failed.*

## **A Proposed 5% Tax on Billionaires Will Appear on Californians' Ballots this November After Negotiations to Sideline the Measure Failed**

By Ben Paviour  
*The Sacramento Bee*  
June 25, 2026

A proposed 5% tax on billionaires will appear on Californians' ballots this November after negotiations to sideline the measure failed.

That outcome is likely to drive hundreds of millions of dollars in spending from billionaires, business groups and some unions who are aligned against it, as well as the major healthcare union backing it.

The proposed wealth tax would levy a 5% tax on billionaires' assets if they were California residents as of Jan. 1, 2026.

Backers say it will raise \$100 billion to backfill healthcare cuts caused by the Republican megabill signed by President Donald Trump last year. Without the tax, they warn clinics and hospitals will close and patients will die. The measure is sponsored by SEIU-United Healthcare Workers West, which represents 120,000 healthcare workers, and has drawn support from U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders, D-Vt., and U.S. Rep. Ro Khanna, D-Fremont.

On a call with reporters Thursday, SEIU-UHW President Dave Regan said discussions with Gov. Gavin Newsom, who is opposed to the tax, broke down because he would not entertain any idea that taxes billionaires.

Regan said he expected the movement to draw 50,000 volunteers, and his chief of staff, Suzanne Jimenez, said the measure's backers would actively fundraise for a fight that will likely cost hundreds of millions of dollars.

Critics warn the measure could spook some of California's highest earners into moving out of fear of future taxes, jeopardizing the state's long-term fiscal health. California's finances are unusually dependent on high earners, especially stock market gains that drive their taxable income.

Critics have included some union and progressive groups, including the California Teacher's Association and Planned Parenthood Affiliates of California, who said they're concerned about the impacts of the tax on state revenues. Some of those groups formed a coalition that is already running digital ads slamming the proposal as a "reckless wealth tax experiment."

Critics also include traditional business interests, including the California Business Roundtable whose president, Rob Lapsley, argued the tax would ultimately affect non-billionaires.

"Strip away the spin and this measure forces every California taxpayer, not just billionaires, to file a sworn declaration of their net worth with the Franchise Tax Board under penalty of perjury," said Lapsley in a statement.

In an open letter to Newsom last week, the Billionaire Tax Now Coalition offered to lower the proposed tax to 2% "in the spirit of unity."

But Newsom disagreed, and the opposing sides of the measure failed to reach a compromise ahead of the Thursday deadline to withdrawal a measure.

Speaking to reporters, SEIU-UHW Vice President Debru Carthan said Newsom had "no plan" to prevent steep healthcare cuts and argued that he was "in lockstep with Donald Trump and billionaires like Peter Thiel and Sergey Brin on this issue."

On the same call, U.S. Representative Khanna called arguments that billionaires would flee "hogwash," citing the AI boom in Silicon Valley and San Francisco.

"People who are opposing this are just totally out of touch where folks are in our state and in this country," Khanna said.

The lack of a deal sets up a multipronged fight involving several measures.

One would require extensive audits for any new spending created by a statewide ballot measure, and another would bar retroactive taxes or new taxes on personal property, including retirement accounts. While the group backing them insists the proposals are independent from the billionaire tax, both are heavily funded by Google co-founder Sergey Brin, and would effectively neutralize the billionaire tax were it to pass in November.

It's likely to be a closely contested fight. A Public Policy Institute of California poll last month showed 54% of likely voters support the proposed tax and 45% are opposed.

Speaking at a panel at American Association of Political Consultants' California in Sacramento on Tuesday, longtime ballot strategist Brandon Castillo said he wouldn't be surprised to see \$400 million spent "on one side" of the billionaire tax fight.

Castillo likened running a "yes" ballot campaign to being a Major League Baseball pitcher aiming to avoid the one errant pitch that results in a home run.

"You have to have a near perfect measure with your yes campaign that can withstand the rigors of a funded opposition campaign," he said.

Another panelist, Democratic strategist Erica Kwiatkowski Nielsen, said ballot opponents have a simpler job.

"You have to just make sure people are either confused enough or don't care enough to say, maybe, 'I shouldn't be voting on that,' so they just either vote no or stay away," Nielsen said.



500 Capitol Mall

•  
Suite 1700

•  
Sacramento

•  
California 95814

•  
TEL: 916 . 446 . 7517

•  
FAX: 916 . 446 . 2011

•  
[www.sscal.com](http://www.sscal.com)

DATE: July 2, 2026

TO: Misty Her  
Superintendent

AT: Fresno Unified School District

FROM: Your SSC Governmental Relations Team

RE: ***SSC's Sacramento Weekly Update***

---

## **2026-27 State Budget Agreement Reached—Education Bills Still Outstanding**

Last Friday, June 26, 2026, Governor Gavin Newsom, Senate President pro Tempore Monique Limón (D-Santa Barbara), and Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas (D-Hollister) announced a three-party agreement on California's 2026-27 State Budget package.

On Monday, the Legislature quickly approved the budget bills comprising most of the 2026-27 State Budget package, including Assembly Bill (AB) 109 (Gabriel, Statutes of 2026), the main State Budget bill; Senate Bill (SB) 111 (Laird, Statutes of 2026), reflecting the budget agreement reached between the Newsom Administration and the Legislature; AB 112 (Gabriel, Statutes of 2026), technical and fiscal revisions to the Budget Acts of 2022, 2023, 2024, and 2025; and AB 150 (Committee on Budget, Statutes of 2026), the early education budget trailer bill.

On Monday evening, the Governor signed all four of those bills into law.

As of Thursday morning, the education omnibus budget trailer bill, AB/SB 126 has not been acted on by the Legislature. The Legislature is expected to approve the bill today before leaving for summer recess, and the Governor is expected to sign it shortly thereafter. Once signed, the bill will take effect immediately.

AB 181 (Alvarez, D-San Diego), which reorganizes the state's education governance by shifting leadership of the California Department of Education from the elected State Superintendent of Public Instruction to a Governor-appointed, Senate-confirmed Education Commissioner, was approved by the Legislature on Monday and Governor Newsom is expected to sign it.

We provide a crosswalk of the final education budget agreement compared with the Governor's January proposal and the Legislature's budget proposal in the *Fiscal Report* article below, "Three-Party Budget Agreement Details."

## **Legislature Begins Summer Recess**

This week, the Legislature completed second house policy committee hearings, marking another major deadline in the legislative process. Next week, we will provide a roundup of the bills that did—and did not—make it through. Upon adjournment of session today, the Legislature will begin its annual summer recess.

While the Legislature is in recess, floor votes and committee hearings will pause, but legislative negotiations will continue behind the scenes as authors, sponsors, advocates, and legislative staff work to finalize amendments and secure support for bills before the final weeks of session.

In the coming weeks, we also expect the Legislature and Governor Newsom will negotiate an education budget clean-up trailer bill to make technical and conforming changes to the education provisions included in the enacted 2026-27 State Budget. Budget clean-up trailer bills are common following enactment of the State Budget and are often used to clarify statutory language, address drafting issues, and make other non-substantive revisions identified after the budget package is approved.

*Leilani Aguinaldo*

## Tri-Party Budget Agreement Details

By SSC Governmental Relations Team  
School Services of California's *Fiscal Report*  
June 29, 2026

Last Friday, June 26, 2026, Governor Gavin Newsom, Senate President pro Tempore Monique Limón (D-Santa Barbara), and Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas (D-Hollister) announced a three-party agreement on California's 2026-27 State Budget (see the article "[2026-27 State Budget Deal Announced](#)" in the June 2026 *Fiscal Report*).

Today, Monday, June 29, 2026, both the Assembly Committee on Budget and the Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee held hearings on the 2026-27 State Budget package, which includes budget bills and 18 trailer bills. The Assembly and Senate are expected to act on the numerous bills needed to enact the State Budget before they leave for their summer recess on Thursday, July 2, 2026.

The bill that will amend the main 2026-27 State Budget bill, also known as budget bill jr., is [Assembly Bill \(AB\)/Senate Bill \(SB\) 111](#). Changes to the 2022-23, 2023-24, 2024-25, and 2025-26 Enacted State Budgets will be done through [AB/SB 112](#).

For policy changes impacting TK-12 education, AB/SB 126 is the bill to note as it is the education omnibus budget trailer bill. [AB/SB 126](#) is a 477-page bill making various changes to the Education Code. Another notable trailer bill, [AB 181](#) (Alvarez, D-San Diego), reorganizes California's education governance by shifting leadership of the California Department of Education from the elected State Superintendent of Public Instruction (SSPI) to a Governor-appointed, Senate-confirmed Education Commissioner, restructuring the SSPI's office, and transferring the SSPI's statutory responsibilities to the Commissioner. In addition, numerous changes to Early Childhood Education programs, including the California State Preschool Program, are included in [AB/SB 150](#).

Below we provide a crosswalk of the significant TK-12 proposals from the Governor's proposal, the Legislature's proposal, and the final agreement:

|                                                             | Governor's Version                                        | Legislative Version                                                                                                     | Final Budget Agreement                                                                                                                                                |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Non-Local Educational Agency (LEA) Preschool Shift          | No proposal                                               | Shifts non-LEA state preschool into Proposition 98; rebench the minimum guarantee to account for these additional costs | Shifts non-LEA state preschool into Proposition 98; rebench the minimum guarantee to account for these additional costs                                               |
| 2025-26 Proposition 98 Minimum Guarantee Settle-up Proposal | Appropriates \$3.9 billion less than the calculated level | Appropriates \$3.9 billion less than the calculated level, and states intent to a "reliable schedule to pay districts"  | Appropriates \$3.9 billion less than the calculated level; commits to begin paying back the funds if 2027-28 May Revision revenues exceed 2026-27 Budget Act revenues |

|                                                                        |                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Public School System Stabilization Account (At the end of 2026-27)     | \$10.3 billion                                                                              | \$9.5 billion                                                                                                                     | \$9.2 billion                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Deferrals                                                              | Retires the deferrals included in the 2025-26 Budget Act                                    | Retires the deferrals included in the 2025-26 Budget Act                                                                          | Retires the deferrals included in the 2025-26 Budget Act                                                                                                                                                       |
| Statutory Cost-of-Living Adjustment                                    | 2.87%                                                                                       | 2.87%                                                                                                                             | 2.87%                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Additional Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) Investment             | 1.44%                                                                                       | 1.44%                                                                                                                             | 1.44%                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Paid Pregnancy Disability Leave                                        | Mandated with payment via additional LCFF investment                                        | Mandated with payment via additional LCFF investment                                                                              | Mandated with payment via additional LCFF investment; beginning January 1, 2027; allows participation in the State Disability Insurance program to offset costs                                                |
| Special Education                                                      | \$1,340 per average daily attendance (ADA) base rate                                        | \$1,340 per ADA base rate, plus \$40 million for low-incidence disabilities funding and \$40 million for extraordinary cost pools | \$1,340 per ADA base rate, an additional \$40 million for low-incidence disabilities, an additional \$40 million for extraordinary costs pool, and \$30 million for the Supporting Inclusive Practices project |
| Student Support and Professional Development Discretionary Block Grant | \$5.0 billion one-time distributed per ADA                                                  | \$5.2 billion one-time distributed per ADA, plus a required local hearing on declining enrollment and reporting requirements      | \$5.0 billion one-time distributed per ADA, plus a required local hearing on declining enrollment and reporting requirements                                                                                   |
| Learning Recovery Emergency Block Grant                                | \$757.3 million one-time                                                                    | \$757.3 million one-time                                                                                                          | \$757.3 million one-time                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Expanded Learning Opportunities Program                                | Additional \$62.4 million ongoing to provide a guaranteed \$1,800 per pupil for Tier 2 LEAs | Additional \$62.4 million ongoing to provide a guaranteed \$1,800 per pupil for Tier 2 LEAs                                       | Additional \$64 million ongoing to provide a guaranteed \$1,800 per pupil for Tier 2 LEAs                                                                                                                      |

|                                               |                              |                                                                                    |                                 |
|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Community Schools                             | \$1.0 billion ongoing        | \$1.0 billion ongoing                                                              | \$1.0 billion ongoing           |
| Kitchen Infrastructure and Training Grant     | \$100 million one-time       | \$700 million one-time                                                             | \$500 million one-time          |
| Students Experiencing Homelessness            | \$30 million one-time        | \$300 million one-time                                                             | \$116 million one-time          |
| California's New Americans in Schools Program | No proposal                  | \$350 million one-time                                                             | \$100 million one-time          |
| Career Technical Education Incentive Grant    | No additional funds proposed | \$300 million total one-time, available for the 2027-28 and 2028-29 funding rounds | Not included in final agreement |

Summarized here are only some of the highlights of what will be included in the 2026-27 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.

Ultimately, the upcoming [School Finance Conference](#) will provide a comprehensive overview of the 2026-27 State Budget, its effects on LEAs, and how to implement these changes locally. Stay tuned.

---

*Note: Replacing the State Superintendent of Public Instruction with a Governor-appointed Education Commissioner will take effect on January 15, 2027.*

## **Bill to Create a New Boss of the California Department of Education Squeaks By**

By John Fensterwald  
*EdSource*  
July 1, 2026

Legislation for the big shift — moving the California Department of Education from the State Superintendent of Public Instruction's control to a new chief executive of education under the governor — passed the Legislature Monday, though barely.

With 15 lawmakers sitting on their hands, Assembly Bill 181 got 21 “yes” votes, the minimum needed for passage in the 40-member Senate, to four “no.” It did better in the 80-member Assembly, by a margin of 53 to 5, with 22 members not voting. More than half of those not voting were Democrats.

“We knew it would be tough with the strong opposition of the California Teachers Association,” said Ted Lempert, the president of the advocacy organization Children Now, who rallied support for legislation to reorganize the system of overseeing schools.

The reorg will start when the next governor appoints the first education director, subject to the consent of the Senate. The director would be the equivalent of a Cabinet secretary, presumably with experience in running an education system.

Gov. Gavin Newsom announced his support for the restructuring in his January State of the State speech after the release of an extensive report by the nonprofit research institute Policy Analysis for California Education (PACE). The report criticized a lack of accountability built into a fractured system in which the governor and State Board of Education create policies and priorities but don’t implement them. That’s the job of an elected state superintendent, who, for the past 30 years has been a string of Democratic legislators, some with ambitions for higher office, who lacked management experience.

“Kudos to the governor for leading the effort,” said Lempert.

Newsom made the realignment a priority and negotiated for it during state budget negotiations in the past two weeks. Details were written into AB 181, a new bill. Having agreed to the deal, Senate and Assembly leaders were responsible for gathering enough votes for passage.

Lempert attributed the closeness of the vote to three reasons. One is the CTA, a regular contributor to Democratic legislators’ campaigns and the key donor to the last four state superintendents. With money comes influence.

But Lempert said some legislators had also criticized the governor’s decision to legislate a policy issue through the budget rather than a bill subject to votes in both the Assembly and Senate. That criticism is partly valid. However, two Assembly leaders from San Diego, Darshana Patel and David Patel, authored their own version of Newsom’s plan in Assembly Bill 2117 and held a lengthy hearing on it in April. Newsom’s bill includes elements of AB 2117.

“A legislative proposal to fundamentally change school governance deserves more than a rubber-stamp vote,” Senator Lola Smallwood-Cuevas (D-Los Angeles), wrote in an email. “It requires a deeper, more transparent conversation — one that centers students, addresses systemic inequities, and ensures any structural changes will truly improve outcomes for communities of color, like South LA in my district, that have been left behind for far too long.”

