January 17 and 19, 2024 Sacramento and Anaheim



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

School Services of California Inc. www.sscal.com • (916) 446-7517

The Fiscal Report

The cornerstone of School Services of California Inc.'s (SSC) integrated services, the *Fiscal Report* provides timely updates on issues affecting the finances and management of K-12 school districts, charter schools, county offices of education, and other local educational agencies. This essential resource keeps clients informed of the status and potential ramifications of:

- The State Budget
- Legislation
- Regulations
- Elections
- Court decisions
- Other state or federal events affecting K-12 education

In addition, *Fiscal Report* clients receive access to budget building tools, historical and current cost-of-living adjustment information, and other resources accessible through the SSC website, as well as reduced rates for attending our many workshops and webinars. Subscribers can also receive support through the "Ask SSC" portal on the SSC website, by telephone, and by email, for one-on-one assistance with questions. For more information about SSC's *Fiscal Report* subscription, please contact Michelle McKay Underwood at michelleu@sscal.com.

Management Consulting Services

SSC's professional staff members are always available to lend their extensive range of expertise to school agencies confronted by particular challenges. Whether facing internal budget control issues, organizational demands, central office staffing concerns, or collective bargaining issues, SSC's consultants bring with them both experience and the ability to recognize the uniqueness of every situation.

Examples of the studies we have successfully conducted on behalf of our clients across the state include:

- Collective bargaining and factfinding support
- Financial studies and support
- Employee compensation studies
- Charter school support
- School construction and facilities studies
- Organizational and efficiency studies
- Facilitation services
- Human resources (HR) studies and support
- Special education studies
- Special Education Local Plan Area allocation plan revisions
- Reorganization, unification, and territory transfer studies
- Budget reserve analyses

We can customize any study to your individual local agency needs. The cost and timeline for consulting services are unique for each engagement and are based on the scope of services provided. If you would like more information about any of our consulting services, please contact Kathleen Spencer at kathleens@sscal.com.

Governmental Relations

Exceptional knowledge of the legislative and State Budget process, combined with an in-depth understanding of the strengths and challenges of school agencies, makes SSC one of the strongest legislative teams at the Capitol—a team that acts quickly and effectively on behalf of clients, keeping them informed of all legislative actions helping solve a client's unique legislative problem or working with coalitions to influence major statewide education policy, SSC's advocates are known for their integrity and are regarded throughout the Capitol community as credible and reliable sources of information in the decision-making process. This reputation, along with years of experience and a diverse network of contacts, enhances SSC's ability to help clients meet their legislative objectives. For more information about our governmental relations services, please contact Michelle McKay Underwood at michelleu@sscal.com.

Executive Search and Recruitment

SSC's active participation throughout the education industry gives the firm an ability to search and recruit the most effective top administrators for local school agencies, with a focus on:

- Chief Business Officials
- Chief HR Officers

The SSC team manages the search process to match local agency needs and budgets. This is a customized service responding to the needs of the governing board and the superintendent to ensure leadership in these essential positions. By focusing search and recruitment expertise on these positions alone—both in California and nationally—SSC is able to identify the best local school agency and candidate matches available. For more information on executive searches, please contact Danyel Conolley at danyelc@ss-cal.com.

Workshops

SSC staff takes great pride in the ability of our team of experts to distill complex budget, legislative, and operational information into useful and sound advice for our workshop attendees. SSC's statewide workshops on the State Budget, including the Governor's Budget Workshop, the May Revision Workshop, and the School Finance Conference, are the cornerstones for building and revising local school agency budgets and managing operations. In addition, SSC offers workshops and webinars that provide in-depth information on the following topics:

- Advanced collective bargaining
- Attendance accounting and planning
- Instructional time
- Local educational agency audits
- Charter schools
- Construction basics and accounting
- Financial considerations of collective bargaining
- Federal compliance
- Local Control and Accountability Plan
- Local Control Funding Formula fundamentals
- Position control
- HR leadership, supervision and evaluation, operations, staffing and recruitment strategies, reductions in force, and more
- School finance fundamentals
- SACS and budget development
- Special education, including maintenance of effort monitoring and local allocation policies
- Independent study
- And more!

For more information about our workshops, please contact Brianna García at briannag@sscal.com.

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January 2024

Prepared and Presented By:

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January 2024

Dear Workshop Guest:

Welcome to our presentation on the Governor's Budget proposal for the 2024-25 fiscal year. We know how important your professional development is, and we work very hard to be your "one-stop shop" for the information you need to manage the policy and financial affairs of your agency.

This year, as in every year, we attempt to increase the value of our workshops for you. To that end, we are pleased to remind you of some special features:

- For today's workshop, we want to ensure that you get maximum value from the research we have done and the materials we have developed. We have, therefore, included a host of resource materials for download from our website at <u>www.sscal.com</u>. We hope that you will use those materials to educate your staff and community on some of the major issues and challenges facing California educators. As part of today's program, we provide all the workshop materials, a wealth of resources, and our "Overview of the Governor's Proposals for the 2024-25 State Budget and K-12 Education" published in the *Fiscal Report*. You are welcome to use the resources for enhancing your own local educational agency (LEA) presentations, provided that School Services of California Inc. (SSC) is given credit. Additionally, we have included a "board-ready" presentation that can easily be personalized to your own LEA and a State Budget overview infographic available for download. These materials are available for workshop participants at <u>www.sscal.com/my-ssc</u> under "My Workshops."
- Our staff is, as always, available to respond to your questions about the workshop presentation. Be sure to submit any questions you may have about the presentation today or after to <u>ask@sscal.com</u>. We will be answering questions through direct contact after the workshop, or in our *Fiscal Report*. Additionally, you can send an *Ask SSC* question from our homepage at www.sscal.com.
- Information Updates: As we gather further information in the coming days about the Governor's Budget proposal, including trailer bill language, we will continue to provide updates and any necessary corrections through the *Fiscal Report*.

Again, welcome to our workshop and please call upon any of us if we can make your experience more rewarding.

Warmest regards,

John D. Gra

President and CEO



Themes for the 2024-25 Governor's Budget

By School Services of California Inc. Staff

A vision for public education rooted in what's best for California's students is one that we eagerly embrace and work assiduously to achieve every day as educational leaders. Our local communities, our families, and our children expect nothing less of us. Indeed, they rely on our stewardship.

In this context, we can appreciate Governor Gavin Newsom's 2024-25 State Budget proposal for the values it upholds and for its effort to ensure that California remains a vibrant state because we are, in fact, the ancestors from whom our children will inherit it. We share the Governor's goals of maintaining California's prominence as a center of innovation, as an affordable and attractive place for families to live and thrive, and as a global economic competitor. These are the motivations that we carry with us every day through the school gates, ready to ensure that our students learn what they need to become responsible, productive, and successful citizens.

But developing sustainable strategies that move us toward achieving these goals has been a daunting task amid the tumult of our recent past. Over the past four years, we have had to confront the challenges that come from an historic health pandemic and violent weather events that destroyed communities across California. Our collective energy has been spent managing natural crises. Fortunately, but sadly, we have developed a keen acumen for doing so. Today, we are facing a different crisis, one that turned atmospheric rivers into a manmade calamity: the enactment of the riskiest State Budget since the Great Recession.

The architecture of the 2023-24 Enacted Budget was built on multibillion-dollar pillars of hope. Hope that inflation would abate. Hope that the Federal Reserve would halt monetary tightening policies that make the cost of doing business more expensive. Hope that the stock market would rebound rapidly from gross underperformance in the middle of 2022. When these hopes did not materialize, it resulted in what Governor Newsom measures to be a \$37.9 billion budget shortfall, due largely to 2022 tax collections well below the budget's assumptions. So this leaves lawmakers with the important task of maintaining critical programs—not the least of which is public education—while adopting a balanced budget with fewer resources. It will not be easy.

We applaud Governor Newsom's approach to the education budget that protects against the local impact of a nearly \$12 billion reduction in Proposition 98 resources that, if unmitigated, would undoubtedly harm our students and the cadre of professionals who dedicate their lives to teaching and supporting them. We appreciate and share the Governor's focus on students whose learning was and continues to be deeply impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. We, too, believe that we must find new ways to address the unprecedented challenges our families and children face that present barriers to learning and fostering good citizenry. Finally, we share the goal of ensuring that the education profession remains an attractive career choice by removing obstacles to entry and by enabling agencies to provide competitive wages.

With this shared vision and these shared objectives in mind, we urge Governor Newsom and California legislators to resist pinning our ability to support our students and our families on hope. A *reliable* budget is imperative for not only making sound fiscal choices but for, above all, sustaining the innovations, services, and practices that make our schools and colleges vibrant centers for meaningful learning, community, and belonging.



SSC School District and Charter School Financial Projection Dartboard 2024-25 Governor's Budget

This version of the School Services of California Inc. (SSC) Financial Projection Dartboard is based on the 2024-25 Governor's Budget proposal. SSC has updated the cost-of-living adjustment (COLA), Consumer Price Index (CPI), and ten-year T-bill planning factors per the latest economic forecasts. SSC has also updated the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) factors. SSC relies on various state agencies and outside sources in developing these factors, but we assume responsibility for them with the understanding that they are general guidelines.

