

Pension Obligation Increases

- At its April meeting, the CalPERS Board of Directors adopted an 18.062% school employer contribution rate for 2018-19. The majority of this increase was anticipated. In 2017, CalPERS projected the 2018-19 school employer contribution rate to be 17.7%. Regardless, the more than 2.5% increase from 2017-18 rates equates to approximately \$450 million. ACSA continues to work on identifying a long-term solution to mitigate rapidly growing pension obligations

ACSA's Fatal School Violence Task Force

- In response to recent school shootings, the ACSA Board of Directors established the Fatal School Violence Task Force. The Task Force's directive is to identify policies and best practices that will help prevent fatal school violence and best equip school communities to respond to emergency situations should they arise. The task force begins its work in April.

Federal Budget

Fiscal Year 2018

Congress passed and President Trump signed the omnibus spending bill for the fiscal year 2018. The compromise bill provides a \$2.6 billion increase for the U.S. Department of Education. Highlights include \$15.7 billion for ESSA, Title I (a \$300 million increase), \$2 billion for ESSA, Title II, \$5.226 billion for Child Care and Development Block Grants (a \$2.37 billion increase) and \$90 million for School Safety National Activities (a \$22 million increase).

Fiscal Year 2019

President Trump released his proposed FY19 budget. The FY 2019 budget proposes a \$3.8 billion cut to the Department of Education with the elimination of funding for Title II (\$2.05 billion cut), a \$43 million cut to Teacher Quality Partnership grants and the elimination of the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program. However, the budget expands incentives for school choice by \$1 billion.

Political Action Committee

- Political activism takes several levels for success: Lobby, grassroots and political dollars.
- We are facing larger challenges than just public employee unions who use political money to influence the Legislature. Foundations, education reformers, charter school advocates all spend large amounts of money to elect like-minded legislative candidates.
- With the 2018 midterm elections around the corner, ACSA PAC is a key way we can make our political voice heard.
- Donate to the ACSA PAC at www.acsa.org/donate.

Professional Development

Our UCLA summer residential programs provide opportunities for administrators to meet in a stimulating and supportive setting to examine crucial school reform topics applicable to their work. Each program is designed to provoke and ultimately foster a life commitment to the calling of teaching and learning. These events are designed to provide participants opportunities to focus their resolve for better practice and improve leadership skills.

Principals Summer Institute | June 24-30 | UCLA

Institute of New and Aspiring Principals | June 25-29 | UCLA

ACSA, in partnership with the Sacramento County Office of Education's Leadership Institute, offers aspiring teacher leaders the opportunity to earn a Preliminary Administrative Services Credential. This program is designed to empower and build the capacity of leaders to improve teaching and learning for all students. Candidates will engage in six courses over the 12-month program which offers both face-to-face instruction as well as online learning, guided fieldwork and an end-of-program project. Institute courses are taught by local and regional school administrators who have first-hand experience and expertise in both the content and region. By completing four additional classes the following year, candidates may apply the work from the Leadership Institute credential courses to obtain a Master's Degree. Visit ACSA's website for more information and to download the application. Application period ends May 15.

Leadership Institute | Aug. 25, 2018-June 22, 2019 | Inland Empire

To learn more about all of ACSA's professional learning opportunities and to register, go to www.acsa.org/professionallearning

We work for you

For additional questions or feedback on the system of support or future of LCFF, please contact Martha Alvarez, malvarez@acsa.org.

If you have questions regarding ACSA's Political Action Committee please contact Sarah Monte, smonte@acsa.org.



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State Update

From the desk of:
Dr. Wesley Smith, ACSA Executive Director



"Supporting education leaders as they serve California's students."

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Update on 2018-19 State Budget Discussion

- A major point of discussion in the legislature is how to allocate additional money above the required amounts that need to be deposited into the state's Rainy Day Fund.
- Under the governor's budget proposal, prepaying the fund may trigger infrastructure spending by \$2.9 billion over the next few years. This funding could be used to pay for deferred maintenance at schools, colleges and universities, for children's hospitals, the high-speed rail, among other projects.
- There is bipartisan support in the Assembly to dedicate ongoing Proposition 98 funding towards the creation of an ongoing Career Technical Education grant program, whereas the Senate supports increases to LCFF funding.

Revenue Projections

- The State Controller reported in mid-April that California's total revenues of \$8.02 billion for March were higher than estimates in the Governor's 2018-19 proposed budget by 6 percent, and above the 2017-18 Budget Act projections by 10.8 percent.
- For the fiscal year overall, the "big three" sources of General Fund revenue—personal income tax, retail sales and use tax, and corporation tax—are beating estimates in the enacted budget. For the first nine months of the 2017-18 fiscal year, total revenues of \$89.10 billion are 3.4 percent higher than expected in the January budget proposal and 6.4 percent above the enacted budget's assumptions.