Smallwood-Cuevas was the only one of six senators EdSource reached out to for a comment on why they didn’t vote.

Lempert also said opponents had created confusion with their argument that the bill conflicted with the will of voters, who last month voted for state superintendent candidates who campaigned for heading the Department of Education.

Many legislators didn’t understand that, over decades, the Legislature passed statutes that created the overlapping and ineffective system, Lempert said, and AB 181 was their opportunity to fix it. Under the bill, the new director will update the Legislature regularly on expensive new programs and on the progress of reshaping school improvement and accountability.

“Too often, governors and legislators have not focused enough on day-to-day implementation of education programs because of the bifurcated system,” Lempert said. “Now, they will be on the hook and so must play more of a role, which is a positive development.”

Newsom is expected to sign the bill this week. It will take effect on Jan. 15, 2027, under a new governor and state superintendent.

---

*Note: The U.S. Supreme Court ruled that states may determine whether to restrict transgender athletes from participating on girls’ and women’s school sports teams, upholding laws in Idaho and West Virginia while leaving states such as California free to continue allowing transgender students to compete consistent with state law.*

## **Transgender Athletes Still Protected in California, Supreme Court Rules**

By Carolyn Jones  
*CalMatters*  
June 30, 2026

California can continue its long-held policy of allowing transgender student athletes to play on girls’ and women’s sports teams, under a U.S. Supreme Court ruling issued Tuesday.

“With this ruling, schools and states like California can continue to adopt inclusive policies that ensure every student is treated with dignity and respect,” Tony Hoang, executive director of the LGBTQ advocacy group Equality California said. “Inclusive policies are working across the country, including here in California, where transgender young people have participated in school sports for years without incident.”

The court’s 6-3 decision allows – but doesn’t require – states to bar transgender student athletes from playing on girls’ and women’s sports teams, upholding state laws in Idaho and West Virginia. Including California, 23 states let transgender students play on teams that align with their gender identity. That means California and 22 other states that let transgender students play on teams that align with their gender identity can continue to do so.

Proponents of a ban also celebrated the court’s ruling, saying it’s a major step forward in their fight to keep transgender athletes out of girls sports, and it potentially opens the door to restrictions in the future.

“The Supreme Court just delivered a major victory for girls and for common sense,” said Sonja Shaw, a Chino Valley Unified school board member who’s running for state superintendent. She added that “California should be leading the nation in protecting girls, not forcing them to surrender their rights ... We will continue fighting until every girl has the opportunity to compete on a level playing field.”

California, an epicenter of the LGBTQ rights movement, has long maintained policies that protect transgender students in K-12 schools. The California Interscholastic Federation, which oversees high school sports in the state, also allows transgender students to play on sports teams that align with their gender identity.

The state is currently fighting at least one lawsuit related to its transgender rights policies. Attorney General Rob Bonta said on Tuesday that his office is reviewing the Supreme Court’s decision to see how it might

affect the state's other lawsuits, particularly as it relates to Title IX, the federal law that prevents sex discrimination in schools.

Meanwhile, he reaffirmed the state's position on transgender rights.

"We do remain committed to protecting transgender individuals from discrimination, securing safe, inclusive, welcoming school environments for all students," Bonta said.

Beyond California, LGBTQ advocates decried the court's ruling as a blow to transgender peoples' rights generally, especially in states that currently restrict – or are leaning toward restrictions of – those rights.

"The SCOTUS majority decision furthers the Trump administration's widespread attack on civil rights protections and continued attempt to erase transgender individuals from society, including through distorted interpretation of law," said Noreen Farrell, executive director of Equal Rights Advocates. "(We) will continue fighting for trans equality and trans rights."

Lina Haaga, 15, said she was relieved that California could continue its support of transgender athletes, but she worries about her peers in other states. Haaga, a transgender girl who runs on her school's track team in Pasadena, said the court's ruling would lead to an escalation of attacks on transgender people.

"The Supreme Court has a job to uplift core American values – freedom, fairness, integrity, acceptance," Haaga said. "They've ignored those values today. They've chosen their own personal beliefs over the lives of trans kids."

Bullying and bigoted attacks are already too common for transgender youth, Haaga said. Haaga recently defeated her sister in a school track meet, and was assailed online when the story spread through conservative media outlets. She wrote a piece for the Guardian about the experience, which she described as brutal and devastating.

She hopes California will continue its protections for transgender youth, and that all legislators and members of the public come to understand the harm caused by anti-trans policies.

"I want people to remember that behind these laws, there are real humans," Haaga said.



500 Capitol Mall

•  
Suite 1700

•  
Sacramento

•  
California 95814

•  
TEL: 916 . 446 . 7517

•  
FAX: 916 . 446 . 2011

•  
[www.sscal.com](http://www.sscal.com)

DATE: July 10, 2026

TO: Misty Her  
Superintendent

AT: Fresno Unified School District

FROM: Your SSC Governmental Relations Team

RE: ***SSC's Sacramento Weekly Update***

---

### **Governor Newsom Signs Education Omnibus Budget Trailer Bill**

On Thursday, July 9, 2026, Governor Gavin Newsom signed Assembly Bill (AB) 126 (Committee on Budget, Statutes of 2026), the 2026-27 State Budget education omnibus trailer bill. The measure contains the statutory changes necessary to implement the education provisions included in the Enacted Budget.

The Governor also signed AB 181 (Alvarez, Statutes of 2026), which reorganizes California's education governance structure by transferring leadership of the California Department of Education (CDE) from the elected State Superintendent of Public Instruction (SSPI) to a Governor-appointed, Senate-confirmed Education Commissioner.

While the enactment of AB 126 and AB 181 largely completes the 2026-27 State Budget process for education, we expect the Legislature and Governor Newsom to negotiate an additional education budget clean-up trailer bill to make technical, clarifying, and conforming changes to the education provisions enacted this year. That legislation is expected to be considered after the Legislature returns from its summer recess on August 3, 2026.

### **Legislature Concludes Second-House Policy Committee Hearings**

Last Wednesday, July 1, the Senate and Assembly Education Committees held their final hearings before the July 2 deadline for second-house policy committees to advance legislation to the Appropriations Committees or house floors.

Following the July 2 deadline, the Legislature adjourned for its annual summer recess and will reconvene on Monday, August 3. Upon returning, lawmakers will have approximately two weeks to move bills through the Appropriations Committees and just over four weeks to send legislation to Governor Newsom before the August 31 constitutional deadline for the Legislature to pass bills.

Below is a summary of the major TK-12 education measures approved by the Senate Education Committee.

### **Senate Education Committee**

On Wednesday morning, the Senate Education Committee, chaired by Senator Sasha Renée Pérez (D-Pasadena), approved the following significant education bills that would have implications for local educational agencies (LEAs):

- AB 387 (Alanis, R-Modesto) requires youth sports organizations to have access to automated external defibrillators (AEDs) at athletic facilities and establishes coordination requirements for AED maintenance and use.
- AB 917 (Ávila Fariás, D-Martinez) requires certificated employees in small school districts and county offices of education (COEs) to earn permanent status under the same timeline as larger LEAs and allows regional occupational center and program service to count toward permanent status. Committee amendments clarify that only employees of a school district or COE are eligible to earn permanent status, excluding employees of joint powers authorities.
- AB 2496 (Solache, D-Lynwood) requires the CDE to provide a report that identifies duplication between the data contained in the School Accountability Report Card and other publicly available data sources. The bill retains the mid-year Local Control and Accountability Plan and Local Control Funding Formula Budget Overview for Parents update requirement but eliminates the February 28 deadline in statute.
- AB 1644 (Muratsuchi, D-Torrance) requires LEAs serving grades TK-8 to adopt a bell-to-bell smartphone prohibition policy by July 1, 2028, and directs the CDE to study implementation and recommend best practices.
- AB 2017 (Haney, D-San Francisco) establishes Eid al-Fitr as a state holiday and authorizes, but does not require, TK-12 public schools to recognize Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha through age-appropriate educational activities.
- AB 2468 (Patel, D-San Diego) codifies the Supporting Inclusive Practices Project in statute, establishes its governance and statewide responsibilities, and integrates the project into California's statewide system of support.
- AB 2651 (Bonta, D-Oakland) requires schools with immunization rates below state-established herd immunity thresholds to notify parents and guardians of the school's vaccination status.

With the exception of AB 387, the bills listed above will go to the Senate Appropriations Committee where their fiscal implications will be scrutinized. As a nonfiscal bill, AB 387 will go to the Senate floor for consideration.

### **Assembly Education Committee**

On Wednesday afternoon, the Assembly Education Committee, chaired by Assemblymember Dr. Darshana Patel, approved the following significant education bills that would have implications for LEAs:

- Senate Bill (SB) 685 (Cortese, D-San Jose) strengthens certification, oversight, and accountability requirements for nonpublic schools and agencies serving students with disabilities, including new restrictions on the use of public funds for religious instruction.
- SB 902 (Grayson, D-Concord) authorizes electronic signatures for specified early childhood education and child care documents.
- SB 930 (Reyes, D-San Bernardino) establishes the Student Test Taker Privacy Protection Act, requiring encryption and additional privacy protections for online assessments.
- SB 1048 (Becker, D-Menlo Park) establishes a State Seal of Climate Literacy for graduating high school students who demonstrate proficiency in climate science and environmental sustainability.
- SB 1067 (Weber Pierson, D-San Diego) requires the State Board of Education to approve K-2 mathematics screening tools and requires LEAs to annually screen pupils beginning in the 2028-29 school year.
- SB 1082 (Niello, R-Fair Oaks) modifies the interdistrict transfer process by requiring districts to promptly review requests and notify parents if more information is needed.
- SB 1083 (Pérez) revises the statewide educator misconduct reporting system by updating investigation, reporting, disclosure, and due process requirements for noncertificated public school and private school employees accused of egregious misconduct.
- SB 1128 (Stern, D-Los Angeles) prohibits LEAs from requiring kindergarten pupils to take home school-issued electronic devices and requires the CDE to develop model policies for age-appropriate device use.
- SB 1140 (Ashby, D-Sacramento) requires governing boards to ensure that contracts for construction projects taking place during school hours include security provisions for limiting unauthorized access during school construction projects.

With the exception of SB 930 and SB 1082, the bills listed above now go to the Assembly Appropriations Committee where their fiscal implications will be scrutinized. As nonfiscal bills, SB 930 and SB 1082 will go to the Assembly floor for consideration.

*Leilani Aguinaldo*

## **Budget Significantly Expands State Preschool Eligibility**

By Megan Baier and Patti F. Herrera, EdD  
School Services of California's *Fiscal Report*  
July 9, 2026

While Governor Gavin Newsom and legislative leaders were preparing for final budget negotiations, we highlighted that the Senate was poised to shift all funding of the California State Preschool Program (CSPP) under Proposition 98 (see the June 2026 *Fiscal Report* article "[Senate Proposes to Fund Private Preschool with Proposition 98](#)"). That proposal became law as soon as Governor Newsom signed Assembly Bill (AB) 126 (Committee on Budget), the education omnibus trailer bill, which he did in Davis, California on July 9, 2026—along with AB 181 (Alvarez, D-San Diego) that reforms how public education is governed in California.

The 2026-27 Enacted Budget, namely through the passage and signing of AB 150 (Committee on Budget, Statutes of 2026), the early care and education trailer bill, makes other significant changes to the CSPP, including the significant expansion of family eligibility through what is known as the Neighborhood School Eligibility provision.

### **Neighborhood School Eligibility—Then**

Before discussing the changes ushered in by the State Budget, let's review how Neighborhood School Eligibility worked in the past. Prior to the signing of AB 150 on June 29, 2026, this narrow provision in the CSPP statutes authorized providers to enroll preschool children who lived within the boundaries of public schools (except charter and magnet schools) that enrolled at least 80% free or reduced-price meal (FRPM)-eligible students, regardless of family income. Essentially, law recognized that when a school enrolled a high percentage of under-resourced students, it signaled that the larger community was under-resourced and thus provided universal access within that community. The Neighborhood School Eligibility provision was modeled after the National School Lunch Program's Community Eligibility Program.

Importantly, historical CSPP enrollment priorities remained intact, and only after preschool children with higher priority were enrolled could CSPP providers enroll children under the Neighborhood Schools Eligibility provision.

### **Neighborhood School Eligibility—Now**

The 2026-27 Enacted Budget made small but significant adjustments to this law in two ways:

- AB 150 replaced FRPM eligibility with unduplicated pupils, now recognizing English learners and foster youth among a school's percentage of under-resourced students
- AB 150 also expanded upon the qualifying schools criteria to also include qualifying school districts—specifically, authorizing CSPP providers to enroll families who live within the boundaries of schools or school districts with unduplicated pupil percentages (UPPs) of at least 80%

It's worth noting again that the expansion of the Neighborhood School Eligibility provision does not change or interfere with existing CSPP enrollment priorities. Providers are required to enroll children based on existing prescribed priorities, as follows:

## CSPP Enrollment Priorities

| Priority | Children                                                                                                   |
|----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| One      | At-risk children                                                                                           |
| Two      | Children with exceptional needs                                                                            |
| Three    | Children not enrolled in state-funded transitional kindergarten program (by family income)                 |
| Four     | Children of employees of local educational agencies (Note: this was also added with the signing of AB 150) |
| Five     | Children from families whose incomes do not exceed 15% of the income eligibility threshold                 |
| Six      | Children who live within a school or district boundary with at least 80% unduplicated pupils               |

Only after all other higher-priority preschool children are enrolled may a CSPP provider enroll children using Neighborhood School Eligibility. However, with more and more CSPP slots going unused and the state continually recouping associated savings, it suggests that providers may be able to take full advantage of this eligibility expansion to serve families in their communities.

For greater context, based on 2025-26 reported data, nearly 300 school districts in California meet the 80% UPP criteria under the expanded CSPP eligibility provision.

---

*Note: An Alameda County Superior Court judge denied a temporary injunction Wednesday that would have barred the state from distributing voter-approved state construction funding for school renovations.*

## California Judge Rejects Injunction to Halt Distributing Billions to Repair School Facilities

By John Fensterwald  
EdSource  
July 9, 2026

An Alameda County Superior Court judge denied a temporary injunction Wednesday that would have barred the state from distributing voter-approved state construction funding for school renovations.

But Judge Patrick McKinney also offered hope to parents and students in a six-page ruling that their lawsuit challenging the formula for allocating what remains of \$4 billion in bond money might prevail at trial.

The plaintiffs have “some reasonable probability of succeeding on the merits” that their equal protection right under the state constitution has been violated, he wrote.

In *Rodriguez v. The State of California*, 17 students, parents and teachers, along with three nonprofit community organizations, assert that their districts' below-average taxable property values undermine their ability to reap a fair share of funding to renovate and repair deteriorating school facilities.

Instead, for 25-plus years, more than twice as much money per student has gone to property-wealthy districts under the state's school modernization program, resulting in vast disparities in the quality of facilities. The districts where the plaintiffs live include the Salinas City Elementary School District, Lynbrook Unified in Los Angeles County, Stockton Unified and Coachella Valley Unified in Riverside County.

But McKinney also expressed skepticism that the plaintiffs could succeed on a second claim, that the state's formula also violated students' right to an equal opportunity to an education. Attorneys provided "anecdotal declarations" linking poor plumbing, mold and leaky buildings to lower attendance, achievement and teacher retention, McKinney wrote, but no evidence showing it affected educational programs.