LCFF PLANNING FACTORS							
Factor	2023-24 ¹	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28		
Department of Finance Statutory COLA	8.22%	0.76%	2.73%	3.11%	3.17%		

Entitlement Factors per ADA*	TK-3	4-6	7-8	9-12
2023-24 Base Grants	\$9,919	\$10,069	\$10,367	\$12,015
Statutory COLA of 0.76%	\$75	\$77	\$79	\$91
2024-25 Base Grants	\$9,994	\$10,146	\$10,446	\$12,106
Grade Span Adjustment Factors	10.4%	_	_	2.6%
Grade Span Adjustment Amounts	\$1,039	_	_	\$315
2024-25 Adjusted Base Grants ²	\$11,033	\$10,146	\$10,446	\$12,421
Transitional Kindergarten (TK) Add-On ³	\$3,067	-	_	_

OTHER PLANNING FACTORS							
Factors	5	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	
California CPI		3.36%	2.83%	2.70%	2.72%	2.72%	
California Lottery	Unrestricted per ADA	\$177	\$177	\$177	\$177	\$177	
California Lottery	Restricted per ADA	\$72	\$72	\$72	\$72	\$72	
Mandata Plask Cront (District)4	Grades K-8 per ADA	\$37.81	\$38.10	\$39.14	\$40.36	\$41.64	
Mandate Block Grant (District) ⁴	Grades 9-12 per ADA	\$72.84	\$73.39	\$75.39	\$77.73	\$80.19	
Mandata Plask Grant (Charter) ⁴	Grades K-8 per ADA	\$19.85	\$20.00	\$20.55	\$21.19	\$21.86	
Mandate Block Grant (Charter) ⁴	Grades 9-12 per ADA	\$55.17	\$55.59	\$57.11	\$58.89	\$60.76	
Interest Rate for Ten-Year Treasu	ries	4.16%	3.68%	3.50%	3.60%	3.60%	
CalSTRS Employer Rate ⁵		19.10%	19.10%	19.10%	19.10%	19.10%	
CalPERS Employer Rate ⁵		26.68%	27.80%	28.50%	28.90%	30.30%	
Unemployment Insurance Rate ⁶		0.05%	0.05%	0.05%	0.05%	0.05%	
Minimum Wage ⁷		\$16.00	\$16.50	\$16.90	\$17.30	\$17.70	

STAT	STATE MINIMUM RESERVE REQUIREMENTS					
Reserve Requirement	District ADA Range					
The greater of 5% or \$80,000	0 to 300					
The greater of 4% or \$80,000	301 to 1,000					
3%	1,001 to 30,000					
2%	30,001 to 400,000					
1%	400,001 and higher					

¹Also applies to Equity Multiplier, Special Education, Child Nutrition, Youth in Foster Care, Mandate Block Grant, Adults in Correctional Facilities Program, Charter School Facility Grant Program, American Indian Education Centers and the American Indian Early Childhood Education Program.

 $^{^{2}}$ Additional funding is provided for students who are designated as eligible for free or reduced-price meals, foster youth, and English language learners. A 20% augmentation is provided for each eligible student with an additional 65% for each eligible student beyond the 55% identification rate threshold.

³Funding is based on TK ADA only and is in addition to the adjusted base grant amount. Further, the funding is adjusted by statutory COLA each year.

⁴The 2025-26 rate does not factor in the impact of \$25 million for the proposed training to support literacy screenings.

⁵California State Teachers' Retirement System (CalSTRS) and California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) rates are subject to change based on determination by the respective governing boards.

⁶Unemployment rate in 2023-24 is final, and the subsequent years' rates are subject to actual experience of the pool and will be calculated in accordance with California Unemployment Insurance Code Section 823(b)(2).

⁷Minimum wage rates are effective January 1 of the respective year.

Acronyms

AB	Assembly Bill
	Average Daily Attendance
	U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis
	U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
-	California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System
	California Public Employees' Retirement System
	California State Teachers' Retirement System
	California Department of Education
	Current Expense of Education Actuals
	County Office of Education
	Cost-of-Living Adjustment
	Consumer Price Index
CSPP	California State Preschool Program
	Career Technical Education
DOF	Department of Finance
EC §	Education Code Section
ELO-P	Expanded Learning Opportunities Program
ERAF	Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund
ESSER	Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief
FED	Federal Reserve
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GSA	Grade Span Adjustment
HR	Human Resources
LAO	Legislative Analyst's Office
LCAP	Local Control and Accountability Plan
LCFF	Local Control Funding Formula
	Local Educational Agency
	Labor Force Participation
	Mandate Block Grant
	Multiyear Projection
	Second Principal (Apportionment)
	Public Employment Relations Board
	Personal Income Tax
	Public School System Stabilization Act
	Supplemental and Concentration Grant
SB	
	Special Education Local Plan Area
	School Services of California Inc.
	Transitional Kindergarten
UPP	Unduplicated Pupil Percentage





Governor's Proposals for the 2024-25 State Budget and K-12 Education

Presented By:

School Services of California Inc.

To download a copy of today's presentation book and other workshop resources, please visit <u>http://www.sscal.com/my-ssc</u>

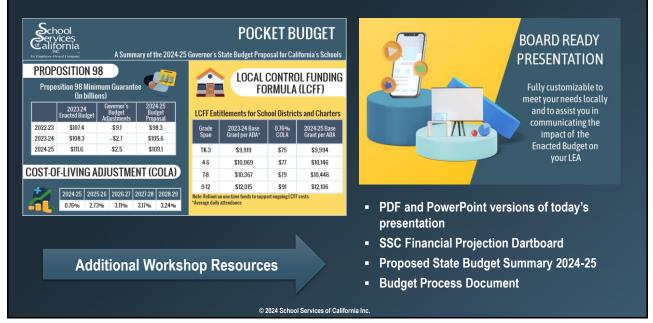
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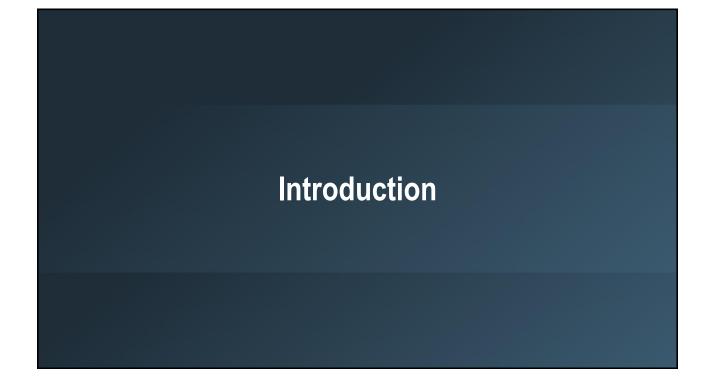




Workshop Resources







Governor's Budget Themes

- Governor Gavin Newsom measures a \$37.9 billion budget shortfall, due largely to 2022 tax collections well below the budget's assumptions
- The Governor's Budget proposal protects the education budget against the local impact of a nearly \$12 billion reduction in Proposition 98 resources that, if unmitigated, would undoubtedly harm our students and the cadre of professionals who dedicate their lives to teaching and supporting them
- Proposal attempts to ensure that the education profession remains an attractive career choice by removing obstacles to entry and enabling agencies to provide competitive wages
- Governor's focus is on students whose learning was and continues to be deeply impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic
- The Governor's Budget uses less pessimistic revenue assumptions than the Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO)

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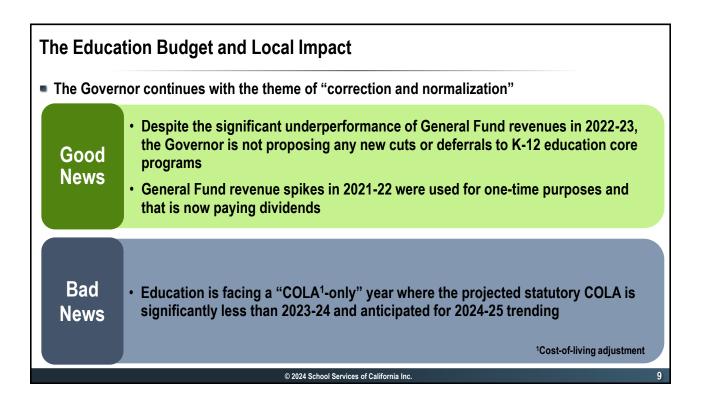
The State Budget and The Economy

- Headline inflation is down year over year and is expected to decline further through the budget year
- Leading economists anticipate a reduction to interest rates later in 2024
- The national and state economies are in a slow growth pattern
- The Governor projects a \$37.9 billion budget deficit for 2024-25
- Budget-balancing measures include drawing down \$13.1 billion in reserves and \$5.7 billion from the Public School System Stabilization Account (PSSSA), along with borrowing, funding reductions in non-Proposition 98 areas, funding delays, deferrals to payroll and University of California/California State University, and tax revenue proposals
- A recession is no longer forecasted in 2024 or 2025 by most economists, but there are notable risks to the State Budget

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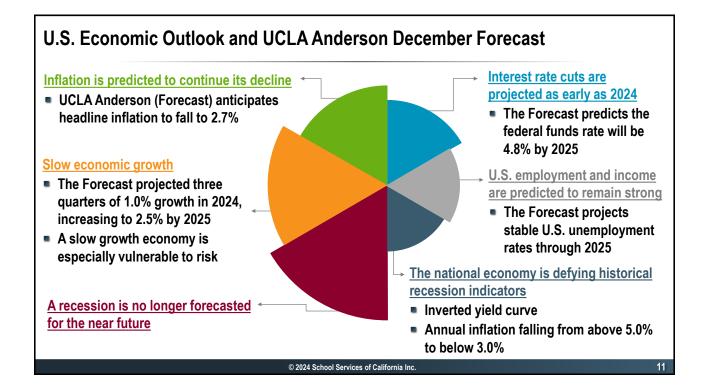
Propositio	on 98	
The Propo	sition 98 budget is a story of correction and normalization	
Good	 The historic increases in Proposition 98 from 2019-20 through 2021-22 resulted in significant financial investments to combat the impacts of the pandemic The state is better prepared to weather a financial downturn due to record levels of reserves 	
Bad News	 The \$26 billion shortfall of tax revenues for 2022-23 turned a normal year into one where it appears that the state provided money above the minimum guarantee The Governor's solution to mitigate this shortfall is unprecedented and not widely or clearly understood, which creates risk for local educational agencies (LEAs) 	
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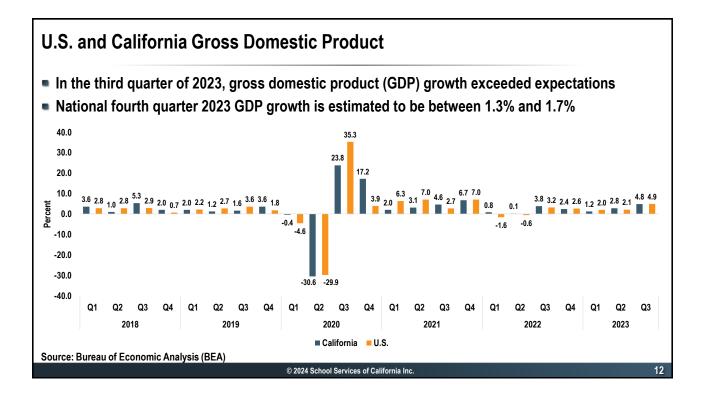