Future of LCFF

AB 2808 (Muratsuchi) – Higher LCFF funding targets

- ACSA is co-sponsoring AB 2808 to increase the LCFF base grant established in the 2013-14 fiscal year, in addition to specifying higher amounts beginning in the 2018-19 fiscal year. As a result, the supplemental and concentration grant amounts would also increase.

Senate LCFF Budget Proposal

- The Senate Democrats are proposing to augment LCFF by an additional \$1.2 billion above the governor's January proposal.
- Of this amount, \$1 billion will increase the base grant and \$200 million will increase the supplemental and concentration grants. As a trade-off, this augmentation would be funded by lowering the governor's proposed \$1.8 billion in one-time discretionary grants that would go towards every LEA on a per-pupil basis. In addition to the increased funding level, the proposal would require school districts to disclose actual expenditure information, both budgeted and expended, supporting services for unduplicated pupils to be included in the LCAP summary.

Accountability/ESSA State Plan

- Under the State Board of Education (SBE) final ESSA State Plan adopted on April 12th, California will continue to use the California School Dashboard for state, local and federal accountability purposes.
- California will continue to calculate the state indicators on the Dashboard using both status and change for accountability purposes. However, for federal reporting purposes, the state will report separately performance (status) and change in performance over time.
- Grade 11 assessment results will be included in the Academic Indicators for English Language Arts and mathematics (which currently includes only grades 3-8), and will continue to be included in the College/Career Indicator, which CDE expects to implement in fall 2018.
- The SBE will pursue a federal waiver that will allow the retention of an English Learner Proficiency Indicator (ELPI) that includes data on students reclassified the prior year and the additional weighting factor for progress made by long-term English learners. However, if the waiver is denied, the SBE will need to modify the ELPI so that it is based solely on progress on the annual English language proficiency assessments.
- California will use the color-coded performance levels on the Dashboard to identify the lowest performing Title I schools for additional support. The state will establish performance criteria based on the Dashboard by including schools whose indicators are all Red; schools rated Red in all categories but one; schools with ratings that all are Red and Orange; and schools with five or more measurements available, half of which are Red.

Notable Bills

AB 1743 (O'Donnell) – CTE Incentive Grant Program

- This bill would indefinitely extend the CTE Incentive Grant with an annual appropriation of \$500 million. The bill would also require a one-to-one local match and allocate \$12 million in ongoing funding for the Department of Education to contract with county offices of education to provide regional technical assistance to grantees.

AB 1747 (Rodriguez) – School Safety Plans

- This bill would require every LEA to conduct an annual active shooter drill and consult with first responder entities in the development of school safety plans. Given the current climate, AB 1747 is likely to continue moving through the Legislature with bipartisan support. AB 1747 is in Assembly Appropriations Committee.

AB 1951 (O'Donnell) – Pupil Assessments: Pathways to College Act

- This bill would require the State Superintendent of Public Instruction to approve a nationally recognized high school assessment (such as the SAT or ACT) that a LEA may administer commencing with the 2019-20 school year

in lieu of the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) for English Language Arts and mathematics for grade 11.

AB 2067 (Gallagher) – School Safety: Armed Officers

- This bill would require at least one armed school resource officer at every school site in the state. The estimated costs associated with this bill are more than \$600 million. AB 2067 is in the Assembly Appropriations Committee where it is likely to die due to its high cost.

AB 2154 (Bonta) – Union Employee Release Time

- This bill would expand and apply uniformity to all public employees for time off to participate in union activities without loss of compensation.

AB 2497 (Cooper) – School Gun Violence Prevention

- This bill would tax gun and ammunition sales to establish the School Gun Violence Prevention Fund which would support the hiring of school resource officers and school counselors. AB 2497 would also require every middle school to hire a counselor and expand the duties of mandated reporters to include school violence threats. Should the bill's high costs be addressed by eliminating the school counselor mandate, the bill will likely move through the Legislature with broad support.

AB 2635 (Weber) – LCFF: Supplemental Grants: Lowest Performing Pupil Subgroup

- This bill would, commencing with the 2018-19 fiscal year, adjust the definition of "unduplicated pupils" to include pupils who are included in the lowest performing subgroup(s), as defined, based on the most recently available mathematics or language arts results on the SBAC. The bill excludes students with disabilities as being considered the lowest performing group for purposes of receiving this additional funding.

SB 1127 (Hill) - School Site Administrator of Medical Cannabis

- This bill would require a school district to determine whether they will allow a parent or guardian to come to a school campus to administer medical cannabis to their child during the school day.