There's "no dispute that poor facilities cause real education harm, but making a causal connection" between modernization funding and any particular poor conditions will likely be an obstacle for the plaintiffs, he wrote, especially when districts have "competing responsibilities" and other sources of funding.

John Affeldt, the managing attorney for Public Advocates, one of two law firms that filed the lawsuit, said Wednesday that he is optimistic that the families from the lower-wealth districts will prevail.

He said that they will be able to prove that aging portables and buildings in disrepair are a fundamental element, not necessarily the only cause, limiting student performance.

"It's heartening to see that the judge affirms the claim is serious, and we look forward to the trial," he said.

Court decisions have made it difficult to win a temporary injunction in lawsuits like *Rodriguez v. California*. An injunction would freeze matching state funding for building projects for months, and perhaps years, that districts have been expecting under Proposition 2, which voters passed in November 2024.

Not only did the plaintiffs have to prove that they would likely prevail in the lawsuit, but, as McKinney wrote, "the harm cuts both ways." If money from the bond program cannot be distributed, "no teachers and students, including teachers and students in relatively low wealth districts, will benefit from the modernization program during the duration of the injunction."

On balance, McKinney said, the impacts on the program and the public "weigh against an injunction."

Affeldt said he is hoping McKinney will set the trial for early next year. The judge has set a status conference for mid-July. Meanwhile, the state indicated it will file a motion to dismiss the case.

*Note: AB 181 transfers leadership of the CDE from the elected SSPI to a Governor-appointed Education Commissioner.*

## **Does Crowning California's Governor the Education Czar Mean Academic Results Will Improve?**

By Dan Walters  
*CalMatters*  
July 9, 2026

In late June, after only a few minutes of discussion, both houses of the Legislature completely overhauled how California manages the nation's largest public school system and its nearly 6 million students.

The votes for Assembly Bill 181 — 21-4 in the Senate and 52-4 in the Assembly — reflected a bipartisan consensus, rare for major issues, that the system has been failing California's children. The votes were based on an implicit, perhaps even desperate, hope that streamlining administration might raise the state's mediocre levels of academic achievement.

The measure demotes the elected state superintendent of schools from the head of the state Department of Education to a member of the state school board and replaces the superintendent with an "education commissioner" appointed by the governor.

Assemblywoman Darshana Patel, a San Diego Democrat, research scientist and local school board member, cogently expressed that hope during the Assembly's brief floor debate.

"We can't keep doing the same thing and expect different outcomes for our students, our schools and our communities. They are the ones who are the real victims of this misalignment of our systems and structures," she said, adding, "The proposal before you today would promote a more coherent policy making. The change will allow policy makers and the public to hold the governor accountable for educational outcomes."

The last sentence of her remarks is the key element. While the governor has always been an important member of California's complex education leadership structure, the multitude of other participants has made it easy to pass the buck when academic test results and other measures expose academic shortcomings.

Suddenly undoing many decades of managerial status quo, as first proposed in Gov. Gavin Newsom's state of the state address last January, is a remarkable feat unto itself. Doing so over the opposition of the California Teachers Association elevates it to a minor political miracle.

"The proposal would divert attention away from the real needs of students and schools by introducing a significant governance change that is both unnecessary and counterproductive," the powerful union wrote in a statement before AB 181's approval. "This proposal does nothing to improve student outcomes or strengthen public education."

For decades, the teachers association and other education unions have easily gotten their favored candidates for state superintendent elected. And those chosen officials have faithfully echoed the unions' position that the key to increasing outcomes is allocating more money.

School funding has increased sharply since the turn of the century, but test scores have not followed suit. Some categories, such as elementary school reading levels, remain embarrassingly low.

The first hint that change was on the table came late last year, when Policy Analysis for California Education, a consortium of education faculty at five major universities, issued a lengthy critique of the current system. The report said California's complicated mélange of state and local authority "often results in overlapping responsibilities, fragmented authority, and challenges in ensuring streamlined decision-making."

By design, the consortium's recommendations closely resembled Newsom's proposal and the final legislation.

The obvious question is if streamlining education governance and making the governor accountable, at least on paper, for academic outcomes will merely rearrange chairs on a sinking ship, or actually generate more achievement for the \$25,000-plus that the new state budget will be spending on each public school student.

California's education establishment has been reluctant to change its mantra that more money is needed to boost results and equally reluctant to embrace improvements in instructional techniques, such as using phonics to upgrade elementary reading ability.

The onus will be on Newsom's successor, most likely Xavier Becerra, to become the new schools sheriff in town.

500 Capitol Mall

•  
Suite 1700

•  
Sacramento

•  
California 95814

•  
TEL: 916 . 446 . 7517

•  
FAX: 916 . 446 . 2011

•  
www.sscal.com

DATE: July 16, 2026

TO: Misty Her  
Superintendent

AT: Fresno Unified School District

FROM: Your SSC Governmental Relations Team

RE: ***SSC's Sacramento Weekly Update***

---

### **Governor Newsom Signs Education Bills**

It was a quiet week in Sacramento as the Legislature is currently enjoying the second week of its monthlong summer recess.

While the Legislature is on its break, Governor Gavin Newsom remains busy taking action on bills that have hit his desk over the past couple of weeks. Two bills that he signed this week could have implications for local educational agencies (LEAs):

- Assembly Bill (AB) 1653 (Lackey, Statutes of 2026) requires the Instructional Quality Commission, during its next revision of the Health Framework for California Public Schools, to consider including and recommending for adoption by the State Board of Education specific content related to the prevention of, identification of, and response to signs and symptoms of heat illness.
- AB 2652 (Sharp-Collins, Statutes of 2026) expands pathways for candidates seeking a teaching credential in World Languages or a bilingual authorization to demonstrate language proficiency in languages for which the Commission on Teacher Credentialing does not administer a subject matter examination and authorizes candidates to satisfy applicable language examination requirements through successful completion of a comparable postsecondary language proficiency assessment.

The provisions of AB 1653 and AB 2652 will go into effect on January 1, 2027.

### **CalPERS Reports Preliminary 14.8% Investment Return for 2025-26 Fiscal Year**

The other big news in Sacramento related to TK-14 education was that the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) [reported](#) a preliminary net return of 14.8% on its investments for the 2025-26 fiscal year.

The return exceeded both last year's 11.6% investment gain and the 6.8% assumed rate of return adopted by the CalPERS Board of Administration. It also represents CalPERS' strongest annual investment performance in five years and continues a four-year trend of strong year-over-year returns.

Public equities (24.1%), private equity (17.0%), and private debt (11.0%) led the portfolio's performance, while real assets (6.3%) and fixed income (5.9%) also posted positive returns. Over the longer term, the fund earned annualized returns of 6.83% over five years, 8.57% over 10 years, and 6.81% over 20 years.

These preliminary investment results will help determine employer contribution rates for LEAs and community college districts for the 2027-28 fiscal year, with updated projected rates expected from CalPERS later this fall.

### **No Update for the Next Two Weeks**

With the Legislature on its last two weeks of summer recess, we will be taking a break from our weekly *Sacramento Update* for the next two weeks. Unless there is breaking news, we will return to our regular production schedule for the week ending August 7, where we will provide a preview for the final weeks of the 2026 legislative year.

*Leilani Aguinaldo*

## **It's Time to Calculate Your Annual Gann Limit**

By Raphael Guzman and Patti F. Herrera, EdD  
School Services of California's *Fiscal Report*  
July 14, 2026

Each year, school districts and county offices of education (COEs) are required to calculate their annual spending limits, also known as Gann Limits. This requirement was installed nearly 50 years ago with the passage of Proposition 4 (1979), which is intended to limit government spending by state and local public agencies, including public education agencies.

Specifically, Education Code Section (EC §) 42132 and EC § 1629 require the governing boards of school districts and COEs, respectively, to adopt resolutions estimating their local educational agencies' spending limits for the current fiscal year (2026-27) and the actual spending limit for the prior fiscal year (2025-26) at a regular or special meeting. COEs must adopt this resolution by October 15, while school districts must do so by September 15.

Local Gann Limits are calculated by multiplying the prior-year limit by the percent change in per capita personal income and average daily attendance. Districts and COEs whose revenues exceed their Gann Limits are required to increase their spending limits by "borrowing" from the state's limit in an amount equal to their proceeds of taxes (see Government Code Section [GC §] 7902.1). This process has been incorporated into Standardized Account Code Structure (SACS) software; therefore, districts and COEs are no longer required to submit a letter to the Department of Finance about increases to their spending limits.

Conversely, if a district's or COE's Gann Limit is higher than its proceeds of taxes, it must decrease its limit by an amount equal to its revenues. This process is also incorporated into the SACS software, and the governing board of a district or COE is required to adopt a resolution adjusting the limit pursuant to GC § 7910(a).

For a simplified way to understand the Gann Limit, imagine it as a bucket. Each year, the California Constitution allows a school district's bucket to hold a certain amount of eligible appropriations based on factors such as inflation and average daily attendance. Districts first "fill" their bucket with eligible local property taxes and eligible state aid. As the bucket is filled, eligible appropriations count toward the district's Gann Limit. Once the bucket is full, any additional eligible state aid "spills over" and counts toward the state's Gann Limit instead. Conversely, if a district or COE does not fill up its bucket, the state will use this "room" for its spending priorities. This annual calculation helps determine how eligible appropriations are allocated between the district and the state for purposes of complying with California's constitutional appropriations limits.

More information on the Gann Limit and the Form GANN is posted annually on the California Department of Education's website and can be found in the 2026 SACS Web user guide, which, once available, can be accessed [here](#).

*Note: CalPERS' strong 14.8% investment return could help moderate future employer contribution increases for state and local agencies, although pension rates will continue to be influenced by the system's long-term funding needs and other actuarial assumptions.*

## **CalPERS Just Had One of Its Best Years in a decade. Why it Matters to Taxpayers**

By Adam Ashton  
*CalMatters*  
July 13, 2026

California's largest public pension fund just had a banner year, riding a soaring stock market to record its second consecutive double-digit annual investment return.

The California Public Employees' Retirement System announced Monday that it gained 14.8% on its investment portfolio in the 2025-26 financial year, more than doubling its target of 6.8%.

CalPERS Chief Executive Officer Marcie Frost in remarks to the board described the return as the fund's best year since 2014, excluding 2021 when markets rebounded from a crash caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020.

"Our team has maintained a disciplined approach to building the health of the pension system, and our improved funded status shows this effort is paying off for our 2.4 million members," she said in a written statement.

CalPERS finished the budget year with a portfolio valued at \$637.1 billion — about \$80 billion more than a year ago.

The investment return is an important number to California government agencies because they have to cough up more money to cover losses when CalPERS comes up short.

CalPERS is considered underfunded because its assets are worth less than what it owes in total to the people who earn and receive benefits through it. Its assets are now valued at 85% of what it owes to members.

That number is also a milestone in CalPERS' recovery from its losses during the Great Recession. CalPERS' assets were worth about 68% of what it owed to members a decade ago before it began a set of policy changes that effectively required government agencies and public employees to pay more toward their pensions.

The earnings report comes at a moment when public safety unions are urging lawmakers to boost retirement benefits for police and firefighters for the first time since former Gov. Jerry Brown scaled back retirement perks with a 2012 law. The big number could make legislators more confident in saying yes to the unions and modifying Brown's pension reform law.

Some groups have been urging CalPERS to simplify its investment strategies in the interest of making more money faster, which would relieve some pressure on government agencies and taxpayers. That criticism came up in last year's CalPERS election, where several unsuccessful candidates characterized the fund as underperforming.

Two former CalPERS board members now involved with an organization called the Retired Public Employees Association — Margaret Brown and J.J. Jelincic — have focused on the pension fund’s stakes in private equity, investments that sometimes include high fees and uncertain values. They supported a failed bill in the Legislature this year that would have compelled CalPERS to disclose more information about those investments.

“These are very good results, however you need to think about how you got there,” Jelincic told the CalPERS board. “You expanded high risk private equity and you moved into higher risk segments within that asset class.”

Last year the CalPERS board adopted a so-called total portfolio approach that empowers Chief Investment Officer Stephen Gillmore to make decisions more quickly and in the interest of the overall fund rather than specific asset classes — such as private equity or real estate. The policy directs CalPERS to keep 75% of its portfolio in equities and 25% in bonds.

Frost and Gillmore view private equity as an important segment in the portfolio. The pension fund formally opposed the legislation that would have required more transparency about private equity, which the fund projected would have cost it billions of dollars in missed opportunities.

“Investing in the private markets gives us potential to earn higher returns while spreading our risk from the often volatile public stock market,” Frost told the board.

CalPERS earned a 17% return on its private equity investments last year and a 24% return on its investments in stocks. The S&P 500 climbed by 21% over that timeframe.

---

*Note: The Enacted State Budget includes \$116 million over three years to help schools identify and support students experiencing homelessness, which is the first time the state has dedicated funding specifically for this purpose.*

## **California Allocates Dedicated Funding to Identify Homeless Students**

By Betty Márquez Rosales  
*EdSource*  
July 14, 2026

California’s latest budget includes \$116 million over three years to help schools identify and support students experiencing homelessness — the first time the state has dedicated funding specifically for this purpose.

Homeless student advocates welcomed the investment after years of lobbying lawmakers to supplement the federal dollars California gets annually to address student homelessness. However, advocates cautioned that one-time funding will only go so far to address the long-term problem of student homelessness.

Nearly 300,000 students in California were identified as experiencing homelessness in 2024-25, according to state data. However, homeless student advocates say that number is likely an undercount because it’s challenging to identify homeless students. With dedicated funding, schools can hire specialized staff trained to identify students facing housing instability and develop longer-term support programs.

“There is a great need, but the hard part with this population is you have to find them and identify them, and we have never funded that,” said Margaret Olmos, senior director at the National Center for Youth Law.

For years, Olmos and other advocates urged California lawmakers to provide state funding dedicated to homeless students, arguing that the federal McKinney Vento Homeless Assistance Act allocation — about \$15 million annually to California — was insufficient to meet districts’ needs.

This year’s 2026-27 budget includes a one-time, three-year competitive grant program totaling \$116 million. Although advocates had hoped for an ongoing funding stream, they called the allocation a significant step forward.

“Short-term money is very, very difficult for schools to utilize,” Olmos said.

### **Why dedicated funding?**

California schools already can use several funding buckets to support students experiencing homelessness, including funding for community schools, Title 1 for schools to support low-income students, and supplemental dollars via the Local Control Funding Formula.

But those funding sources can help students only after they have been identified as experiencing homelessness. The state’s \$116 million investment is intended primarily to help schools find eligible students and connect them with services, according to the budget trailer bill.

“Whether it’s community school funding or other funding that California’s providing for its students, if homeless students aren’t identified, if they don’t have regular transportation, a way to get to school, has somebody who’s attending to all those other needs — they’re not going to be able to benefit from those other investments,” said Barbara Duffield, executive director of SchoolHouse Connection, an organization that advocates for homeless students.

Identifying students can be difficult if families are reluctant to disclose housing instability or do not realize they are considered homeless under federal law and thus qualify for services.

Under the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, student homelessness is defined more broadly than it is for the general population under the more commonly used definition from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Under McKinney-Vento, students are considered homeless if they lack a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence — including many who are temporarily living with relatives or friends because of economic hardship.

This definition includes students living “doubled-up,” meaning families who share housing due to economic hardship. The HUD definition doesn’t include families who are doubling up. The great majority of California’s homeless students live “doubled-up,” but they could go uncounted if they or people offering support are not aware of the different definitions of homelessness.

In recent years, California has taken steps to improve identification and access to resources.