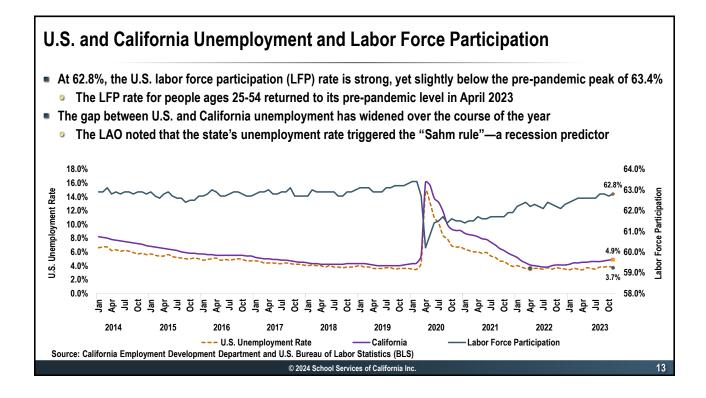










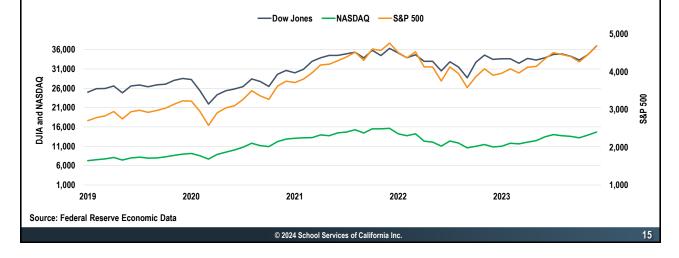


Inflation and Federal Funds Rate U.S. headline inflation continues to ease, with December headline inflation at 3.4% After a series of 11 increases, the Federal Reserve (Fed) has not increased the federal funds rate since July 2023 The Fed has consistently maintained its commitment to returning inflation to 2.0% And noted the prospect of rate cuts as early as the end of 2024 if the economy performs as expected ٥ 10.0 9.0 8.0 7.0 6.0 Fed's target 5.3% (%) 5.0 inflation rate Rate 4.0 3.0 2.0 1.0 0.0 2023 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 Federal Funds Rate Source: BEA and BLS Note: CPI-Consumer Price Index © 2024 School Services of California Inc. 14



The Stock Market

- Wall Street outperformed early expectations for 2023; all three major indexes showed double-digit gains for the year
- Interest rates remain elevated, yet the market responded to easing inflation and the possibility of 2024 rate cuts
- At closing on January 12, the Dow Jones was at 37,593, the NASDAQ was at 14,972, and the S&P 500 was at 4,783



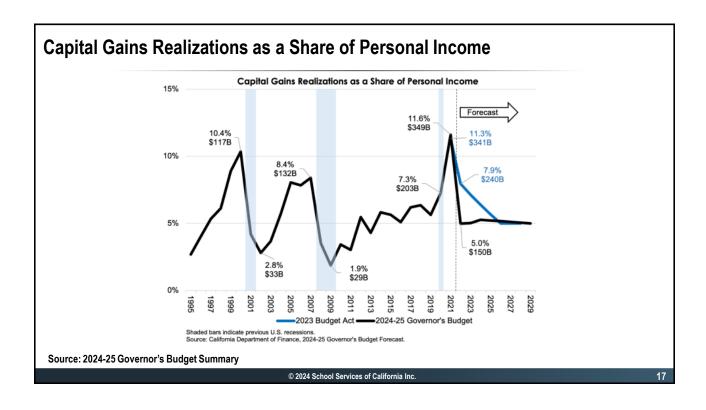
State (Highest)	Median Home Price	States With the Highest Immigration From California	Median Home Price
California	\$787,000	Texas	\$348,000
ławaii	\$750,000	Arizona	\$435,000
District of Columbia	\$626,000	Florida	\$402,000
	. ,	Nevada	\$437,000
Colorado	\$612,000	Washington	\$602,000
Nashington	\$602,000	North Dakota	\$289,000

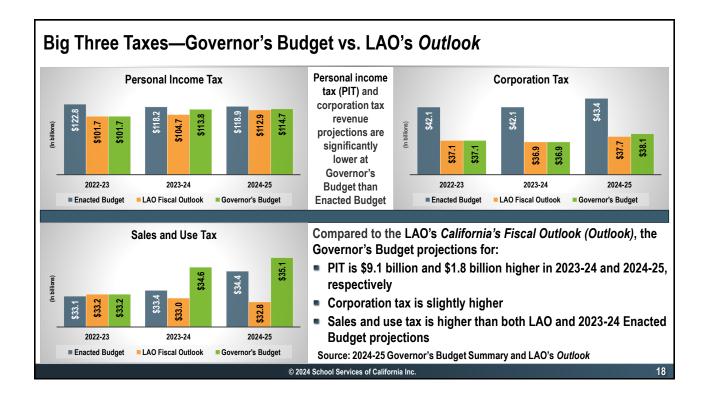
Source: Forbes Business Insider

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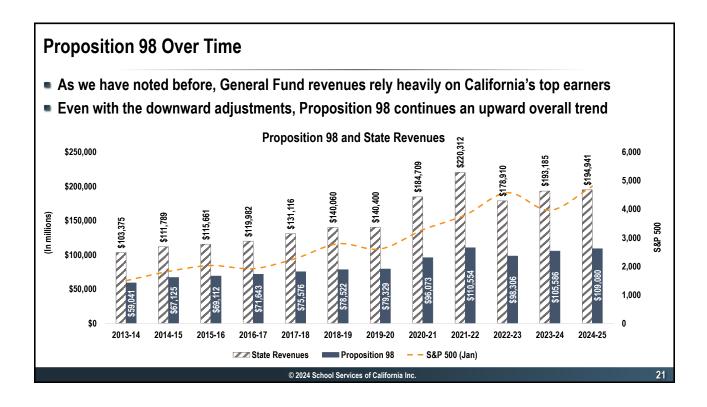


