

## Federal Platform

### Special Education:

- With continuing funding cut proposals, ACSA strongly supports gradually increasing education funding to meet the federal government's commitment to fund the 40 percent promise.
- Federal funding for IDEA programs ensures the rights of children with disabilities and their parents are protected. These funds assist in providing for the education of all children with disabilities, expanding infant and preschool programs, providing additional much-needed intervention services to address the growing special education student population, and assessing the effectiveness of efforts to educate children with disabilities.

### Equality Act:

- ACSA supports the passage of the Equality Act and is partnering with the Human Rights Campaign to advocate for its passage. The Equality Act would amend existing civil rights law—including the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Fair Housing Act and several laws regarding employment with the federal government—to explicitly include sexual orientation and gender identity as protected characteristics.

### 21st Century STEM for Girls & Underrepresented Minorities:

- ACSA supports legislation introduced by Sen. Kamala Harris in 2019 designed to provide a \$40 million competitive, equity-focused STEM grant program for school districts. This funding supports STEM education for students of color, girls, LGBTQ students and students with disabilities nationwide.

For more information regarding Federal Advocacy please contact: Adonai Mack at [amack@acsa.org](mailto:amack@acsa.org).

## ACSA Member Services

ACSA Member Services is currently in membership renewal season and would greatly appreciate a reminder to your management teams about renewing their memberships. While membership thrives at more than 17,500 members, our voice at the state Capitol is stronger when we are larger in numbers. A healthy membership also means we can provide relevant benefits and services to you and all California school administrators, such as complimentary professional liability coverage, contract assistance, legal support and mentoring.

Those who have not yet renewed should have received a second notice via mail a couple of weeks ago. If they are unsure about their membership status or need help renewing, they may contact us at [memberservices@acsa.org](mailto:memberservices@acsa.org).

## ACSA Professional Development

### 2019 Leadership Summit: San Francisco – Nov. 7-9

ACSA's Leadership Summit is the premier professional development event for school leaders.

For two and a half days, this event provides opportunities for invaluable networking and offers professional development on current critical leadership and educational issues.

### 2020 Superintendents Symposium: Indian Wells – Jan. 29-31

This annual event brings school leaders from around the state together for an invaluable two and a half days of professional learning, networking and advocacy. This is the best time to look at the governor's budget and for superintendents to get together to review the state-of-the-state and the state-of-the-district. More than ever before it is time for superintendents to lead a movement to restore California schools to their once-held rank of the best in the nation. A focus will be on integrating technology into curriculum and professional development in a digital world.

For all information on ACSA conferences, academies, workshops and trainings, visit the Professional Learning section at [www.acsa.org/Professional-Learning](http://www.acsa.org/Professional-Learning).

## Targeted Assistance Program

The work of superintendents has increasingly become defined by their ability to navigate the challenges of political pressures and conflicting interests (local, state, and national), superintendent governance, unpredictable school finances, labor relations, school bonds, standards-based reform, and greater demands for accountability of increased student performance through state and federal legislation.

As school district superintendents navigate these challenging times, ACSA is delivering its Targeted Assistance program designed to provide in-district support for superintendents.

Experienced district leaders, industry experts and ACSA partners will share successful practices, knowledge and experience.

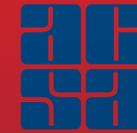
The program focuses on providing direct assistance in three key areas to leadership and the achievement of students:

- Labor relations/negotiations
- Governance
- School bonds/facilities

For more information, visit [www.acsa.org/targeted-assistance-program](http://www.acsa.org/targeted-assistance-program).



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association of california  
school administrators

# 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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## Call to Action

### **SB 328 (Portantino) – School Start Time (Oppose)**

SB 328 prohibits middle schools, including charter schools, from beginning their school day before 8:00 a.m., and high schools, including charter schools, from beginning their school day before 8:30 a.m. SB 328 passed out of the Assembly in the early morning hours just prior to the Legislature adjourning the first half of the 2019-20 legislative session. Members of the Legislature were not vocal about this bill up until voting. In the last days, Sen. Portantino garnered enough support for this bill, which is in its third iteration.

**Call to Action: SB 328 is awaiting action on the Governor's desk. We need you to contact the Governor's Office and ask for a Veto. Please call the Governor's Office at 916-445-2841.**

### **AB 751 (O'Donnell) - Pathways to College Act (Sponsor)**

This bill would require the Superintendent of Public Instruction to approve a nationally recognized high school assessment like the SAT or ACT for which schools could administer in lieu of the 11th grade Smarter Balanced Summative Assessment Consortium test.

**Call to Action: Please contact the Governor's Office and ask for a Signature of passage. Please call the Governor's Office at 916-445-2841.**

### **AB 1507 (Smith) – Charter School Location (Support)**

This bill would remove the authority of a charter school to locate outside of the geographic boundaries of the chartering school district, either temporarily or by stating that a lack of facilities is available. Sen. Portantino pulled the bill into the Senate Appropriations Committee in an effort to try to get the bill author and member of the Assembly Education Committee to vote for SB 328, which she did not. Despite the political tension, AB 1507 passed the Legislature and is on the Governor's desk. He's expected to sign the bill given his interest and work on charter school reform.

### **AB 1505 (O'Donnell, Bonta, McCarty & Smith) – Charter School Authorization (Support)**

This bill makes various changes relating to charter school authorizations, appeals, and renewals, and places a two-year moratorium on non-classroom based charter schools. Gov. Newsom's Office negotiated the bill with the Legislature, CTA and the California Charter School Association. The negotiated version of 1505, while not perfect, is certainly a step in the right direction. AB 1505 is the biggest charter reform since the inception of the Charter School Act and allows a chartering authorizer to consider the community and neighborhood impact (including fiscal impacts), makes changes to the renewal process, and limits appeals to the State Board. ACSA has engaged with the Governor's office on the bill and is urging a signature.

### **AB 218 (Gonzalez) – Statute of Limitations Regarding Childhood Sexual Assault (Oppose)**

ACSA is part of a coalition that worked tirelessly to amend the bill to remove the indefinite claims, treble damages, and strict liability provisions of the bill, but the subject matter has made amending the bill extremely difficult. The Department of Finance agrees with our significant cost assessment and formally opposes the bill. The Governor's Office has indicated he will sign the bill. We are advocating, along with our partners, for a veto.

### **AB 48 (O'Donnell) - Public Preschool, K-12 and Health and Safety Bond Act of 2020 (Support)**

ACSA was part of a working group that was tasked to work through details for a new facilities bond. The Governor's Office waited 2 weeks prior to the end of session to weigh in with a proposal we could not support. AB 48 became a compromise bill that places a \$15 billion Preschool-Higher Ed facilities general obligation bond on the March 2020 ballot, with \$9 billion for K-12. This bill holds the largest passage rate for a bond at 78 aye votes with members typically opposed voting aye. We fully expect the Governor's signature.

### **SB 478 (Rubio) - Commission on Teacher Credentialing (Sponsor)**

SB 478 replaces one public member of the Commission on Teacher Credentialing with one human resource administrator. ACSA's Human Resource Council is behind the idea for the bill introduction and supports having a human resource administrator on the CTC, which will result in a better understanding of the decisions proposed or made by the CTC and their impact at the school site and district level. An ACSA sponsored bill, signed by the Governor, and will become law on January 1, 2020.

### **SB 419 (Skinner) - Willful Defiance (Support)**

This bill, signed by Gov. Newsom, expands the permanent elimination of suspensions for "willful defiance" from K-3 to K-5 and eliminates 6-8th grade willful defiance suspensions until July 1, 2025.