A 2022 state law, for example, requires schools to administer an annual housing questionnaire and report the results to the California Department of Education. Schools are also required under federal law to designate homeless liaisons responsible for identifying students and connecting them with services.

During Gov. Gavin Newsom's administration, billions have been allocated to address homelessness statewide, with a small percentage set aside for youth. Some county offices of education have applied for and received grants via that program, but funds are exclusively for housing, and not for services such as transportation, food assistance, clothing, school supplies and more that students need.

Olmos and other advocates say that this is where schools come in. School staff work to identify homeless students, though often with little to no dedicated funding.

A teacher or classroom aide might notice a student whose grades have slipped, or another's who has an unkempt appearance. An attendance team might note sudden increased absences and might know they should flag a homeless liaison.

In many cases, further conversations reveal that a family recently lost housing, cannot afford basic necessities or lacks reliable transportation to school.

California received just over \$14 million in McKinney Vento dollars during the 2025-26 school year, distributed among 151 of the state's more than 900 school districts and 58 county offices of education. An additional \$1.5 million was allocated to support the state's technical assistance center, jointly managed by the Los Angeles, Contra Costa and San Diego county offices of education. The homeless liaisons for each of these three large counties answer questions submitted by liaisons or school staff from other districts, help train new liaisons and offer webinars on McKinney Vento requirements, among other things.

Because federal funding for student homelessness nationally has remained flat nationwide for at least three years — about \$129 million annually — advocates say California cannot rely on significant increases from Washington.

The state's \$116 million will "signal to other states that there's a way forward, but also that, within California, this is one-time funding that will help really show policymakers and educators that this needs to be the new normal in California," said Duffield. "Because there's no indication that homelessness is going to be down significantly in the next couple years."

## **A proof of concept**

Supporters of the new funding point to the federal American Rescue Plan-Homeless Children and Youth, known as ARP-HCY, as an example of the difference dedicated funding can make.

Starting in 2021, through the ARP-HCY program, school districts nationwide received \$800 million in one-time Covid-19 relief funding, including \$98.76 million for California. Districts used the money to hire homeless liaisons and support staff, provide emergency housing assistance, expand after-school programs and connect families with basic services.

But when the federal government announced in 2024 the funding would not be replenished, some of those programs began ending as well.

Homeless student advocates say California's new \$116 million allocation creates a new opportunity to demonstrate the value of dedicated funding, while also highlighting the challenges of relying on one-time grants.

“I think there’s a lot of lessons to be learned from ARP-HCY,” said Duffield. “How the funds go out, what they can be used for, how the actual disbursement is being tracked. All of that from the get-go.”

If districts can demonstrate measurable results, the hope is lawmakers will make the funding permanent, said Olmos.

“Our North Star has not changed. There has to be dedicated funding to this group that is safe in California moving forward,” she said. “So we have a window to prove that this is a wise investment, and we are really hoping that we don’t lose it.”

Fresno Unified School District  
Board Communication

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

Date: August 07, 2026  
Phone Number: (559) 457-3907

Regarding: July Legislative Committee Meeting

The purpose of this communication is to provide the Board information shared at the July 09, 2026, Legislative Committee Meeting.

At the regular meeting of the Legislative Committee of the Fresno Unified School District the following were present: Board of Education Members Andy Levine, and Keshia Thomas; District Staff: Adela Duncan, Chief Information Officer, Patrick Jensen, Chief Financial Officer; David Chavez, Chief Human Resources/Labor Relations; and Teresa Plascencia, Executive Director, Constituent Services. In attendance online were Board of Education member Veva Islas and Director of Governmental Relations, Leilani Aguinaldo.

**Budget and Economic Update** – Ms. Aguinaldo provided an update on the State Budget.

On July 09, 2026, Governor Gavin Newsom signed AB/SB 126, the Education Omnibus Budget trailer bill into law. Significant provisions include:

- Proposition 98 Minimum Guarantee Settlement provides funding that is \$3.9 billion below the calculated level, with a commitment from the State to restore funding in the 2027-28 budget cycle.
- Paid Pregnancy Disability Leave establishes a mandated paid leave program for employees beginning January 01, 2027, funded through an additional Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) investment.
- Special Education increases the base funding rate to \$1,340 per ADA and provides an additional \$40 million for students with low-incidence disabilities.
- Student Support and Professional Development Discretionary Block Grant allocates \$5 billion in one-time funding distributed on a per ADA basis.
- Community Schools provides \$1 billion in ongoing funding to support community schools initiatives.
- Kitchen Infrastructure allocates \$500 million in one-time funding for improvements.
- Students Experiencing Homelessness includes \$116 million in one-time competitive grant funding to support services for students.
- California's New Americans in Schools Program provides \$100 million in one-time competitive grant funding to support students.

Governor Newsom also signed AB 181 (Alvarez), which reorganizes California's education governance structure by shifting leadership of the California Department of Education from the elected State Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPPI) to a Governor-appointed, Senate-confirmed Education Commissioner. This will also restructure the SSPI office and transfer the SSPI's statutory responsibilities to the Commissioner.

Proposition 30, a proposal to permanently extend California's high-income tax for TK–14 education funding has qualified for the November ballot. It will appear alongside multiple other measures, including Proposition 40, a proposed one-time billionaires' tax to fund healthcare.

At the federal level, the U.S. Department of Education has announced the departmental oversight transition to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Currently, no changes are anticipated regarding federal funding levels or existing legal requirements.

**Legislative Update** – Ms. Aguinaldo reported the following:

The California Legislature has been in recess since July 2, 2026, and is scheduled to reconvene on August 3, 2026. The legislative session is expected to conclude on August 31, 2026. The Governor will have until September 30, 2026, to sign or veto legislation passed during the session.

The following legislation was reviewed:

AB 1644 (Muratsuchi) – Oppose – This bill would require local educational agencies (LEAs) to adopt and update ever five years, a policy prohibiting student smartphone use on school campus for students in grades TK-8. As amended on June 22, 2026, the bill extends the implementation deadline to July 1, 2028.

The School Services Legislative Committee July 2026 report is attached. The next Legislative Committee meeting is scheduled for September 10, 2026.

If you have any questions about the information in this communication, or need further information, please contact Kim Kelstrom, (559) 457-3907.

Cabinet Approval:



Name and Title: Patrick Jensen, Chief Financial Officer

# Fresno Unified School District

## LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING JULY 9, 2026

2025-2026 Legislative Session

Prepared By:

Leilani Aguinaldo  
Senior Director, Governmental Relations



*Public Education's Point of Reference for Making Educated Decisions*



## ***Table of Contents***

---

|                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Legislative and Economic Update ..... | 1 |
| Bill Report.....                      | 8 |

# ***Legislative and Economic Update***

School Services of California, Inc.  
Legislative and Economic Update Prepared for:  
Fresno Unified School District  
*Table of Contents*  
July 8, 2026

| Legislative and Economic Update                               |   |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|---|
| Tri-Party Budget Agreement Details .....                      | 1 |
| November Ballot Propositions Taking Shape .....               | 4 |
| Billionaire Tax Headed to the Ballot .....                    | 5 |
| ED Announces Shift of Special Education Programs to HHS ..... | 6 |

# FISCAL REPORT

PUBLIC EDUCATION'S POINT OF REFERENCE FOR MAKING EDUCATED DECISIONS

## Tri-Party Budget Agreement Details

By: SSC Governmental Relations Team

June 29, 2026

Last Friday, June 26, 2026, Governor Gavin Newsom, Senate President pro Tempore Monique Limón (D-Santa Barbara), and Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas (D-Hollister) announced a three-party agreement on California's 2026-27 State Budget (see the article "[2026-27 State Budget Deal Announced](#)" in the June 2026 *Fiscal Report*).

Today, Monday, June 29, 2026, both the Assembly Committee on Budget and the Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee held hearings on the 2026-27 State Budget package, which includes budget bills and 18 trailer bills. The Assembly and Senate are expected to act on the numerous bills needed to enact the State Budget before they leave for their summer recess on Thursday, July 2, 2026.

The bill that will amend the main 2026-27 State Budget bill, also known as budget bill jr., is [Assembly Bill \(AB\)/Senate Bill \(SB\) 111](#). Changes to the 2022-23, 2023-24, 2024-25, and 2025-26 Enacted State Budgets will be done through [AB/SB 112](#).

For policy changes impacting TK-12 education, AB/SB 126 is the bill to note as it is the education omnibus budget trailer bill. [AB/SB 126](#) is a 477-page bill making various changes to the Education Code. Another notable trailer bill, [AB 181](#) (Alvarez, D-San Diego), reorganizes California's education governance by shifting leadership of the California Department of Education from the elected State Superintendent of Public Instruction (SSPI) to a Governor-appointed, Senate-confirmed Education Commissioner, restructuring the SSPI's office, and transferring the SSPI's statutory responsibilities to the Commissioner. In addition, numerous changes to Early Childhood Education programs, including the California State Preschool Program, are included in [AB/SB 150](#).

Below we provide a crosswalk of the significant TK-12 proposals from the Governor's proposal, the Legislature's proposal, and the final agreement:

|                                                    | Governor's Version | Legislative Version                                                                                                      | Final Budget Agreement                                                                                                   |
|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Non-Local Educational Agency (LEA) Preschool Shift | No proposal        | Shifts non-LEA state preschool into Proposition 98; rebenchs the minimum guarantee to account for these additional costs | Shifts non-LEA state preschool into Proposition 98; rebenchs the minimum guarantee to account for these additional costs |

|                                                                    | <b>Governor's Version</b>                                 | <b>Legislative Version</b>                                                                                                        | <b>Final Budget Agreement</b>                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2025-26 Proposition 98 Minimum Guarantee Settle-up Proposal        | Appropriates \$3.9 billion less than the calculated level | Appropriates \$3.9 billion less than the calculated level, and states intent to a "reliable schedule to pay districts"            | Appropriates \$3.9 billion less than the calculated level; commits to begin paying back the funds if 2027-28 May Revision revenues exceed 2026-27 Budget Act revenues                                          |
| Public School System Stabilization Account (At the end of 2026-27) | \$10.3 billion                                            | \$9.5 billion                                                                                                                     | \$9.2 billion                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Deferrals                                                          | Retires the deferrals included in the 2025-26 Budget Act  | Retires the deferrals included in the 2025-26 Budget Act                                                                          | Retires the deferrals included in the 2025-26 Budget Act                                                                                                                                                       |
| Statutory Cost-of-Living Adjustment                                | 2.87%                                                     | 2.87%                                                                                                                             | 2.87%                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Additional Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) Investment         | 1.44%                                                     | 1.44%                                                                                                                             | 1.44%                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Paid Pregnancy Disability Leave                                    | Mandated with payment via additional LCFF investment      | Mandated with payment via additional LCFF investment                                                                              | Mandated with payment via additional LCFF investment; beginning January 1, 2027; Clarifies implementation for LEAs that participate in the State Disability Insurance program                                  |
| Special Education                                                  | \$1,340 per average daily attendance (ADA) base rate      | \$1,340 per ADA base rate, plus \$40 million for low-incidence disabilities funding and \$40 million for extraordinary cost pools | \$1,340 per ADA base rate, an additional \$40 million for low-incidence disabilities, an additional \$40 million for extraordinary costs pool, and \$30 million for the Supporting Inclusive Practices project |

|                                                                        | <b>Governor's Version</b>                                                                   | <b>Legislative Version</b>                                                                                                   | <b>Final Budget Agreement</b>                                                                                                |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Student Support and Professional Development Discretionary Block Grant | \$5.0 billion one-time distributed per ADA                                                  | \$5.2 billion one-time distributed per ADA, plus a required local hearing on declining enrollment and reporting requirements | \$5.0 billion one-time distributed per ADA, plus a required local hearing on declining enrollment and reporting requirements |
| Learning Recovery Emergency Block Grant                                | \$757.3 million one-time                                                                    | \$757.3 million one-time                                                                                                     | \$757.3 million one-time                                                                                                     |
| Expanded Learning Opportunities Program                                | Additional \$62.4 million ongoing to provide a guaranteed \$1,800 per pupil for Tier 2 LEAs | Additional \$62.4 million ongoing to provide a guaranteed \$1,800 per pupil for Tier 2 LEAs                                  | Additional \$64 million ongoing to provide a guaranteed \$1,800 per pupil for Tier 2 LEAs                                    |
| Community Schools                                                      | \$1.0 billion ongoing                                                                       | \$1.0 billion ongoing                                                                                                        | \$1.0 billion ongoing                                                                                                        |
| Kitchen Infrastructure and Training Grant                              | \$100 million one-time                                                                      | \$700 million one-time                                                                                                       | \$500 million one-time                                                                                                       |
| Students Experiencing Homelessness                                     | \$30 million one-time                                                                       | \$300 million one-time                                                                                                       | \$116 million one-time                                                                                                       |
| California's New Americans in Schools Program                          | No proposal                                                                                 | \$350 million one-time                                                                                                       | \$100 million one-time                                                                                                       |
| Career Technical Education Incentive Grant                             | No additional funds proposed                                                                | \$300 million total one-time, available for the 2027-28 and 2028-29 funding rounds                                           | Not included in final agreement                                                                                              |

Summarized here are only some of the highlights of what will be included in the 2026-27 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.

Ultimately, the upcoming [School Finance Conference](#) will provide a comprehensive overview of the 2026-27 State Budget, its effects on LEAs, and how to implement these changes locally. Stay tuned.

# FISCAL REPORT

PUBLIC EDUCATION'S POINT OF REFERENCE FOR MAKING EDUCATED DECISIONS

## November Ballot Propositions Taking Shape

By: Dave Heckler

July 2, 2026

On Monday, June 29, 2026, Secretary of State Shirley Weber, PhD, [assigned](#) the ballot numbers to the 14 initiatives and legislative measures that qualified for California's November general election ballot. The Proposition 30/55 extension will appear on the ballot as Proposition 3.

Proposition numbers are typically assigned based on the type of measure it is and when it became qualified. Bond measures receive their numbers first, with constitutional amendments taking priority over statutory measures.

However, the Legislature, via Assembly Bill 182 (Pellerin, Statutes of 2026), deviated from this practice by specifying the first five ballot propositions including the Proposition 30 extension. Absent legislative efforts, the proposal would have been farther down the ballot, adding risk to its passage.

Also added to the November ballot in the final moments was Assembly Constitutional Amendment 20 (Gabriel, Statutes of 2026), now known as Proposition 2. If approved by voters, Proposition 2 would increase the Budget Stabilization Account from 10% of the General Fund to 20% of the General Fund.

Two competing initiatives from the trial attorneys and the rideshare companies were ultimately withdrawn after a compromise measure was adopted by the Legislature at the last minute. This avoids what would have been an extraordinarily costly campaign for both sides.

## Billionaire Tax Headed to the Ballot

By: Dave Heckler

June 18, 2026

On Wednesday, June 17, 2026, the Secretary of State [announced](#) that the California Billionaire's Tax initiative has qualified for the November general election ballot.

The initiative would place a one-time 5% tax on accumulated wealth and assets for any Californian whose net worth is greater than \$1 billion. Ninety percent of the funding generated by this proposal would be dedicated to state health care programs, many of which have been subject to cuts in state or federal funding. The remaining 10% would be earmarked for TK-14 education and for food-assistance programs.

The proposal joins an already-crowded ballot that also includes the effort to permanently extend the Proposition 30/55 income tax on high earners to support TK-12 education.

Ballot proposition numbers will be assigned once the June 25, 2026, deadline for measures to qualify has passed.