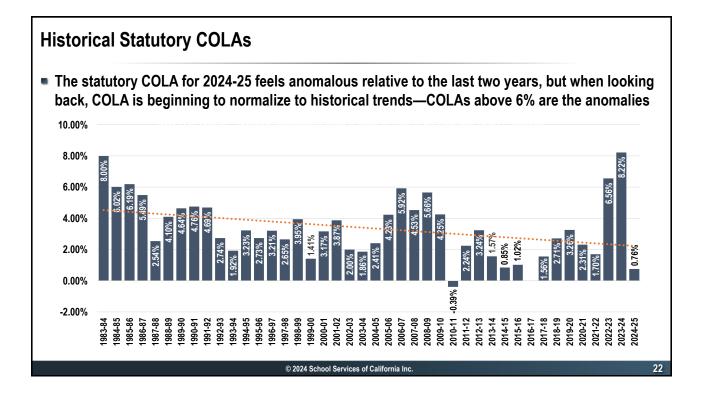


Chris Ferguson Program Budget Manager California Department of Finance

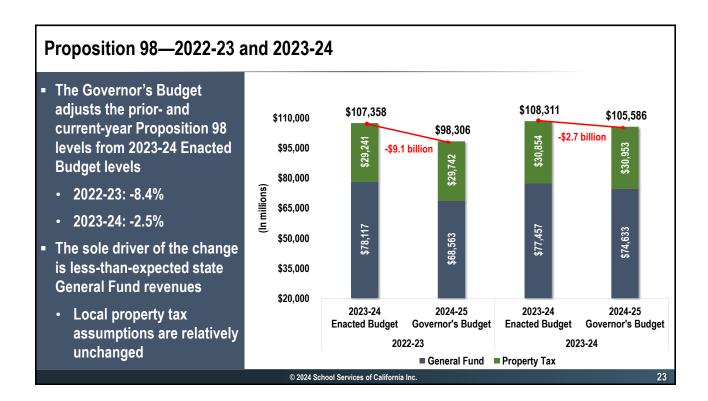
Proposition 98

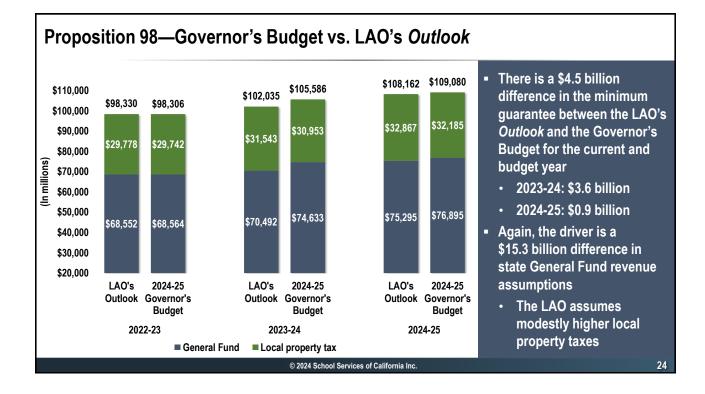




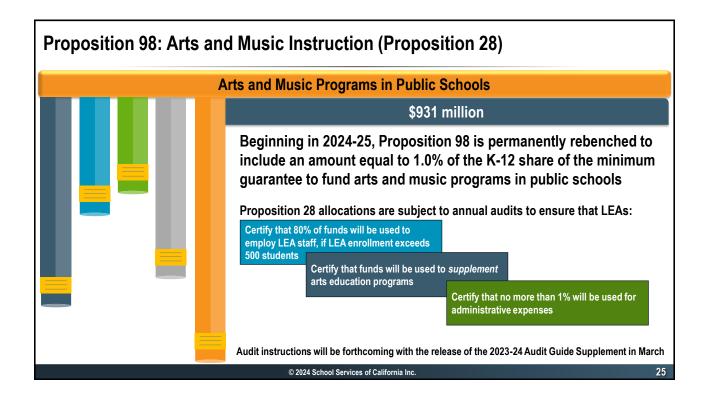


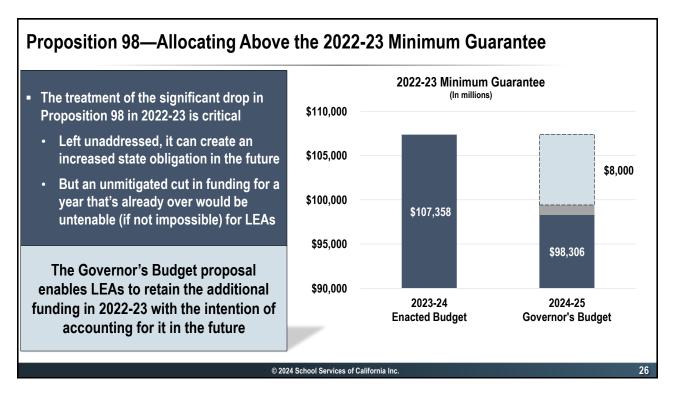


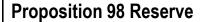




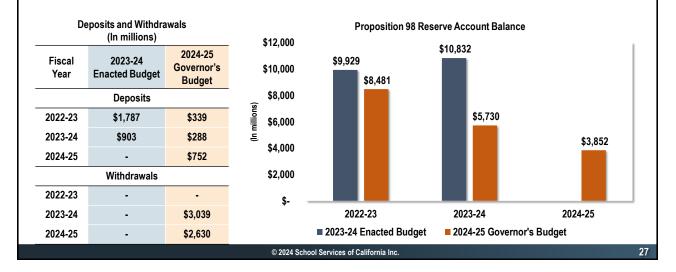


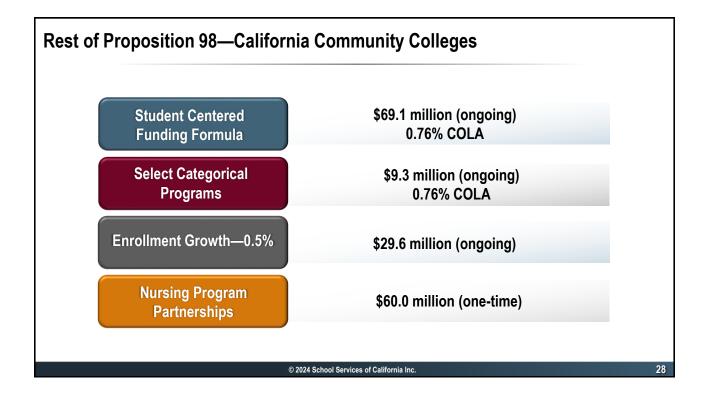




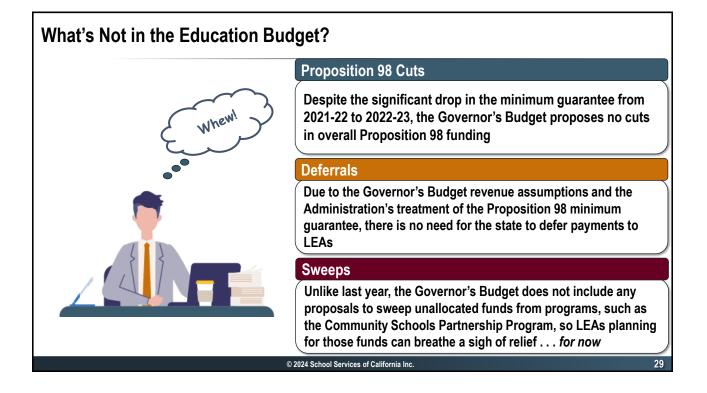


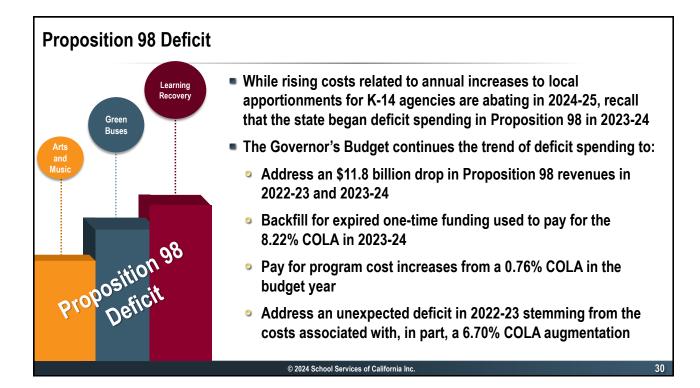
- California's Constitution determines deposits into and withdrawals from the Proposition 98 reserve
- The proposed withdrawals are discretionary and require the declaration of a budget emergency











School ervices alifornia

The Risks to Proposition 98

General Fund Condition

The conditions that create volatility and vulnerabilities for state revenues pose risks for education funding

- Economic shocks
- Wall Street performance

<u>COLA</u>

2024-25 COLA of 0.76% assumes no increases in the costs of goods and services governments buy in the last quarter of 2023 and the first quarter of 2024 (not likely)

If COLA increases by May, it will exacerbate the Proposition 98 deficit



Proposition 98 Deficit

Spending beyond the means of Proposition 98 in the short-term creates risk for the out-years

The minimum guarantee may not be able to grow its way out of the deficit

Key Budget Assumptions

The assumptions that undergird the State Budget and Proposition 98 are critical for stable local planning

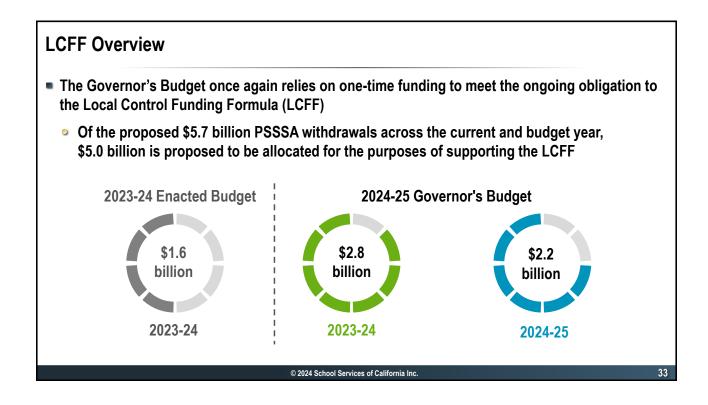
If revenues fall or costs rise, it will exacerbate the Proposition 98 problem

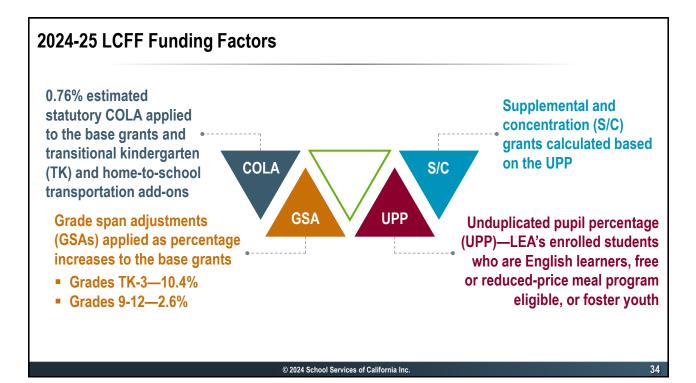
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Local Impacts and Operational Considerations









2024-25 LCFF	Funding Factors
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Grade Span	TK-3	4-6	7-8	9-12
2023-24 Base Grant per ADA ¹	\$9,919	\$10,069	\$10,367	\$12,015
0.76% COLA	\$75	\$77	\$79	\$91
2024-25 Base Grant per ADA	\$9,994	\$10,146	\$10,446	\$12,106
GSA	\$1,039	-	_	\$315
2024-25 Adjusted Base Grant per ADA	\$11,033	\$10,146	\$10,446	\$12,421
20% Supplemental Grant per ADA ²	\$2,207	\$2,029	\$2,089	\$2,484
65% Concentration Grant per ADA ³	\$4,965	\$4,566	\$4,701	\$5,589
TK Add-On (inclusive of COLA)	\$3,067	-	-	-

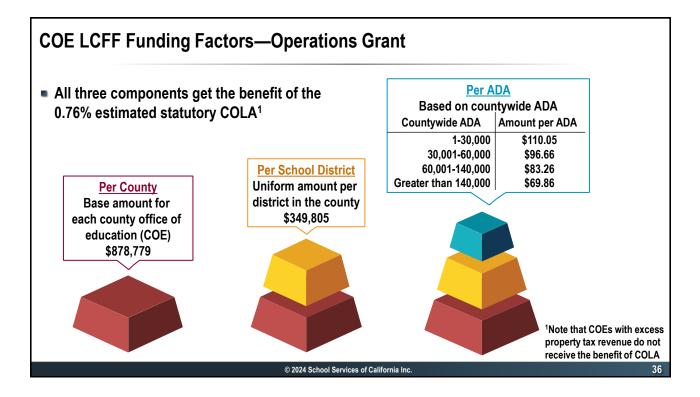
¹Average daily attendance

²Maximum amount per ADA—to arrive at LEA's grant amount, multiply adjusted base grant per ADA by 20% and UPP

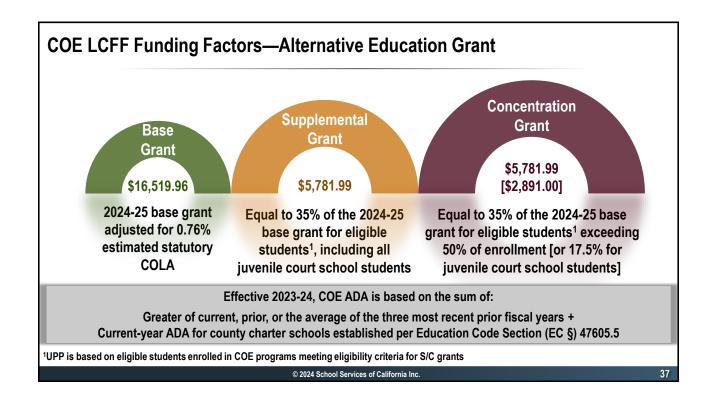
³Maximum amount per ADA—to arrive at LEA's grant amount, multiply adjusted base grant per ADA by 65% and UPP above 55%

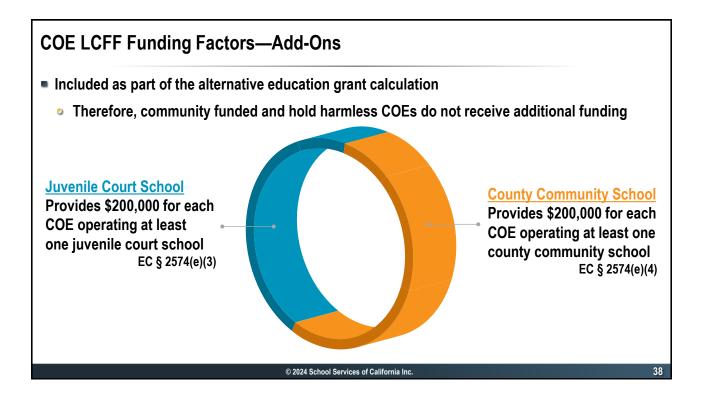
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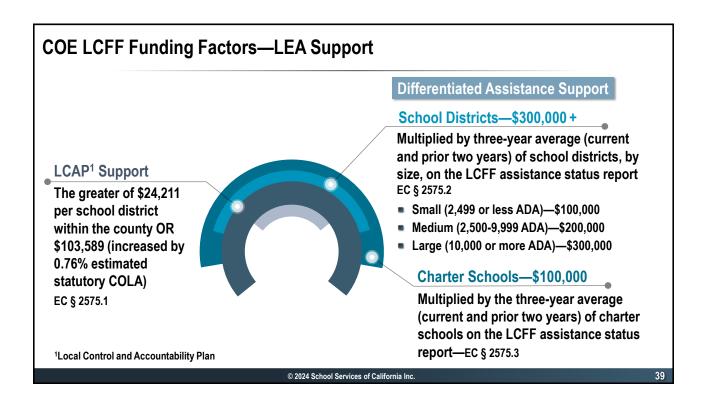