# FISCAL REPORT

PUBLIC EDUCATION'S POINT OF REFERENCE FOR MAKING EDUCATED DECISIONS

## ED Announces Shift of Special Education Programs to HHS

By: Kyle Hyland and Anjanette Pelletier

June 17, 2026

On Tuesday, June 16, 2026, the U.S. Department of Education (ED) [announced](#) four new interagency agreements (IAAs), including one with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) that would transfer administrative responsibility for programs currently housed within the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS) to HHS. OSERS oversees several major federal programs, including the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), vocational rehabilitation services, and technical assistance programs that support children and adults with disabilities.

According to the ED press release, the agreement is intended to improve coordination among federal programs serving individuals with disabilities and strengthen collaboration between agencies providing education, health, rehabilitation, and community-based services. While the announcement involves the administration of OSERS programs, IDEA itself remains federal law, and any changes to statutory requirements, funding formulas, or student rights would require congressional action. States, local educational agencies (LEAs), and Special Education Local Plan Areas (SELPAs) remain responsible for ensuring eligible students receive a free appropriate public education, and all IDEA requirements remain in effect.

The announcement has generated concern among many education interest holders who have been waiting for the Administration's next steps in its efforts to shutter the ED, which has administered the IDEA since the department's creation in 1979. While the agreement is administrative in nature, special education advocates and interest groups are closely watching how IDEA implementation and oversight will be coordinated between ED and HHS moving forward.

The announcement also comes amid broader discussions regarding the future role of the ED. The Trump Administration supports reducing the federal role in education and has pursued efforts to reorganize certain departmental functions with over two dozen IAAs to date. The IAA transfer of OSERS programs to HHS is part of a broader effort to shift responsibilities away from the ED, which has been negatively viewed by many education organizations, labor groups, and disability advocates.

The transition is particularly noteworthy for California, which serves more than 850,000 students with disabilities and receives approximately \$1.5 billion annually in IDEA Part B funding. As the nation's largest special education system, California has a significant stake in ensuring continuity in federal funding, monitoring, and technical assistance. California LEAs contribute billions of dollars beyond state and federal funding levels to meet their obligations under IDEA and state law, because federal funding covers only a portion of special education costs.

For states, LEAs, and SELPAs, the primary questions relate to administration and oversight rather than changes in legal requirements. Areas to track include federal grant administration, compliance monitoring, technical assistance, dispute resolution processes, and the issuance of federal

guidance. Education leaders, already concerned with downsizing of ED staff and researchers who track special education data, will be watching closely to ensure there are no disruptions to funding, oversight, or support services during the transition.

Some education organizations and disability advocates have also raised questions about whether moving IDEA administration outside of the ED could affect coordination between special education and broader TK-12 education initiatives. Additionally, shifting administration of programs to the HHS may reinforce a return to a medical model of special education, which conflicts with growing focus on inclusive educational access, rightful presence in the least restrictive environment, and high expectations for students with disabilities. Because special education services are delivered within public schools and are increasingly integrated into general education settings, interest holders will be monitoring whether the new structure maintains strong alignment between progress for disability programs and federal education policy.

At this time, there are no immediate changes to IDEA implementation, funding, or local responsibilities. However, given the scale of IDEA and its importance to states, LEAs, SELPAs, and families, implementation of the agreement will likely be the subject of scrutiny in the months ahead as additional details regarding oversight, grant administration, and interagency coordination emerge.

# ***Bill Report***

**SCHOOL SERVICES OF CALIFORNIA INC.**

**Legislative Report Prepared for:  
Fresno Unified School District  
Status as of July 8, 2026**

| <i><b>Bill No./<br/>Author</b></i>      | <i><b>Title</b></i>                                                                                                                                                                   | <i><b>Position</b></i> | <i><b>Status</b></i>                            | <i><b>Page</b></i> |
|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Accountability and Assessments</b>   |                                                                                                                                                                                       |                        |                                                 |                    |
| AB 1581<br>Ramos                        | Pupils: Data Reporting: American Indian and Alaska Native Pupils                                                                                                                      | Watch                  | Senate Appropriations Committee—Suspense File   | 12                 |
| AB 2149<br>Garcia                       | Pupil Achievement: Closing the Achievement Gap: Accountability Report                                                                                                                 | Watch                  | Senate Appropriations Committee                 | 12                 |
| AB 2202<br>Muratsuchi                   | Pupil Achievement: Closing the Achievement Gap Commission                                                                                                                             | Support                | Senate Appropriations Committee                 | 13                 |
| AB 2225<br>Patel                        | Pupil Achievement: Closing the Achievement Gap State Operations and Support Plan                                                                                                      | Watch                  | Senate Appropriations Committee                 | 14                 |
| AB 2496<br>Solache                      | Local Educational Agencies: Reports: School Accountability Report Card: California School Dashboard: Local Control Accountability Plan: Local Control Funding Formula Budget Overview | Support                | Senate Appropriations Committee                 | 14                 |
| AB 2514<br>Ransom                       | Pupil Achievement: State of the Achievement Gap Dashboard                                                                                                                             | Support                | Senate Appropriations Committee                 | 15                 |
| <b>Attendance or Instructional Time</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                       |                        |                                                 |                    |
| AB 1763<br>Lee                          | Pupil Attendance: Excused Absences: Religious Observance                                                                                                                              | Watch                  | Senate Appropriations Committee—Suspense File   | 15                 |
| <b>College and Career</b>               |                                                                                                                                                                                       |                        |                                                 |                    |
| AB 731<br>Fong                          | Pupil Instruction: Dual Enrollment: College and Career Access Pathways Partnerships                                                                                                   | Watch                  | Senate Appropriations Committee—Suspense File   | 16                 |
| AB 1694<br>Carrillo                     | California Career Technical Education Incentive Grant Program: Renewal Grants                                                                                                         | Support                | Senate Appropriations Committee—Suspense File   | 16                 |
| AB 1871<br>Fong                         | Pupil Instruction: Dual Enrollment: College and Career Access Pathways Partnerships                                                                                                   | Watch                  | Senate Appropriations Committee—Suspense File   | 17                 |
| AB 2248<br>Hoover                       | Pupil Services: Educational Counseling: California College Guidance Initiative                                                                                                        | Watch                  | Senate Floor—Third Reading                      | 17                 |
| SB 323<br>Pérez                         | Student Aid Commission: California Dream Act Application                                                                                                                              | Support                | Assembly Appropriations Committee—Suspense File | 18                 |

| <b>Employees</b>                          |                                                                                                |         |                                                      |    |
|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|------------------------------------------------------|----|
| AB 65<br>Aguiar-Curry                     | School and Community College Employees: Paid Disability and Parental Leave                     | Support | Senate Appropriations Committee                      | 18 |
| AB 1578<br>Jackson                        | State and Local Officials: Sexual Harassment Training and Education: Anti-Hate Speech Training | Support | Senate Appropriations Committee                      | 18 |
| AB 1626<br>Gabriel                        | Interscholastic Athletics: Youth Sports: Coaches: Behavioral and Mental Health Training        | Support | Assembly Floor—Concurrence                           | 19 |
| AB 1665<br>Pacheco                        | School Athletics: Coaches: Youth Athletics Behavioral and Mental Health Training               | Support | Senate Floor—Third Reading                           | 19 |
| AB 1803<br>Lowenthal                      | Employment: Sexual Harassment Training and Education: Anti-Hate Speech Training                | Support | Senate Appropriations Committee                      | 19 |
| AB 1896<br>González, Mark                 | Public Employment: Disqualifications                                                           | Watch   | Senate Appropriations Committee                      | 20 |
| AB 2148<br>Muratsuchi                     | Elementary and Secondary Education: Public School Employees: Contractors: Natural Persons      | Watch   | Signed by the Governor, Chapter 45, Statutes of 2026 | 20 |
| AB 2325<br>Alvarez                        | Teachers: Bilingual Teachers: Pathways to Bilingual Teaching Program                           | Support | Senate Appropriations Committee                      | 20 |
| AB 2490<br>Valencia                       | Teacher Credentialing: Emergency Career Substitute Teaching Permit: Alternative Qualifications | Support | Senate Appropriations Committee                      | 21 |
| <b>English Learners</b>                   |                                                                                                |         |                                                      |    |
| AB 2555<br>Patel                          | English Learners: Reclassification                                                             | Support | Senate Appropriations Committee                      | 22 |
| <b>Governance and District Operations</b> |                                                                                                |         |                                                      |    |
| AB 395<br>Gabriel                         | Holidays                                                                                       | Support | Senate Appropriations Committee                      | 23 |
| AB 1644<br>Muratsuchi                     | Pupils: Use of Smartphones: Prohibition: Report                                                | Oppose  | Senate Appropriations Committee                      | 23 |
| AB 1821<br>Pacheco                        | California Public Records Act: Agency Response Time                                            | Support | Senate Appropriations Committee                      | 24 |
| AB 2726<br>Fong                           | School Facilities: Disposal of Surplus Technology Property                                     | Support | Signed by the Governor, Chapter 51, Statutes of 2026 | 24 |
| SB 1017<br>Reyes                          | Pupils: Foster Youth: Access to Pupil Records                                                  | Support | Assembly Appropriations Committee                    | 25 |
| SB 1187<br>Durazo                         | Open Meetings                                                                                  | Watch   | Assembly Floor—Second Reading                        | 25 |

| <b>Instruction</b>                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |             |                                                            |    |
|---------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| AB 887<br>Berman                            | Pupil Instruction: High Schools:<br>Computer Science Courses:<br>California Computer Science<br>Demonstration Grant Program:<br>Reporting                                                                                    | No Position | Senate Appropriations<br>Committee—Suspense File           | 25 |
| AB 2071<br>Hoover                           | Pupil Instruction: Digital Wellness                                                                                                                                                                                          | Support     | Senate Appropriations<br>Committee                         | 26 |
| SB 1048<br>Becker                           | State Seal of Climate Literacy                                                                                                                                                                                               | Support     | Assembly Appropriations<br>Committee                       | 26 |
| SB 1133<br>Strickland                       | Pupil Instruction: Preventative Health<br>Instruction                                                                                                                                                                        | Support     | Assembly Floor—Consent                                     | 26 |
| <b>Miscellaneous</b>                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |             |                                                            |    |
| AB 2008<br>Patel                            | Local Educational Agencies:<br>Planning and Reporting<br>Requirements: Template: Repealer                                                                                                                                    | Support     | Senate Appropriations<br>Committee                         | 27 |
| SB 492<br>Menjivar                          | Youth Housing Bond Act of 2026                                                                                                                                                                                               | Support     | Assembly Housing and<br>Community Development<br>Committee | 27 |
| <b>Nutrition</b>                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |             |                                                            |    |
| AB 1731<br>Wilson                           | Office of Farm to Fork: California<br>Healthy Food Procurement Fund<br>Program                                                                                                                                               | Support     | Senate Appropriations<br>Committee                         | 27 |
| <b>School Safety and Student Discipline</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |             |                                                            |    |
| AB 327<br>Ta                                | Crimes: False Reporting                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Oppose      | Senate Appropriations<br>Committee—Suspense File           | 28 |
| AB 1872<br>Ta                               | False Reporting                                                                                                                                                                                                              | No Position | Senate Appropriations<br>Committee                         | 28 |
| AB 2230<br>Ávila Farías                     | Child Daycare Facilities                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Support     | Senate Floor—Third Reading                                 | 28 |
| AB 2242<br>Davies                           | Pupil Safety: Sextortion Informational<br>Poster                                                                                                                                                                             | Watch       | Senate Appropriations<br>Committee                         | 29 |
| SB 1181<br>Hurtado                          | Violence Prevention, Pupil Wellness,<br>and School Safety Grant Program                                                                                                                                                      | Watch       | Assembly Appropriations<br>Committee                       | 29 |
| <b>State Budget and Education Finance</b>   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |             |                                                            |    |
| AB 477<br>Muratsuchi                        | Fair Pay for Educators Act: Local<br>Control Funding Formula: Base<br>Grants: Funding Targets                                                                                                                                | No Position | Senate Appropriations<br>Committee—Suspense File           | 29 |
| AB 1204<br>Alvarez                          | Local Control Funding Formula:<br>School Districts and Charter<br>Schools: Pupils Experiencing<br>Homelessness: Supplemental and<br>Concentration Grants: Regional<br>Adjustment Factors: Grade-Span<br>Adequacy Adjustments |             | Senate Appropriations<br>Committee—Suspense File           | 30 |

|                                  |                                                                                     |         |                                                    |    |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|----------------------------------------------------|----|
| AB 2526<br>Muratsuchi            | Special Education Local Plan Areas:<br>Apportionments: Alternate<br>Assessments     | Support | Senate Appropriations<br>Committee                 | 31 |
| SB 743<br>Cortese                | Education Finance: Education<br>Equalization Act: Equalization<br>Reserve Account   |         | Assembly Appropriations<br>Committee—Suspense File | 31 |
| <b>Student Health</b>            |                                                                                     |         |                                                    |    |
| AB 2460<br>Rodriguez,<br>Celeste | Pupil Health: Mental Health: Model<br>Referral Protocols                            | Support | Senate Appropriations<br>Committee                 | 32 |
| <b>Student Services</b>          |                                                                                     |         |                                                    |    |
| AB 673<br>Jackson                | Unaccompanied Homeless Pupils:<br>Unaccompanied Youth Support<br>Grant Program      | Support | Senate Appropriations<br>Committee                 | 32 |
| AB 1899<br>Caloza                | Office of Youth Homelessness<br>Prevention                                          | Watch   | Senate Appropriations<br>Committee                 | 33 |
| AB 2107<br>Pellerin              | Expanded Learning Opportunities<br>Program: Offering Access:<br>Unduplicated Pupils |         | Senate Floor—Third Reading                         | 33 |
| <b>Transportation</b>            |                                                                                     |         |                                                    |    |
| AB 1111<br>Soria                 | Pupil Transportation: School Buses:<br>Zero-Emission Vehicles: Scrapping            | Support | Senate Appropriations<br>Committee—Suspense File   | 34 |

## Accountability and Assessments

### [AB 1581 \(Ramos\)](#)

**Amended Date:** 03/23/2026

**Title:** Pupils: Data Reporting: American Indian and Alaska Native Pupils

**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee—Suspense File

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:**

Starting in 2027-28, requires local educational agencies to report in CALPADS the tribal affiliation of students who identify as American Indian or Alaska Native.

### [AB 2149 \(Garcia\)](#)

**Amended Date:** 06/30/2026

**Title:** Pupil Achievement: Closing the Achievement Gap: Accountability Report

**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:**

Requires the Legislative Analyst's Office to report on the state's progress in closing the achievement gap and make recommendations to meet future targets.

**SSC Comment:** This is one of four bills sponsored by the California School Boards Association to close the achievement gap. The other bills are Assembly Bill (AB) 2202 (Muratsuchi, D-Torrance), AB 2225 (Patel, D-San Diego), and AB 2514 (Ransom, D-Stockton).

---

**AB 2202 (Muratsuchi)**

**Amended Date:** 06/30/2026

**Title:** Pupil Achievement: Closing the Achievement Gap Commission

**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee

**Position:** Support

**Summary:**

Establishes the Closing the Achievement Gap Commission as an advisory body to the State Board of Education (SBE). The bill would require the commission to:

- Advise the SBE and the California Department of Education on policies and practices necessary to assist local educational agencies (LEAs) in closing the achievement gap
- Use the Closing the Achievement Gap Commission State Operations and Support Plan (which would be created by Assembly Bill 2225 [Patel, D-San Diego]) to guide its work
- Assess the efficacy of state support to LEAs within the State System of Supports
- Evaluate the efficacy of current law and other policies to assist in closing the achievement gap
- Review existing LEA and school accountability requirements and recommend modifications for enabling LEAs to address the achievement gap

**SSC Comment:** This is one of four bills sponsored by the California School Boards Association to close the achievement gap.