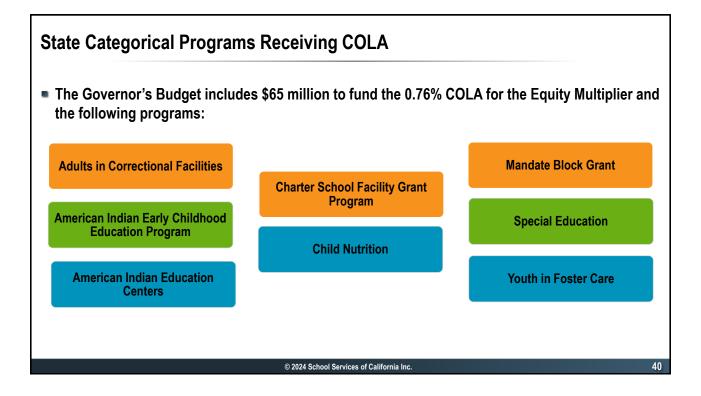




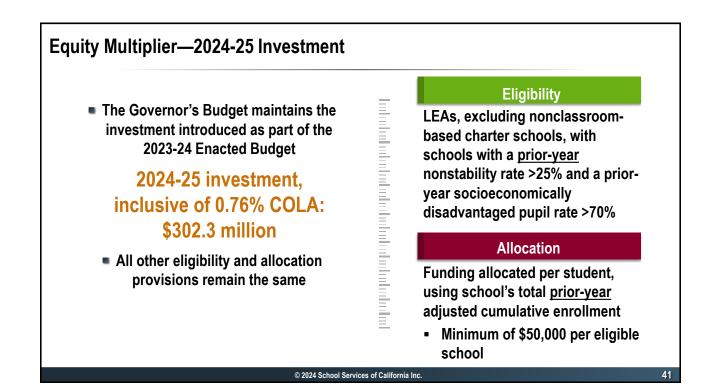


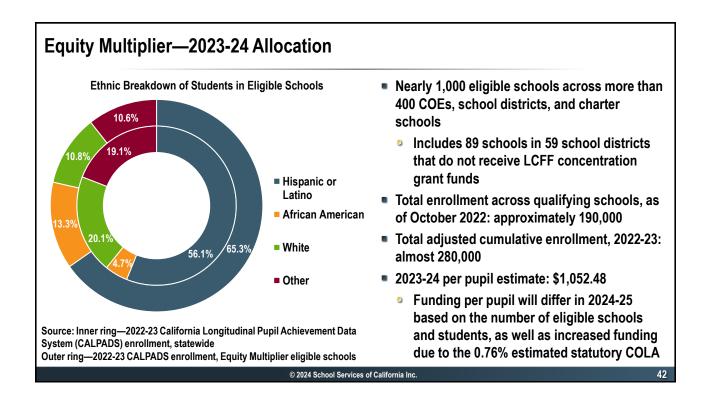




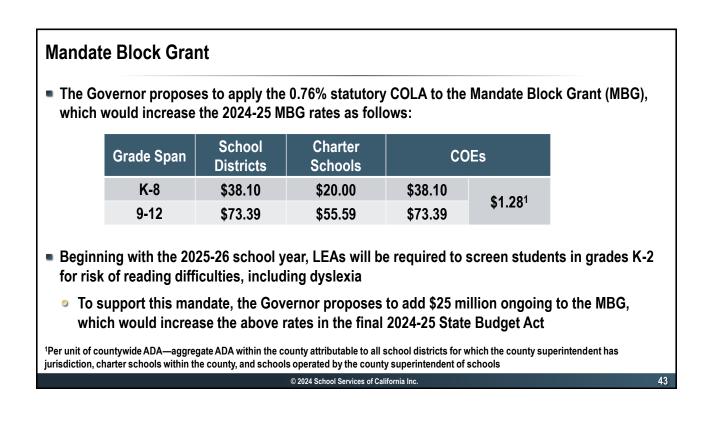


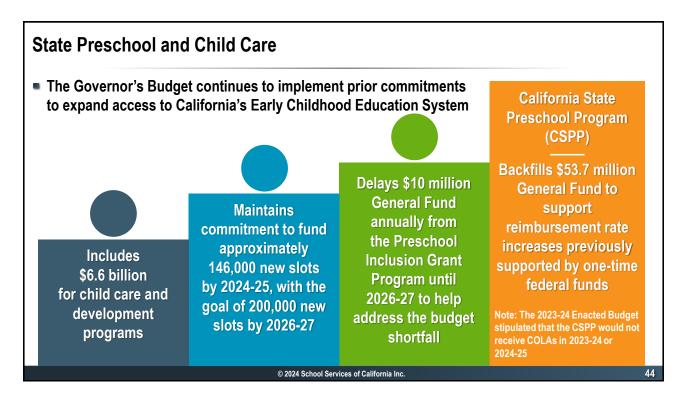












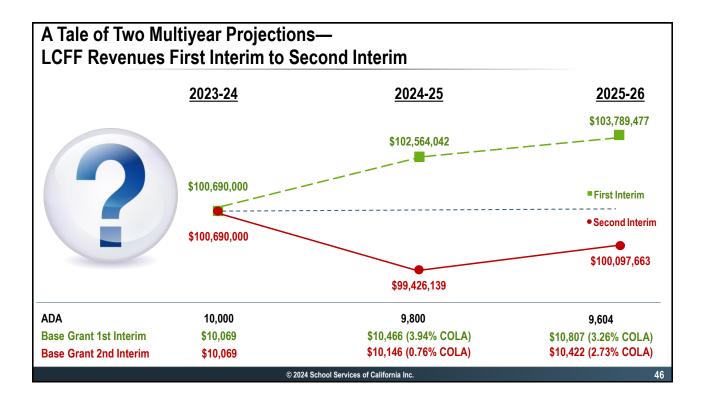


Fluctuating Statutory COLAs From the Department of Finance

- The changing statutory COLA is NOT related to the state's financial health
 - Rather, the statutory COLA is computed using federally aggregated metrics
- The statutory COLA is a calculated percentage, but the Governor and Legislature must still determine whether there is sufficient money to fund the statutory COLA
- The significant projected decline in 2024-25 is the result of two primary factors:
 - Reversal in price increases that occurred in 2022
 - Revisions to historical data points

	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
January 2024	0.76%	2.73%	3.11%
June 2023	3.94%	3.29%	3.19%
Percentage Point Decrease	-3.18	-0.56	-0.08

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SSC Financial Projection Dartboard

		2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28
DOF ¹ Planning COLA		8.22%	0.76%	2.73%	3.11%	3.17%
California CPI		3.36%	2.83%	2.70%	2.72%	2.72%
CalSTRS ² Employer Rate		19.10%	19.10%	19.10%	19.10%	19.10%
CalPERS ³ Employer Rate		26.68%	27.80%	28.50%	28.90%	30.30%
Unemployment Insurance		0.05%	0.05%	0.05%	0.05%	0.05%
California Lottery	Unrestricted per ADA	\$177.00	\$177.00	\$177.00	\$177.00	\$177.00
California Lottery	Restricted per ADA	\$72.00	\$72.00	\$72.00	\$72.00	\$72.00
Mandate Block Grant	Grades K-8 per ADA	\$37.81	\$38.10	\$39.14	\$40.36	\$41.64
(District) ⁴	Grades 9-12 per ADA	\$72.84	\$73.39	\$75.39	\$77.73	\$80.19
Mandate Block Grant	Grades K-8 per ADA	\$19.85	\$20.00	\$20.55	\$21.19	\$21.86
(Charter)	Grades 9-12 per ADA	\$55.17	\$55.59	\$57.11	\$58.89	\$60.76

The School Services of California Inc. (SSC) Dartboard is available in the workshop resources and on SSC's <u>website</u> © 2024 School Services of California Inc.

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CalSTRS Employer Contribution Rates

		CalSTRS Funding Plan Increases		
	Effective Date	Rate	Year-Over-Year change	
	July 1, 2013	8.25%	No increase since 1986	
 Similar to CalPERS, the Governor does not include any new funding towards CalSTRS relief for LEAs 	July 1, 2014	8.88%	0.63%	
	July 1, 2015	10.73%	1.85%	
	July 1, 2016	12.58%	1.85%	
 SSC recommends that LEAs anticipate a CalSTRS employer contribution rate of 	July 1, 2017	14.43%	1.85%	
	July 1, 2018	16.28%	1.85%	
19.10% in 2024-25 based on the latest	July 1, 2019	17.10%	0.82%	
information available from CalSTRS	July 1, 2020	16.15%	-0.95%	
	July 1, 2021	16.92%	0.77%	
	July 1, 2022	19.10%	2.18%	
	July 1, 2023	19.10%	0.00%	
	July 1, 2024	19.10%	0.00%	
	July 1, 2025	19.10%	0.00%	



CalPERS Employer Contribution Rates

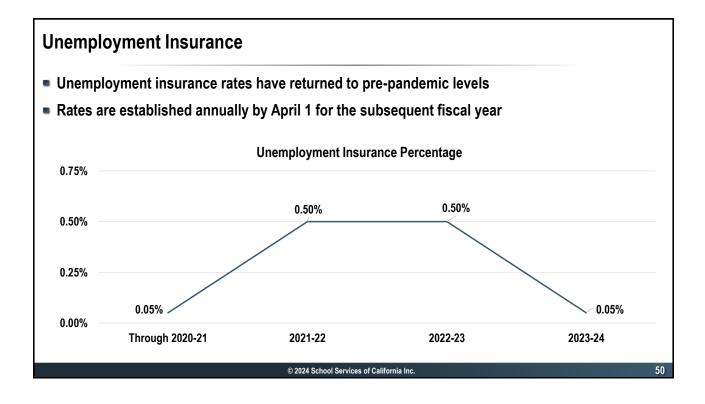
- The Governor did not propose providing CalPERS relief for LEAs
- Based on the latest information from CalPERS, the employer contribution rate for 2024-25 would increase from the current rate of 26.68% to 27.80%