---

**[AB 2225 \(Patel\)](#)**

**Amended Date:** 06/17/2026

**Title:** Pupil Achievement: Closing the Achievement Gap State Operations and Support Plan

**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:**

Establishes a working group that shall develop a plan to be known as the Closing the Achievement Gap State Operations and Support Plan that shall include:

- Specific goals for the state to support local educational agencies in closing the achievement gap
- Performance targets aimed at closing the achievement gap for the State Board of Education, California Department of Education, the Commission on Teacher Credentialing, and the California Collaborative for Educational Excellence, and recommendations for appropriate remedial action if the targets are not met
- Recommendations the state can take to reduce the number of unfunded or partially funded mandates and align state-level operations and initiatives with local control
- A clear definition of high-quality technical assistance for differentiated assistance, direct technical assistance, and related support

**SSC Comment:** This is one of four bills sponsored by the California School Boards Association to close the achievement gap.

---

**[AB 2496 \(Solache\)](#)**

**Amended Date:** 07/06/2026

**Title:** Local Educational Agencies: Reports: School Accountability Report Card: California School Dashboard: Local Control Accountability Plan: Local Control Funding Formula Budget Overview

**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee

**Position:** Support

**Summary:**

Seeks to alleviate the increased reporting burden on local educational agencies by doing the following:

- By March 1, 2027, requires the California Department of Education to provide a report that identifies duplication between the data contained in the school accountability report card and other publicly available data sources
- Deletes the February 28 deadline for a report to the governing board on the annual update to the Local Control and Accountability Plan and the local control funding formula budget overview for parents
- Deletes the requirement that each school annually report on the status of its school safety plan
- Deletes the requirement that the results of physical testing of pupils are included in the school accountability report card

---

**[AB 2514 \(Ransom\)](#)**

**Amended Date:** 06/30/2026

**Title:** Pupil Achievement: State of the Achievement Gap Dashboard

**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee

**Position:** Support

**Summary:**

The working group established by Assembly Bill 2225 (Patel, D-San Diego) shall provide recommendations for a State of the Achievement Gap Dashboard that will assess the state in its progress towards closing student academic achievement gaps.

**SSC Comment:** This is one of four bills sponsored by the California School Boards Association to close the achievement gap.

---

**Attendance or Instructional Time**

---

**[AB 1763 \(Lee\)](#)**

**Title:** Pupil Attendance: Excused Absences: Religious Observance

**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee—Suspense File

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:**

This bill would include observance of a holiday or ceremony of the pupil's religion as a type of required excused absence without the requirement that the absence be requested in writing by the parent or guardian and approved by the principal or a designated representative.

## College and Career

### [AB 731 \(Fong\)](#)

**Amended Date:** 07/01/2025

**Title:** Pupil Instruction: Dual Enrollment: College and Career Access Pathways Partnerships

**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee—Suspense File

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:**

Amends the College and Career Access Pathways (CCAP) program to streamline access to dual enrollment by doing the following:

- Removes the requirement for a principal's recommendation in order to participate in a CCAP dual enrollment program
- Requires CCAP agreements to authorize a student to complete a single community college application for the duration of their participation in the program
- Removes the four-course-per-term cap for CCAP students, while retaining the 15-unit maximum per term

July 1, 2025, amendments remove the bill language regarding online coursework using either synchronous or asynchronous modalities and removed the requirement for community colleges to provide comprehensive support services to high school students dually enrolled in asynchronous courses.

### [AB 1694 \(Carrillo\)](#)

**Amended Date:** 06/11/2026

**Title:** California Career Technical Education Incentive Grant Program: Renewal Grants

**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee—Suspense File

**Position:** Support

**Summary:**

This bill would require that Career Technical Education Incentive Grant recipients receive renewal grants for three additional years as long as certain criteria are met.

---

**AB 1871 (Fong)**

**Title:** Pupil Instruction: Dual Enrollment: College and Career Access Pathways Partnerships

**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee—Suspense File

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:**

This bill would revise College and Career Access Pathways (CCAP) statute to make it easier for high school students to take community college courses. Specifically, the bill would do the following:

- Remove the requirement that CCAP agreements must include a principal recommendation for a high school pupil to enroll in community college courses
- Authorize a pupil to complete one application for the duration of the pupil's attendance at a community college as a special part-time student participating in a CCAP partnership agreement
- Eliminate the limit on the number of community college courses (currently capped at four per term) that a special part-time CCAP student can take, as long as they do not exceed 15 units per term
- Change annual reporting requirements so that CCAP partners report on outcomes such as the number of pupils who successfully completed at least 12 college units, earned a certificate, or completed an associate degree or transfer requirements

**SSC Comment:** Fresno Unified School District took a watch position on an identical bill—Assembly Bill 731 (Fong, D-Alhambra)—in 2025.

---

**AB 2248 (Hoover)**

**Amended Date:** 03/26/2026

**Title:** Pupil Services: Educational Counseling: California College Guidance Initiative

**Status:** Senate Floor—Third Reading

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:**

As amended March 26, 2026, requires local educational agencies to notify parents/guardians of students in grades 7-12 of the benefits of the California College Guidance Initiative and encouragement to create parent accounts.

The prior version of the bill required school districts to give notice of the advanced academic programs available and to annually hold at least one informational session.

---

**[SB 323 \(Pérez\)](#)**

---

**Amended Date:** 07/10/2025

**Title:** Student Aid Commission: California Dream Act Application

**Status:** Assembly Appropriations Committee—Suspense File

**Position:** Support

**Summary:**

By the start of the 2026-27 financial aid cycle, the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) shall amend the California Dream Act Application (CADAA), and any of its grant processing systems, to clarify and ensure that the application can be used by any student eligible for state financial aid programs, regardless of their eligibility for federal financial aid. The bill would also require CSAC to consult with California's public and private colleges and universities to effectively promote the CADAA and inform students and their families of their available financial aid application options.

---

**Employees**

---

**[AB 65 \(Aguiar-Curry\)](#)**

---

**Title:** School and Community College Employees: Paid Disability and Parental Leave

**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee

**Position:** Support

**Summary:**

Requires a K-14 public school employer to provide up to 14 weeks of full pay to certificated and classified employees due to pregnancy, miscarriage, childbirth, termination of pregnancy, or recovery from those conditions.

---

**[AB 1578 \(Jackson\)](#)**

---

**Amended Date:** 05/22/2026

**Title:** State and Local Officials: Sexual Harassment Training and Education: Anti-Hate Speech Training

**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee

**Position:** Support

**Summary:**

Adds anti-hate speech training to sexual harassment training that is required of all elected state or local officials.

---

**[AB 1626 \(Gabriel\)](#)**

**Amended Date:** 06/11/2026

**Title:** Interscholastic Athletics: Youth Sports: Coaches: Behavioral and Mental Health Training

**Status:** Assembly Floor—Concurrence

**Position:** Support

**Summary:**

Requires training for all school coaches, including interscholastic coaches, to include:

- Trauma-informed care and recognizing signs and symptoms of common behavioral and mental health conditions in adolescents
- Strategies for creating a positive team culture
- Appropriate communication techniques
- Procedures for referring pupil athletes to appropriate mental health resources
- Understanding of the coach's role and limitations in supporting pupil behavioral and mental health

---

**[AB 1665 \(Pacheco\)](#)**

**Amended Date:** 04/06/2026

**Title:** School Athletics: Coaches: Youth Athletics Behavioral and Mental Health Training

**Status:** Senate Floor—Third Reading

**Position:** Support

**Summary:**

As amended, starting with the 2027-28 school year, requires a local educational agency that offers an athletic program to ensure that coaches complete an initial training, and subsequent training every two years, that covers sudden cardiac arrest and behavioral and mental health training.

---

**[AB 1803 \(Lowenthal\)](#)**

**Amended Date:** 06/17/2026

**Title:** Employment: Sexual Harassment Training and Education: Anti-Hate Speech Training

**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee

**Position:** Support

**Summary:**

Adds anti-hate speech training to sexual harassment training that employers are required to provide to their employees.

---

**[AB 1896](#) (González, Mark)****Amended Date:** 06/24/2026**Title:** Public Employment: Disqualifications**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee**Position:** Watch**Summary:**

This bill would make a person ineligible for public employment if they were previously employed by an entity that engages in immigration enforcement between January 20, 2025, and January 20, 2029.

---

**[AB 2148](#) (Muratsuchi)****Amended Date:** 04/13/2026**Title:** Elementary and Secondary Education: Public School Employees: Contractors: Natural Persons**Status:** Signed by the Governor, Chapter 45, Statutes of 2026**Position:** Watch**Summary:**

The prior version of this bill allowed K-12 and public college educators to refuse to use any form of educational technology and prohibited local educational agencies from disciplining an educator based on information acquired or produced via artificial intelligence. This bill defines a public school employee as a natural person.

---

**[AB 2325](#) (Alvarez)****Amended Date:** 06/15/2026**Title:** Teachers: Bilingual Teachers: Pathways to Bilingual Teaching Program**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee**Position:** Support**Summary:**

As amended, establishes the Pathways to Bilingual Teaching Program that would provide competitive grants to consortia of local educational agencies and higher education institutions to establish or expand pathways to bilingual teaching to enable bilingual students to earn a teaching credential with a bilingual authorization. The prior version of the bill established the Bilingual Clinical Placement Registry to connect the preparation, credentialing, and long-term retention of bilingual and multilingual teachers.

---

**AB 2490 (Valencia)**

**Amended Date:** 06/15/2026

**Title:** Teacher Credentialing: Emergency Career Substitute Teaching Permit: Alternative Qualifications

**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee

**Position:** Support

**Summary:**

As amended, this bill amends the requirements for an emergency career substitute teaching permit. Existing law requires applicants for an emergency career substitute teaching permit to verify 90 days of substitute teaching in each of the prior three years. This bill would allow, as an alternative, verification that the applicant has completed at least five hours of professional development, an orientation, and a mentoring program. The bill would authorize permit holders who qualify through this alternative pathway to serve up to 60 cumulative days in a single classroom, including in career technical education, general education, and special education. The bill would also require 30 hours of professional development upon the first renewal of the permit and provide that permits issued or renewed under these provisions are valid for 12 months.

**SSC Comment:** Fresno Unified School District supported a similar bill, Assembly Bill 1224 (Valencia, D-Anaheim), in 2025 that was vetoed.

## English Learners

### [AB 2555 \(Patel\)](#)

**Amended Date:** 06/10/2026

**Title:** English Learners: Reclassification

**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee

**Position:** Support

#### **Summary:**

Makes changes to the system of reclassifying English learners (ELs) as English proficient commencing on July 1, 2027:

- Limits the reclassification criteria to the assessment of English language development (ELD)
- Requires that ELs be reclassified as English proficient if they meet the score established by the State Board of Education for purposes of reclassification on the ELD assessment or the alternate ELD assessment
- Permits some ELs with disabilities to be reclassified using alternate means
- When a student is classified as an EL, the local educational agency must communicate specified information to the student's parent or guardian regarding the student's EL classification, supports available to EL students, and the reclassification process
- Requires the State Board of Education to identify an appropriate instrument for monitoring reclassified ELs
- Requires the California Department of Education to post data on reclassification rates
- Reframes EL reclassification as a milestone on the path to biliteracy
- Requires an evaluation of these changes to EL reclassification

## Governance and District Operations

### [AB 395 \(Gabriel\)](#)

**Amended Date:** 06/26/2025

**Title:** Holidays

**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee

**Position:** Support

**Summary:**

Requires public schools to consider making efforts to avoid scheduling the first day of class and high school graduation on a date for which the governing board knows, or has reason to know, that members of the public would be unable to participate or be present due to the ritual observance of a religious, cultural, or ancestral holiday.

### [AB 1644 \(Muratsuchi\)](#)

**Amended Date:** 06/22/2026

**Title:** Pupils: Use of Smartphones: Prohibition: Report

**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee

**Position:** Oppose

**Summary:**

A prior version of this bill required local educational agencies (LEAs) by July 1, 2027, to adopt and update every five years, a policy that prohibits students from using smartphones while on campus or while under the supervision of a school employee. Current law requires LEAs to adopt a policy to limit or prohibit the use of smartphones.

As amended on April 28, 2027, the current law requirement for a local policy to limit or prohibit the use of smartphones shall apply only to students in grades 9-12. By July 1, 2028, LEAs must adopt a policy for students in grades TK-8 that prohibits the use of smartphones while at school or under the supervision of a school employee. The bill also prohibits instruction for students in grades TK-8 from requiring the use of a smartphone by a student, and the adopted policy shall include a method for parents/guardians to contact their students while smartphones are prohibited.

Finally, this bill would require the California Department of Education to survey at least 30 LEAs to learn the interest holder input process, enforcement, and challenges and successes since policy enactment, and provide recommendations for best practices for future LEA policies.

---

**AB 1821 (Pacheco)**

**Amended Date:** 06/25/2026

**Title:** California Public Records Act: Agency Response Time

**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee

**Position:** Support

**Summary:**

A prior version of this bill required local educational agencies (LEAs) by July 1, 2027, to adopt and update every five years, a policy that prohibits students from using smartphones while on campus or while under the supervision of a school employee. Current law requires LEAs to adopt a policy to limit or prohibit the use of smartphones.

As amended on April 28, 2027, the current law requirement for a local policy to limit or prohibit the use of smartphones shall apply only to students in grades 9-12. By July 1, 2028, LEAs must adopt a policy for students in grades TK-8 that prohibits the use of smartphones while at school or under the supervision of a school employee. The bill also prohibits instruction for students in grades TK-8 from requiring the use of a smartphone by a student, and the adopted policy shall include a method for parents/guardians to contact their students while smartphones are prohibited.

Finally, this bill would require the California Department of Education to survey at least 30 LEAs to learn the interest holder input process, enforcement, and challenges and successes since policy enactment, and provide recommendations for best practices for future LEA policies.

---

**AB 2726 (Fong)**

**Amended Date:** 04/13/2026

**Title:** School Facilities: Disposal of Surplus Technology Property

**Status:** Signed by the Governor, Chapter 51, Statutes of 2026

**Position:** Support

**Summary:**

Authorizes a school district to declare technology to be surplus technology property that can be disposed of if authorized by a policy adopted by the governing board. The methods for disposing of surplus technology property are the following:

- Sale by public auction
- Sale by sealed bid
- Sale or transfer through a structured trade-in or buyback program with a third-party purchaser
- Negotiated sale to a public agency, nonprofit organization, or private entity, if the governing board of the school district determines that the negotiated sale is in the best interest of the school district and is reasonably calculated to yield fair market value under the circumstances
- Donation to a public agency or nonprofit corporation

---

**[SB 1017 \(Reyes\)](#)**

---

**Amended Date:** 06/22/2026

**Title:** Pupils: Foster Youth: Access to Pupil Records

**Status:** Assembly Appropriations Committee

**Position:** Support

**Summary:**

Existing law limits access to student records by requiring written parental consent or a judicial order, unless otherwise authorized by law. Students 14 years or older who are both homeless and unaccompanied can access their own relevant educational records. The bill extends this access to foster youth aged 14 or older.

---

**[SB 1187 \(Durazo\)](#)**

---

**Amended Date:** 07/06/2026

**Title:** Open Meetings

**Status:** Assembly Floor—Second Reading

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:**

As amended on June 22, 2026, this bill makes amendments to the Brown Act that do not apply to local educational agencies. Senate Bill 1187 will not be included in future bill reports.

---

**Instruction**

---

---

**[AB 887 \(Berman\)](#)**

---

**Amended Date:** 07/17/2025

**Title:** Pupil Instruction: High Schools: Computer Science Courses: California Computer Science Demonstration Grant Program: Reporting

**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee—Suspense File

**Position:** No Position

**Summary:**

As completely rewritten on July 7, 2025, this bill establishes the California Computer Science Demonstration Project to increase the number of public high schools offering computer science and to increase the computer science course access of low-income students and students that are underrepresented in the field of computer science. The pilot program shall be funded through contributions from nonprofit organizations or private entities. Public high schools that do not offer any computer science courses may voluntarily participate in the pilot program. Funding entities, in coordination with the California Computer Science Demonstration Project Working Group, shall select the public high schools to participate in the pilot program.

---

**[AB 2071 \(Hoover\)](#)**

---

**Amended Date:** 06/22/2026

**Title:** Pupil Instruction: Digital Wellness

**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee

**Position:** Support

**Summary:**

As amended, this bill requires the California Department of Education to develop a plan by January 1, 2028, to expand digital wellness instruction in California public schools. A previous version of the bill would have required health education to also include digital wellness instruction, but this provision was amended out of the bill.

---

**[SB 1048 \(Becker\)](#)**

---

**Amended Date:** 07/02/2026

**Title:** State Seal of Climate Literacy

**Status:** Assembly Appropriations Committee

**Position:** Support

**Summary:**

As amended on April 6, 2026, this bill establishes the voluntary State Seal of Climate Literacy and requires the State Superintendent of Public Instruction (SSPI) to recommend criteria under which participating local educational agencies may award the seal to qualified students. The SSPI shall consider requiring successful completion of two courses in climate literacy and a presentation of a climate literacy final experiential learning project.

---

**[SB 1133 \(Strickland\)](#)**

---

**Amended Date:** 03/23/2026

**Title:** Pupil Instruction: Preventative Health Instruction

**Status:** Assembly Floor—Consent

**Position:** Support

**Summary:**

When the “Health Education Framework for California Public Schools” is next revised, on or after January 1, 2027, requires the Instructional Quality Commission to consider including information on evidence-based preventative health instruction, including information on nutrition, food literacy, sleep, movement, stress management, and digital balance.

## Miscellaneous

### [AB 2008 \(Patel\)](#)

**Amended Date:** 06/18/2026

**Title:** Local Educational Agencies: Planning and Reporting Requirements: Template: Repealer

**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee

**Position:** Support

**Summary:**

A bill that requires a local educational agency to complete a plan or report with an undefined end date shall include a provision that repeals the reporting requirement within four years of operation. As amended April 27, 2026, the bill also requires the California Department of Education to provide a standardized template for programmatic or expenditure reports.

### [SB 492 \(Menjivar\)](#)

**Amended Date:** 01/22/2026

**Title:** Youth Housing Bond Act of 2026

**Status:** Assembly Housing and Community Development Committee

**Position:** Support

**Summary:**

Would put on the November 2026 ballot the Youth Housing Bond Act of 2026, which, if adopted, would authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$1,000,000,000 to finance the Youth Housing Program. The program would require the Department of Housing and Community Development to make awards to local agencies, nonprofit organizations, and joint ventures to purchase equipment and acquire, renovate, or construct youth centers or youth housing. Youth housing is defined as a facility that provides a variety of services to current or former foster youth, homeless youth, or youth at risk of homelessness to assist them with their immediate basic needs and to help reunite them with their parents or find a suitable home.

## Nutrition

### [AB 1731 \(Wilson\)](#)

**Amended Date:** 05/18/2026

**Title:** Office of Farm to Fork: California Healthy Food Procurement Fund Program

**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee

**Position:** Support

**Summary:**

If funding is provided for this purpose, the Office of Farm to Fork shall establish the California Healthy Food Procurement Fund Program for purposes of cultivating equity, nurturing students, building climate resilience, supporting California agriculture, and creating scalable and sustainable change in the school food system. To the extent that funding is available, the program shall fund approved vendors to procure foods that are whole or are minimally processed and are grown or produced in California using climate-smart agriculture practices and climate-smart agriculture production systems, so that the approved vendors can contract with institutions serving pupils in K-12 to deliver procured foods at no cost. If funding is available, the program shall also develop an approved list of vendors that source and develop food products that meet the above criteria.

## School Safety and Student Discipline

### [AB 327 \(Ta\)](#)

**Amended Date:** 07/16/2025

**Title:** Crimes: False Reporting

**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee—Suspense File

**Position:** Oppose

**Summary:**

Increases the punishment for a second or subsequent offense of “swatting” which results in an unnecessary emergency response, from a misdemeanor to an alternate felony-misdemeanor. However, the increased penalties for a second or subsequent offense for swatting does not apply to a person who was under 18 years of age at the time they committed the prior offense or offenses.

**SSC Comment:** Assembly Bill 327 is supported by various school districts and law enforcement agencies around the state, though none are in the Fresno vicinity. Among the opponents of the bill are the American Civil Liberties Union, California Action, and the California Public Defenders Association.

### [AB 1872 \(Ta\)](#)

**Title:** False Reporting

**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee

**Position:** No Position

**Summary:**

Increases the punishment for a second or subsequent offense of “swatting” from a misdemeanor to an alternate felony-misdemeanor. However, the increased penalties for a second or subsequent offense for swatting does not apply to a person who was under 18 years of age at the time they committed the prior offense or offenses.

**SSC Comment:** Fresno Unified School District (USD) opposed a similar bill in 2025—Assembly Bill (AB) 327 (Ta, R-Westminster). As with AB 327, AB 1872 is supported by approximately 20 school districts including Ceres USD, Golden Valley USD, Madera USD, Capistrano USD, and law enforcement organizations included the California State Sheriffs’ Association. Opponents include the American Civil Liberties Union California Action and the California Public Defenders Association.

### [AB 2230 \(Ávila Farías\)](#)

**Amended Date:** 06/22/2026

**Title:** Child Daycare Facilities

**Status:** Senate Floor—Third Reading

**Position:** Support

**Summary:**

Prohibits a licensed child daycare facility from allowing immigration enforcement to enter a nonpublic area without a judicial warrant or subpoena or court order. As amended June 11, 2026, this bill no longer prohibits federal law enforcement from being stationed in the immediate vicinity of a polling place.

---

**[AB 2242 \(Davies\)](#)****Amended Date:** 06/11/2026**Title:** Pupil Safety: Sextortion Informational Poster**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee**Position:** Watch**Summary:**

Before the 2027-28 school year, requires schools to display in at least one student men's restroom, one student women's restroom, and one student all-gender restroom a poster that contains specified information relating to sextortion.

---

**[SB 1181 \(Hurtado\)](#)****Amended Date:** 07/02/2026**Title:** Violence Prevention, Pupil Wellness, and School Safety Grant Program**Status:** Assembly Appropriations Committee**Position:** Watch**Summary:**

As amended July 2, 2026, establishes the Violence Prevention, Pupil Wellness, and School Safety Grant Program to award grants to local educational agencies (LEAs) for evidence-based violence prevention, pupil wellness, and public safety initiatives. The bill would require the department to consult with representatives of the Office of Emergency Services, LEAs, county behavioral health departments, community-based organizations, and public safety agencies when it develops guidelines for the program.

---

**State Budget and Education Finance**

---

**[AB 477 \(Muratsuchi\)](#)****Amended Date:** 06/23/2025**Title:** Fair Pay for Educators Act: Local Control Funding Formula: Base Grants: Funding Targets**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee—Suspense File**Position:** No Position**Summary:**

This bill would establish new Local Control Funding Formula base grant targets to be reached in 2036-37 and state the intent of the Legislature to use those funds to increase school site staff salaries. Despite the "increase school site staff salaries" being intent language, the bill's title was recently amended to the "Fair Pay for Educators Act."

---

**AB 1204 (Alvarez)**

**Amended Date:** 05/05/2025

**Title:** Local Control Funding Formula: School Districts and Charter Schools: Pupils Experiencing Homelessness: Supplemental and Concentration Grants: Regional Adjustment Factors: Grade-Span Adequacy Adjustments

**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee—Suspense File

**Position:**

**Summary:**

This bill makes a number of changes to the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF), phasing the changes in beginning in 2025-26 and fully funding them by 2030-31 as follows:

- Provides a minimum 4% annual cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for the LCFF, if the calculated COLA is lower
- Requires the California Department of Education (CDE) to establish regional COLAs in addition to the statewide COLA
- Adds students experiencing homelessness to the categories of students who generate supplemental and concentration grants
- Raises the supplemental grant add-on from 20% to 35% of a local educational agency's (LEA) base grant
- Lowers the threshold for LEAs to be eligible for concentration grants from those with 55% of unduplicated students to 45% of unduplicated students
- Requires the CDE to develop recommendations by January 1, 2028, on how grade span funding levels should be adjusted to account for their unique costs

The May 5, 2025, amendments remove the provisions that would have allowed for duplicated counts of students who are low-income, foster youth, and English learners.

---

**[AB 2526 \(Muratsuchi\)](#)**

---

**Amended Date:** 04/21/2026

**Title:** Special Education Local Plan Areas: Apportionments: Alternate Assessments

**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee

**Position:** Support

**Summary:**

As completely rewritten, Assembly Bill (AB) 2526 no longer would add funding within the Local Control Funding Formula based on students with severe disabilities. Instead, if there is a State Budget appropriation for this new eligibility, the entitlement of the low incidence disability fund that currently goes to SELPAs would be based on the sum of the number of pupils with low incidence disabilities (Fall 1 CALPADS of prior fiscal year) and the number of pupils eligible to take the California Alternate Assessments (CAAs) multiplied by a per-pupil amount. As in current law, the per-pupil amount of AB 2526 would be determined by State Budget language.

A student with a low incidence disability who qualifies for the CAAs would be counted twice and generate funding accordingly, reflecting a student with greater needs. Funding would be used to provide special education and related services as required under the Individualized Education Program of the eligible pupils, and no additional requirements for the funds are defined.

**SSC Comment:** This version of AB 2526 addresses concerns of incentivizing overidentification of students with “severe disabilities” as the CAAs are based on need, not disability category, and eligibility is capped at 1% of the student population taking assessments per local educational agency.

---

**[SB 743 \(Cortese\)](#)**

---

**Amended Date:** 07/07/2025

**Title:** Education Finance: Education Equalization Act: Equalization Reserve Account

**Status:** Assembly Appropriations Committee—Suspense File

**Position:**

**Summary:**

Subject to a voter-approved constitutional amendment, this bill would require deposits into a newly established “Equalization Reserve Account” whenever the state deposits funds in the Proposition 98 rainy day fund, and funds in the “Equalization Reserve Account” would be available to increase per-pupil funding in non-basic-aid school districts in a manner prescribed by the Legislature.

## Student Health

### [AB 2460](#) (Rodriguez, Celeste)

**Amended Date:** 04/06/2026

**Title:** Pupil Health: Mental Health: Model Referral Protocols

**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee

**Position:** Support

**Summary:**

Existing law requires a local educational agency (LEA) governing board to adopt a policy on referral protocols for addressing pupil behavioral health concerns in grades 7 to 12. This bill would require governing boards to adopt an update to that policy to include guidance on providing equity-centered mental health supports in case of a local emergency related to immigration enforcement activities or deportations of pupils or their family members. The California Department of Education shall develop guidance that LEAs may use for this purpose.

## Student Services

### [AB 673](#) (Jackson)

**Amended Date:** 06/18/2026

**Title:** Unaccompanied Homeless Pupils: Unaccompanied Youth Support Grant Program

**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee

**Position:** Support

**Summary:**

Establishes the Unaccompanied Youth Support Grant Program, a pilot program to provide formula grants to local educational agencies for the purpose of providing supports to improve school attendance, pupil engagement, pupil graduation rates, and pupil wellbeing for unaccompanied youth who are 16 and 17 years of age, including connecting youth with resources to find stable housing.

---

**AB 1899 (Caloza)**

**Amended Date:** 05/18/2026

**Title:** Office of Youth Homelessness Prevention

**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:**

Creates the Office of Youth Homelessness Prevention (Office) in the California Agency on Housing and Homelessness with a mission to reduce youth homelessness in the state to functional zero. The Office shall lead the coordination of funding, policy, and practice to prevent youth homelessness across federal and state agencies and departments focused on all of the following:

- Sufficient stable housing
- Economic and employment support
- Education
- Prevention of youth homelessness
- Health and mental health
- Services to assist youth to establish and maintain connections with supportive adults and peers

---

**AB 2107 (Pellerin)**

**Amended Date:** 05/26/2026

**Title:** Expanded Learning Opportunities Program: Offering Access: Unduplicated Pupils

**Status:** Senate Floor—Third Reading

**Position:**

**Summary:**

For Expanded Learning Opportunities Programs, this bill requires school districts and charter schools that have an unduplicated pupil percentage of 55% or higher (rate 1) to prioritize offering access to students in kindergarten through grade 6 who are low-income, English language learners, or foster youth. The prioritization for offering access may include, but is not limited to, specialized outreach to parents and guardians of unduplicated students and providing assistance with enrollment.

## Transportation

### [AB 1111](#) (Soria)

**Amended Date:** 07/22/2025

**Title:** Pupil Transportation: School Buses: Zero-Emission Vehicles: Scrapping

**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee—Suspense File

**Position:** Support

**Summary:**

The bill changes the parameters of the State Air Resources Board California Hybrid and Zero-Emission Truck and Bus Voucher Incentive Project grant program, eliminating the requirement that school districts scrap an existing bus if it is less than 25 years old and ownership of the school bus has been transferred to another local educational agency that either qualifies for or has been approved for an extension from the January 1, 2025, requirement to only purchase zero-emission vehicles in order to access the funds.