	Actual	Projected					
	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	
Employer Contribution Rate	26.68%	27.80%	28.50%	28.90%	30.30%	30.10%	

Source: CalPERS Schools Pool Actuarial Valuation as of June 30, 2022

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Minimum Wage—Future Forecast

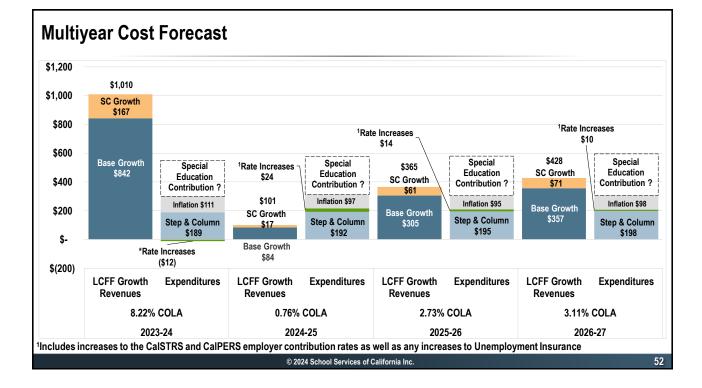
- The minimum wage increased to \$16.00 on January 1, 2024, and SSC projects an increase of about 40¢-50¢ each January thereafter
- Employers should review city or county ordinances to determine if any local minimum wage standards apply

Minimum Wage ¹	Effective Date: >25 Employees	Effective Date: ≤25 Employees	Exempt Minimum Salary (Weekly)	Exempt Minimum Salary (Monthly)	Exempt Minimum Salary (Annually)
\$15.50/hour	January	1, 2023	\$1,240	\$5,373	\$64,480
\$16.00/hour	January	1, 2024	\$1,280	\$5,547	\$66,560
\$16.50/hour	January	1, 2025	\$1,320	\$5,720	\$68,640
\$16.90/hour	January	1, 2026	\$1,352	\$5,859	\$70,304
\$17.30/hour	January 1, 2027		\$1,384	\$5,997	\$71,968
\$17.70/hour	January	1, 2028	\$1,424	\$6,171	\$74,048
\$18.20/hour	January	1, 2029	\$1,464	\$6,344	\$76,128

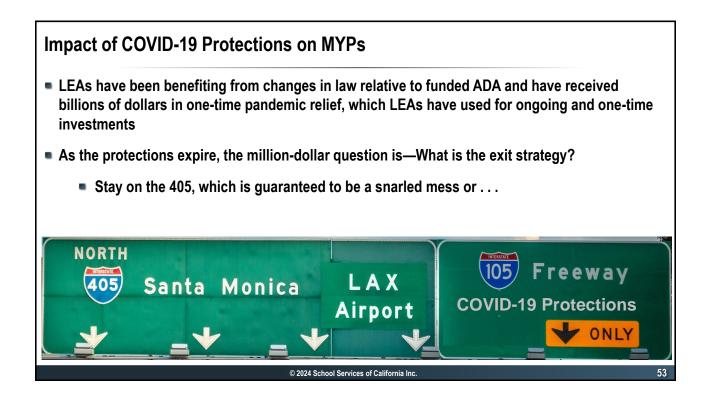
¹Minimum wage is tied to the U.S. CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, but is rounded and capped at 50¢ per year

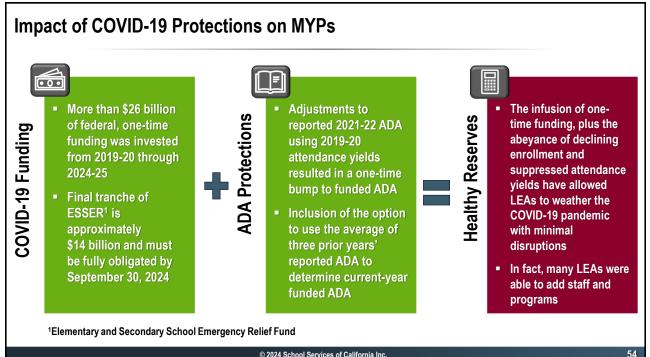
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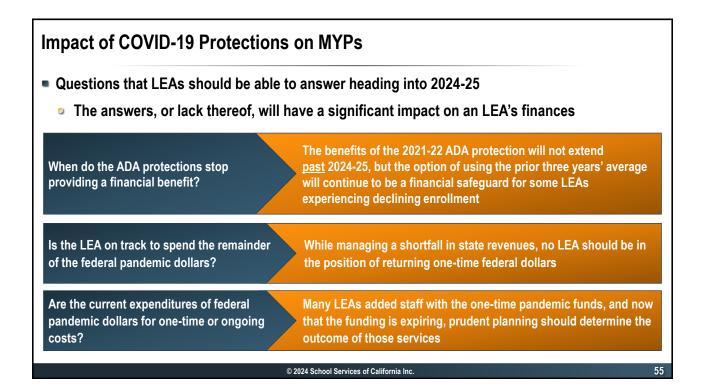






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Local Reserve Cap Compliance

EC § 42127.01—In a fiscal year immediately after a fiscal year in which the amount in the PSSSA is equal to or exceeds 3% of the combined total of General Fund revenues appropriated for school districts, a school district budget that is adopted or revised shall not contain a combined assigned or unassigned ending General Fund balance that is in excess of 10%

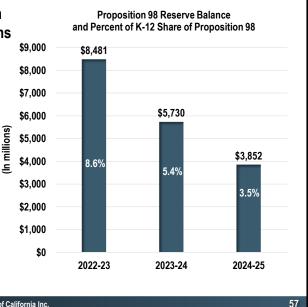
- Assigned and unassigned balances within the Special Fund for Other than Capital Outlay (Fund 17) must also be included within the 10% reserve cap
- The California Department of Education (CDE) should notify LEAs in March 2024 if the limit on school district reserves will be in effect for 2024-25
- The reserve cap requirement does not apply to small school districts (those with ADA fewer than 2,501 pupils) or basic aid school districts pursuant to EC § 42127.01(c)

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Local Reserve Cap

- Law limits local school district reserves to 10% in the subsequent fiscal year when certain conditions are met
- The Governor's Budget reflects:
 - Deposits of \$339 million in 2022-23, \$288 million in 2023-24, and \$752 million in 2024-25
 - Discretionary withdrawals of \$3.0 billion in 2023-24 and \$2.7 billion in 2024-25
 - An account balance of \$5.7 billion in 2023-24 makes the reserve cap operative for 2024-25



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Why Do We Complete Form CEA?

The calculation of the Current Expense of Education Actuals (CEA) is a legal requirement (EC § 41372) and used to determine the percentage of expenditures for the direct classroom cost of teaching students

Included in the calculation are the salaries and benefits (within the General Fund) of teachers and paraprofessionals measured against the total General Fund expenditures of the district

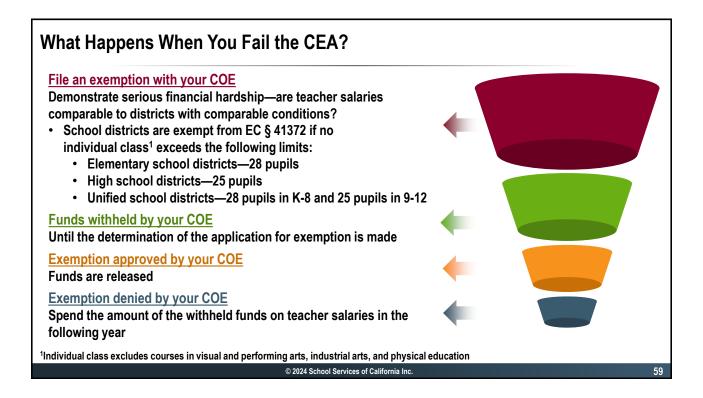
Required Percentages:

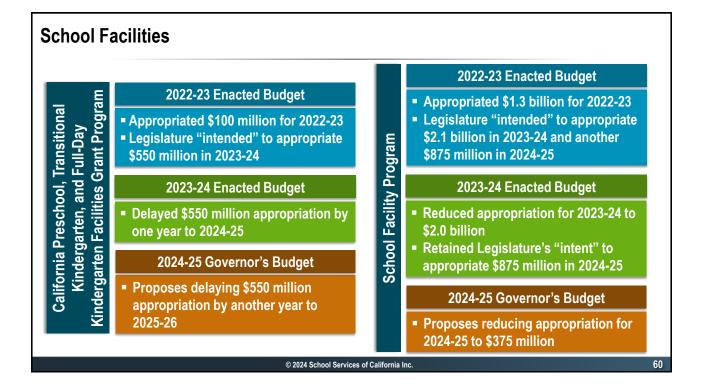
- Elementary school districts—60%
- Unified school districts—55%
- High school districts—50%

Certain objects, goals, functions, and categorical resources are automatically excluded from the calculation:

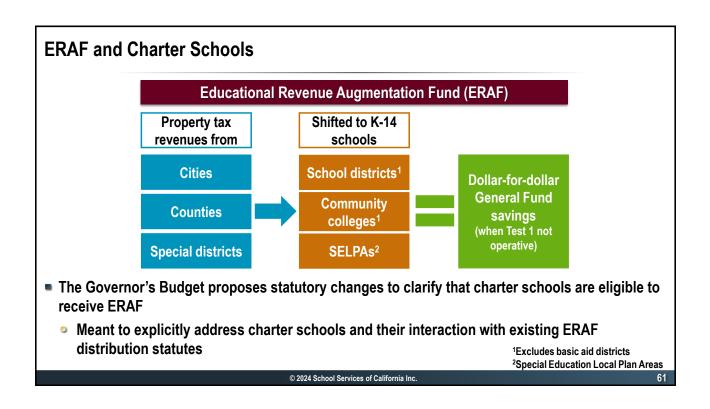
- Goals: 7100-7199 (Non-Agency), 8100 (Community Services)
- Functions: 3700 (Food Services), 8500 (Facilities Acquisition & Construction), 3600 (Transportation), 1180 (Students in Nonpublic Schools)
- Objects: 3701-3702 (Fringe Benefits for Retired Persons)
- Resource 1100 (Lottery)