**SCHOOL SERVICES OF CALIFORNIA INC.**

**Legislative Report Prepared for:  
Fresno Unified School District  
Status as of July 8, 2026**

**Dead Bills**

| <b>Bill No./<br/>Author</b>               | <b>Title</b>                                                                       | <b>Position</b> | <b>Status</b>                                                                          | <b>Page</b> |
|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Accountability and Assessments</b>     |                                                                                    |                 |                                                                                        |             |
| AB 2303<br>Muratsuchi                     | School Accountability: Local Educational Agencies: Required Plans and Reports      | Support         | Assembly Appropriations Committee—Suspense File—Did Not Meet Deadline—No Longer Active | 37          |
| <b>Attendance or Instructional Time</b>   |                                                                                    |                 |                                                                                        |             |
| AB 1631<br>Muratsuchi                     | Elementary Education: Kindergarten                                                 | Support         | Assembly Appropriations Committee—Suspense File—Did Not Meet Deadline—No Longer Active | 37          |
| <b>Employees</b>                          |                                                                                    |                 |                                                                                        |             |
| AB 1331<br>Elhawary                       | Workplace Surveillance                                                             | No Position     | Senate Floor—Inactive File                                                             | 37          |
| AB 1654<br>DeMaio                         | Vehicles: Commercial Driver's Licenses                                             | Oppose          | Assembly Transportation Committee—Did Not Meet Deadline—No Longer Active               | 38          |
| AB 1750<br>Caloza                         | School Employees: Absences Due to Illness or Accident                              | Oppose          | Assembly Appropriations Committee—Suspense File—Did Not Meet Deadline—No Longer Active | 38          |
| AB 1898<br>Schultz                        | Workplace Artificial Intelligence Tools                                            | Watch           | Assembly Appropriations Committee—Suspense File—Did Not Meet Deadline—No Longer Active | 38          |
| AB 2365<br>Sanchez                        | Education-Related Positions: Egregious Misconduct: Previous Employment Disclosures | Support         | Assembly Appropriations Committee—Suspense File—Did Not Meet Deadline—No Longer Active | 39          |
| <b>Facilities</b>                         |                                                                                    |                 |                                                                                        |             |
| AB 1822<br>Muratsuchi                     | School Facilities: Project Priorities: Extreme Heat and Climate Change             | Support         | Senate Education Committee—Did Not Meet Deadline—No Longer Active                      | 39          |
| <b>Governance and District Operations</b> |                                                                                    |                 |                                                                                        |             |
| AB 2220<br>Arambula                       | School Districts: Auxiliary Organizations                                          | Sponsored       | Assembly Education Committee—Did Not Meet Deadline—No Longer Active                    | 40          |

| <i><b>Bill No./<br/>Author</b></i>        | <i><b>Title</b></i>                                                                                         | <i><b>Position</b></i> | <i><b>Status</b></i>                                                                              | <i><b>Page</b></i> |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Instruction</b>                        |                                                                                                             |                        |                                                                                                   |                    |
| SB 745<br>Ochoa Bogh                      | American Government and Civics:<br>Curriculum Guide: State Seal of Civic<br>Engagement                      | No Position            | Senate Rules Committee                                                                            | 40                 |
| <b>Miscellaneous</b>                      |                                                                                                             |                        |                                                                                                   |                    |
| AB 1884<br>Hadwick                        | Interscholastic Athletics: Drug Testing;<br>Suspensions: Nicotine Use                                       |                        | Assembly Education<br>Committee—Did Not Meet<br>Deadline—No Longer Active                         | 41                 |
| AB 2117<br>Alvarez                        | State Board of Education:<br>Superintendent of Public Instruction:<br>Education Commissioner                | Watch                  | Senate Education<br>Committee—Did Not Meet<br>Deadline—No Longer Active                           | 41                 |
| AB 2404<br>Tangipa                        | State Advisory Groups, Boards, and<br>Committees: San Joaquin Valley                                        |                        | Assembly Education<br>Committee—Bill Did Not<br>Meet Deadline—No Longer<br>Active                 | 42                 |
| <b>State Budget and Education Finance</b> |                                                                                                             |                        |                                                                                                   |                    |
| AB 2509<br>Schultz                        | Education Finance: Average Daily<br>Attendance: Apportionments                                              | Support                | Assembly Appropriations<br>Committee—Suspense File—<br>Did Not Meet Deadline—<br>No Longer Active | 42                 |
| <b>Student Health</b>                     |                                                                                                             |                        |                                                                                                   |                    |
| SB 980<br>Hurtado                         | Access to Medical Records                                                                                   | Support                | Senate Health Committee—<br>Did Not Meet Deadline—No<br>Longer Active                             | 43                 |
| <b>Student Services</b>                   |                                                                                                             |                        |                                                                                                   |                    |
| AB 2430<br>Muratsuchi                     | Expanded Learning Programs: High<br>School Pupils: After School Education<br>and Safety Program Act of 2002 |                        | Assembly Appropriations<br>Committee—Suspense File—<br>Did Not Meet Deadline—No<br>Longer Active  | 43                 |

## Accountability and Assessments

### [AB 2303 \(Muratsuchi\)](#)

**Amended Date:** 04/27/2026

**Title:** School Accountability: Local Educational Agencies: Required Plans and Reports

**Status:** Assembly Appropriations Committee—Suspense File—Did Not Meet Deadline—No Longer Active

**Position:** Support

**Summary:**

By January 1, 2028, requires the Legislative Analyst's Office to provide recommendations to reduce conflicting or redundant reports and reporting deadlines.

## Attendance or Instructional Time

### [AB 1631 \(Muratsuchi\)](#)

**Amended Date:** 03/23/2026

**Title:** Elementary Education: Kindergarten

**Status:** Assembly Appropriations Committee—Suspense File—Did Not Meet Deadline—No Longer Active

**Position:** Support

**Summary:**

As amended on March 23, 2026, phases in the requirement for a student to complete one year of kindergarten before starting first grade. For the 2028-29 school year, the requirement applies to a student who turns six years old between July 1, 2028, and September 1, 2028. For the 2029-30 school year, the requirement applies to a student who turns six years old between May 1, 2029, and September 1, 2029. For the 2030-31 school year, the requirement applies to a student who turns six years old between March 1, 2030, and September 1, 2030. For the 2031-32 school year, the requirement applies to students who turn six years old on or before September 1 of that school year.

## Employees

### [AB 1331 \(Elhawary\)](#)

**Amended Date:** 09/04/2025

**Title:** Workplace Surveillance

**Status:** Senate Floor—Inactive File

**Position:** No Position

**Summary:**

Prohibits employers from using a workplace surveillance tool to monitor workers in the following employee-only areas: bathrooms, locker rooms, changing areas, and lactation spaces.

---

**[AB 1654 \(DeMaio\)](#)**

**Title:** Vehicles: Commercial Driver's Licenses

**Status:** Assembly Transportation Committee—Did Not Meet Deadline—No Longer Active

**Position:** Oppose

**Summary:**

Would require the Department of Motor Vehicles, before issuing or renewing a commercial driver's license, to verify the applicant's lawful presence in the United States. Would require the department to revoke any commercial driver's license issued to a person subsequently determined to be unlawfully present in the United States.

---

**[AB 1750 \(Caloza\)](#)**

**Amended Date:** 04/13/2026

**Title:** School Employees: Absences Due to Illness or Accident

**Status:** Assembly Appropriations Committee—Suspense File—Did Not Meet Deadline—No Longer Active

**Position:** Oppose

**Summary:**

Existing law provides that certificated and classified employees of local educational agencies and academic and classified employees of community college districts who exhaust all available sick leave and remain absent due to illness or injury for up to five additional school months receive either the difference between their regular salary and the amount paid to a substitute, or at least 50% of their regular salary.

This bill would instead require those employees who exhaust all available sick leave and continue to be absent due to illness or accident for an additional five-month period to receive their full regular salary during those five months. Recent amendments removed community colleges from the bill.

---

**[AB 1898 \(Schultz\)](#)**

**Amended Date:** 03/20/2026

**Title:** Workplace Artificial Intelligence Tools

**Status:** Assembly Appropriations Committee—Suspense File—Did Not Meet Deadline—No Longer Active

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:**

Requires an employer to provide written notice to an affected worker and the bargaining representative that a workplace artificial intelligence tool was used to assist the employer in making employment-related decisions or to surveil the workplace.

---

**[AB 2365 \(Sanchez\)](#)**

---

**Amended Date:** 04/27/2026

**Title:** Education-Related Positions: Egregious Misconduct: Previous Employment Disclosures

**Status:** Assembly Appropriations Committee—Suspense File—Did Not Meet Deadline—No Longer Active

**Position:** Support

**Summary:**

As amended April 27, 2026, this bill would expand the definition of “egregious misconduct” to include additional offenses such as those relating to human trafficking, child abandonment and neglect, and impermissible contact or communication with a minor. The bill also requires the state to add a section to its educator misconduct database showing whether any complaints have been filed against a teacher or credential applicant.

In addition, current law requires local educational agencies (LEAs) to inquire with all previous LEAs that employed a certificated applicant whether the applicant was the subject of any credible complaints, substantiated investigations, or discipline for egregious misconduct. This bill would instead require LEAs to first check the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) database and then inquire with previous LEA employers that filed complaints with the CTC. LEAs would still be allowed to inquire with all previous LEA employers for complaint history.

Previously, the bill also included language that prohibited a certificated person who is dismissed for egregious misconduct from being employed in any education-related position by any state agency, the California State University, the University of California, any local agency, or any LEA. This provision is no longer in the bill.

---

**Facilities**

---

**[AB 1822 \(Muratsuchi\)](#)**

---

**Amended Date:** 03/23/2026

**Title:** School Facilities: Project Priorities: Extreme Heat and Climate Change

**Status:** Senate Education Committee

**Position:** Support

**Summary:**

Existing law authorizes the State Allocation Board, by adoption of rules, to establish priorities for the construction and leasing of projects to schools districts whose pupils will benefit most.

This bill would authorize the board to include, as priorities for projects, an efficient response to extreme heat and climate change.

## Governance and District Operations

### [AB 2220 \(Arambula\)](#)

**Amended Date:** 03/19/2026

**Title:** School Districts: Auxiliary Organizations

**Status:** Assembly Education Committee—Did Not Meet Deadline—No Longer Active

**Position:** Sponsored

**Summary:**

Authorizes school districts to establish auxiliary organizations for purposes of providing supportive services and specialized programs for the general benefit of its schools. The bill, among other things, would require a school district that establishes an auxiliary organization, in accordance with regulations adopted by the State Department of Education, to institute an accounting and reporting system for the operation of the auxiliary organization, and procedures to ensure that transactions of the auxiliary organization are within the educational mission of the school district, as specified.

**SSC comment:** AB 2220 replicates the existing statutes for auxiliary organizations of community college districts and applies them to school districts.

## Instruction

### [SB 745 \(Ochoa Bogh\)](#)

**Amended Date:** 07/07/2025

**Title:** American Government and Civics: Curriculum Guide: State Seal of Civic Engagement

**Status:** Senate Rules Committee

**Position:** No Position

**Summary:**

As amended May 7, 2025, this bill requires the California Department of Education to develop a curriculum guide for a one-year course in American government and civics. The bill also provides that a student's completion of the one-year course satisfies the applicable criterion for the State Seal of Civic Engagement.

## Miscellaneous

### [AB 1884 \(Hadwick\)](#)

**Amended Date:** 03/19/2026

**Title:** Interscholastic Athletics: Drug Testing: Suspensions: Nicotine Use

**Status:** Assembly Education Committee—Did Not Meet Deadline—No Longer Active

**Position:**

**Summary:**

This bill would require school districts, as part of its policy regarding participation in extracurricular and cocurricular activities, to adopt a drug testing program. The bill would:

- Require the program to include nicotine testing for pupils participating in athletic extracurricular activities
- Authorize the program to include testing for alcohol and controlled substances
- Require the basis for testing to be random and suspicionless, unless the school has a reasonable suspicion that a pupil used nicotine, or, if applicable, alcohol or a controlled substance
- Require student participation in the program in order to participate in athletic extracurricular activities
- Require results of the drug testing to be provided to the superintendent and coach of the extracurricular athletic team

Three positive tests would prohibit a pupil from participating in athletic extracurricular activities for the remainder of that athletic season. This bill would prohibit the suspension of a pupil who tests positive for a controlled substance, alcohol, intoxicants of any kind, tobacco, products containing tobacco, or nicotine products pursuant to the pupil drug testing program solely for that positive test.

### [AB 2117 \(Alvarez\)](#)

**Amended Date:** 04/28/2026

**Title:** State Board of Education: Superintendent of Public Instruction: Education Commissioner

**Status:** Senate Education Committee—Did Not Meet Deadline—No Longer Active

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:**

This bill deletes the provision in existing law that establishes the Superintendent as the ex officio Director of Education and vests all executive and administrative functions of the department in an Education Commissioner to be appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction would be added to the State Board of Education, and four existing positions appointed by the Governor would be replaced by two members appointed by the Senate President pro Tempore and two members appointed by the Speaker.

---

**[AB 2404 \(Tangipa\)](#)**

**Title:** State Advisory Groups, Boards, and Committees: San Joaquin Valley

**Status:** Assembly Education Committee—Did Not Meet Deadline—No Longer Active

**Position:**

**Summary:**

Requires at least one member of the following bodies to be from the San Joaquin Valley:

- The State Board of Education
- The State Superintendent of Public Instruction advisory group on career technical education
- The Financial Solvency Standards Board within the Department of Managed Health Care
- The Citizen's Financial Accountability Oversight Committee associated with the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine
- The California Veterans Board

---

**State Budget and Education Finance**

---

**[AB 2509 \(Schultz\)](#)**

**Amended Date:** 04/20/2026

**Title:** Education Finance: Average Daily Attendance: Apportionments

**Status:** Assembly Appropriations Committee—Suspense File—Did Not Meet Deadline—No Longer Active

**Position:** Support

**Summary:**

This bill, for purposes of the Local Control Funding Formula, would require a school district's fiscal year average daily attendance to be computed using the average of the five most recent prior fiscal years, if that average is greater than the current fiscal year, prior fiscal year, or average of the three most recent fiscal years. A prior version of the bill also authorized a school district to exclude the five days with the lowest recorded attendance from the current fiscal year and the prior fiscal year, but this provision was removed from the bill.

## Student Health

### [SB 980 \(Hurtado\)](#)

**Amended Date:** 03/16/2026

**Title:** Access to Medical Records

**Status:** Senate Health Committee—Did Not Meet Deadline—No Longer Active

**Position:** Support

**Summary:**

Prohibits health care providers from charging a fee to a patient for completing health-related forms required by an educational institution for a student's participation in school, child care, or school-sponsored activities.

## Student Services

### [AB 2430 \(Muratsuchi\)](#)

**Amended Date:** 04/21/2026

**Title:** Expanded Learning Programs: High School Pupils: After School Education and Safety Program Act of 2002

**Status:** Assembly Appropriations Committee—Suspense File—Did Not Meet Deadline—No Longer Active

**Position:**

**Summary:**

Among other things, establishes the High School After School Education and Safety (High School ASES) program and redirects funding within the After School Education and Safety (ASES) program to the program serving high school students. This bill proposes to redirect funding appropriated to the ASES program serving students in grades K-9, beyond the original minimum of \$550 million that established the program and have not already been awarded, to be redirected to the High School ASES program at a daily rate of \$13.81 per pupil. High School ASES funds shall be prioritized for existing 21st Century High School After School Safety and Enrichment for Teens grantees to increase the daily rate to \$13.81 per pupil and to new high school programs serving the highest percentage of low-income students. In addition, starting in 2027-28, ASES grants shall not be renewed for any school with a less than 55% of free or reduced price meals-eligible students.

There are currently no school districts listed in support of the bill.

Fresno Unified School District  
Board Communication

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

Date: August 07, 2026

Phone Number: (559) 457-3750

Regarding: 2026/27 District English Learner Advisory Committee Meeting Schedule

The purpose of this communication is to provide the Board with the 2026/27 District English Learner Advisory Committee meeting schedule. Our district-level English Learner Advisory Committee is comprised of parents, staff, and community members designated to advise district officials on English Learner programs and services.

Meetings will be held in person with childcare provided. Dinner is available at 4:30 p.m., followed by the meetings from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Meeting dates and locations are as follows:

- Thursday, September 24, 2026, Farber Professional Learning Center
- Thursday, November 05, 2026, Farber Professional Learning Center
- Thursday, February 18, 2027, Farber Professional Learning Center
- Thursday, May 27, 2027, Farber Professional Learning Center

If you have any questions about the information included in this communication or need further information, please contact Erica Piedra at (559) 457-3916.

Cabinet Approval:   
Carlos Castillo (Aug 5, 2026 22:05:52 PDT)

Name and Title: Carlos Castillo, Ed.D.