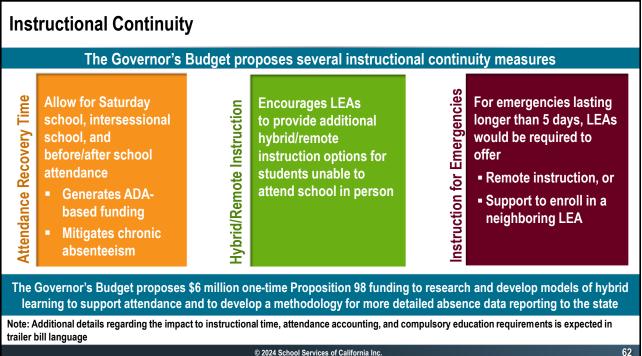
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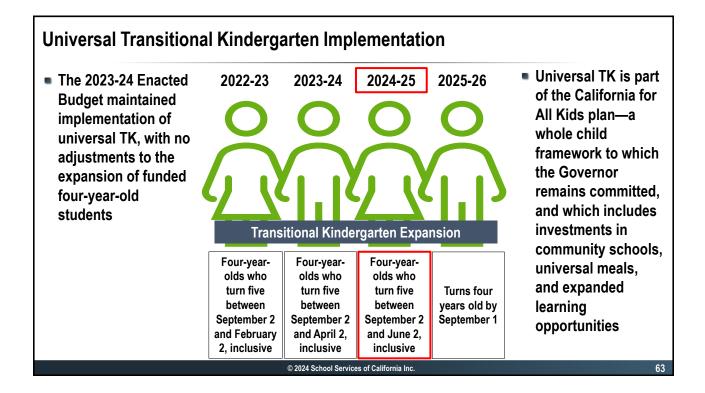






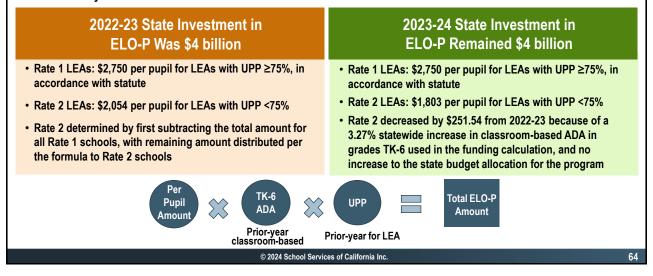






Expanded Learning Opportunities Program

- There are no cuts, nor a COLA, proposed to the Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELO-P) for 2024-25
- And while the 2023-24 Enacted Budget did not include cuts, many LEAs may see a reduction in their total ELO-P amount this year





Home-to-School Transportation Funding

- Home-to-school transportation entitlements are calculated as reimbursement for 60% of transportation costs, less the LCFF add-on, which receives the 0.76% COLA
 - If the LCFF add-on exceeds the reimbursement, LEAs will still receive the full LCFF add-on
 - Capital outlay and nonagency expenditures are excluded from reimbursement
- Funding is allocated to school districts and COEs—effective 2023-24, districts in which all schools have been converted to charter schools are not eligible for funding
- Requirements will be audited—an audit finding could result in a disallowance and funding owed to the state

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 Any disallowed funds would be recovered at the next available Principal Apportionment certification

Home-to-School Transportation Plan

- An annually adopted Transportation Service Plan is required in order to receive reimbursement
 - The plan was to be adopted by April 1, 2023, and each year updated by April 1, primarily about the following fiscal/school year
- Plan must:
 - Include priority for planned services for students in grades TK-6 and low-income students
 - Describe how transportation will be accessible to students with disabilities and homeless youth
 - Describe how unduplicated students may access free transportation
 - Be developed in consultation with staff, regional transit authorities, local air pollution control districts, air quality management districts, parents, and students and adopted in an open meeting with opportunity for in-person and remote public comment

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Universal School Meals Program

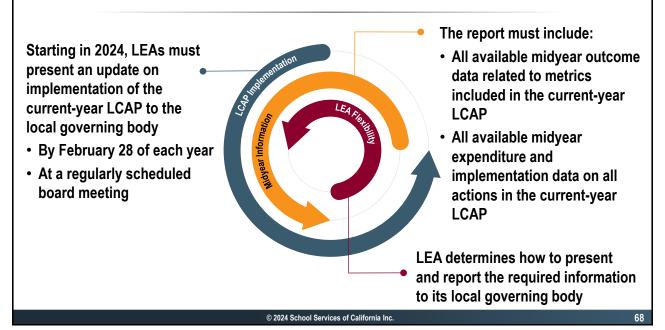
- In addition to applying the statutory COLA, the Governor proposes an increase of \$122.2 million ongoing to fully fund the universal school meals program in 2024-25
 - The state projects that over 845 million meals will be served in 2024-25
- Reminder: LEAs are required to provide breakfast and lunch to students that request a meal, free of charge
- In order to receive reimbursement under the program, your LEA must participate in both the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program



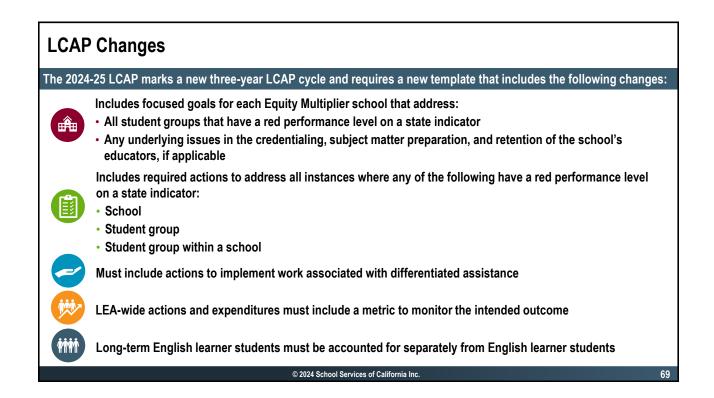
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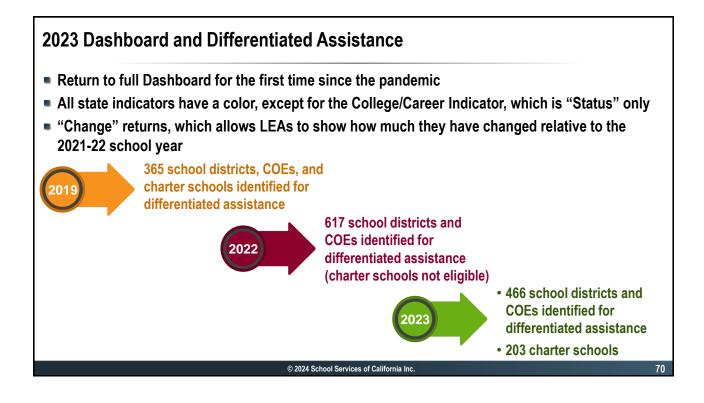
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Midyear Update to the 2023-24 LCAP

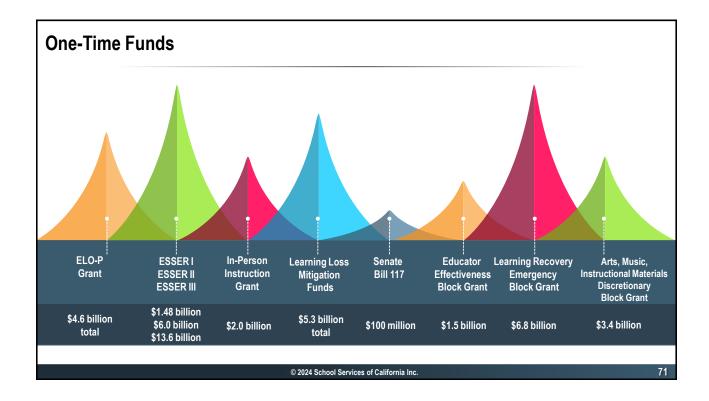


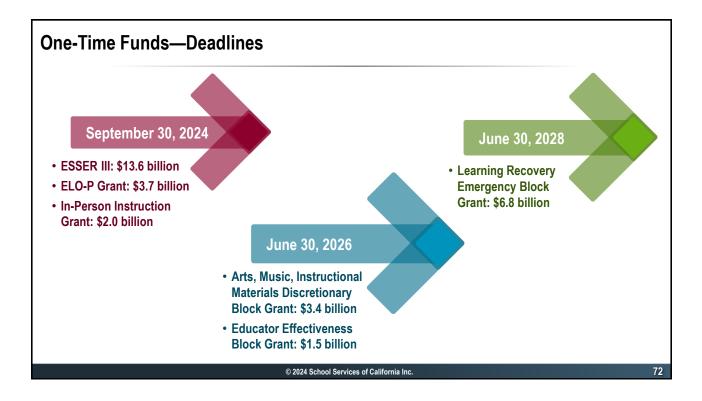




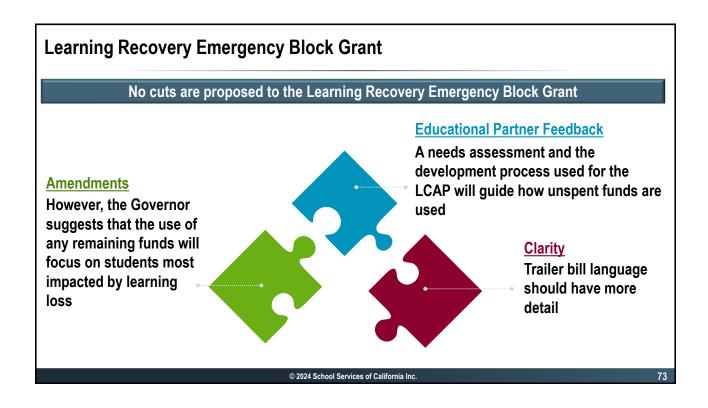












Master Plan for Career Education

On August 31, 2023, Governor Newsom signed Executive Order N-11-23, launching the development of a new Master Plan on Career Education (Master Plan)

- Phase 1: Convene interagency teams at the state and regional levels
- Phase 2: Engage in a 13-month planning process to investigate how existing policies, investments, and structures can be improved, culminating in the Governor's Master Plan scheduled for publication in the winter of 2024

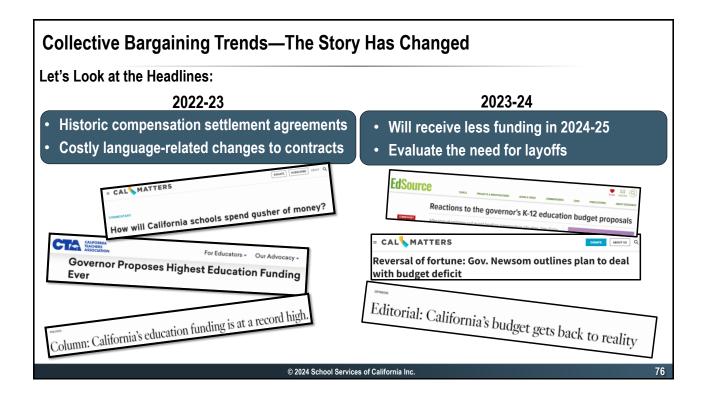
The three goals of the Master Plan are to ensure that all Californians are:

- On-ramped into well-paying, purposeful careers
- Empowered to build real-life skills
- Able to access and afford a quality education throughout life

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Educator Pipeline Access In continued recognition of the teacher shortage, the Governor's Budget includes credentialing flexibilities that improve access to the teacher pipeline Addresses an additional pathway in Career and Technical Education Makes recommendations to support teachers and improve access to the educator pipeline **= **Career and Technical Education Teacher Preparation Directs the California Commission on Teacher** • Completion of a bachelor's degree would satisfy Credentialing to create a new Elementary Arts the basic skills requirement and Music Education authorization Improve transcript review services to certify subject matter competency Increases access to the educator pathways for Streamlines the credentialing application process experienced artists to provide arts instruction in and reduces testing costs for teacher candidates elementary school classrooms © 2024 School Services of California Inc. 75



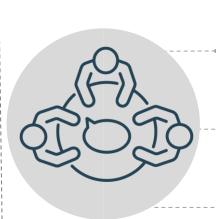




During 2022-23, the Public Employment Relations Board (PERB) approved a total of 74 impasse requests, a slight decrease from the prior year—20% were approved for factfinding

The number of factfinding cases remains consistent, signaling productive collective bargaining outcomes, but the journey has not been easy, or simple!

Source: PERB 2022-23 Annual Report



Enrollment trends impact the bottom line—in the current year and the out-years

In 2024-25, communicating the LEA's fiscal story will be essential to successful bargaining and the ability of the parties to achieve a settlement amicably

The proposed COLA for 2024-25 will not cover the statutory increases, which will pressurize the negotiating table

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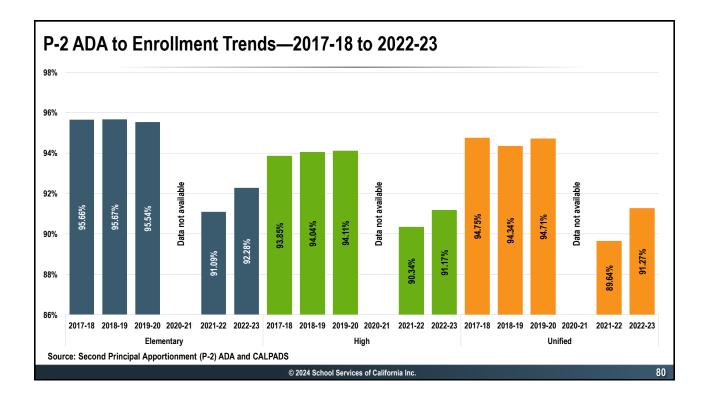
Collective Bargaining Trends—Classified Trends at the Table **Operational Advice** Increased minimum wage statewide and for certain private sector groups may pressurize the salary schedule Continued interest in compensation Have a plan to address compaction • Advertise the whole package so potential employees see the benefit of working for an LEA Evaluate the LEA's ability to combine positions and split fund them if necessary Avoid extending hours where coverage is not needed Increase in hours • • Get creative Continue to build trust with labor partners Contracting agencies Language that limits contracting out may prohibit an LEA from providing essential services • If the answer is no, cost out the various options for why providing benefits is not possible Making part-time Providing full benefit coverage for part-time employees may increase the number of employees benefit employees covered by up to 50% eliaible Communicate the cost and impact

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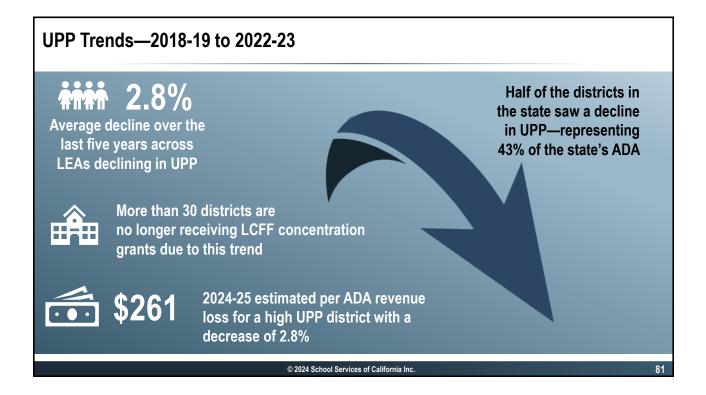


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Collective Darga	aining Trends—Certificated
Trends at the Table	Operational Advice
Continued interest in compensation	 Determine LEA's scope of risk What can the LEA afford? Evaluate how the LEA compares to local districts that are competing for the same staff members Acknowledge sacrifices or changes that would have to be made to increase compensation
Areas of social justice outside the scope of bargaining	 Understand that student and family needs play a vital role in student outcomes, but these do not belong inside a teacher's contract If the work is important to both parties, consider a committee or task force Work with community partners
Extra support for special education	 The special education shortage has created a critical need for LEAs Language supporting special education will have extra costs Prioritize based on impacts to student outcomes and sustainability
Smaller class sizes	 Consider facility space as well as the ability to staff hard-to-fill positions Hard caps may limit an LEAs ability to lay off individuals to balance a budget





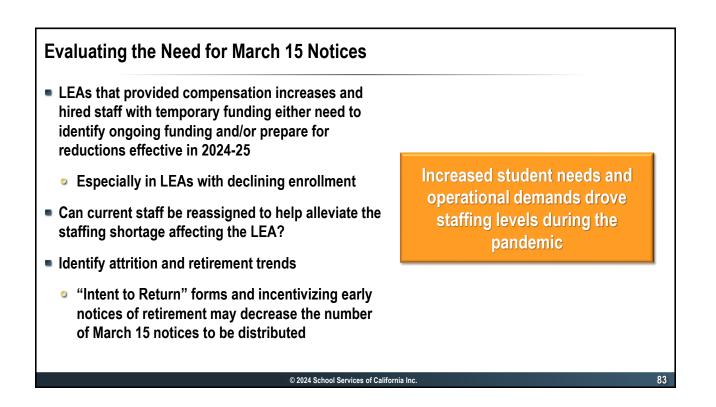


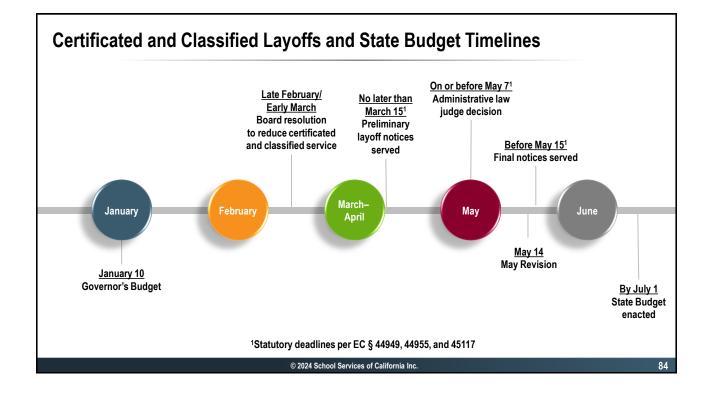
Collective Bargaining Fiscal Consideration

Bargain Dollars, Not Percentages

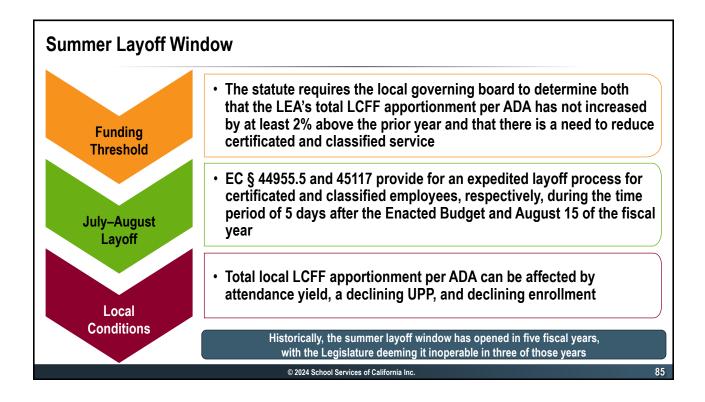
	(All 4th	h through 6th Graders—2% Declinir	ng Enrollment)	
Funded ADA		Base Grant \$ Per A	DA	Total Funds
10,000	×	\$10,069		\$100,069,000
9,800	*	\$10,069 + \$77 (0.76% COLA	A) = \$10,146	\$99,430,800
			Dollar Decrease	-\$638,200
		_	Percent Change Year over Year	-0.64%
	10,000	Funded ADA 10,000	Funded ADA Base Grant \$ Per A 10,000 \$ 10,069	10,000 \$10,069 9,800 \$10,069 + \$77 (0.76% COLA) = \$10,146 Dollar Decrease Percent Change

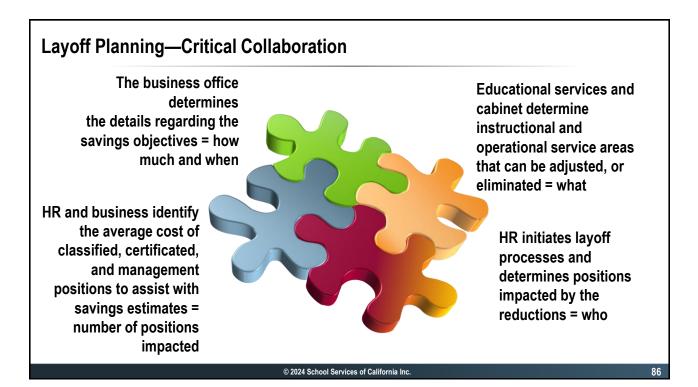














Employment Trends—Staffing With Emergency Resources

Many LEAs hired staff with temporary funding to bolster their workforce and to serve critical program and instructional requirements



- It is expected that the workforce trends will experience a downshift due to the termination of emergency resources and less staffing opportunities
 - LEAs will face difficult decisions about maintaining levels of service while dealing with less resources
- Identify ongoing funding and/or prepare for reductions effective in 2024-25 or the out-years
- The funding source can be switched to ongoing funding and the positions can be retained—this will be difficult during economic uncertainties and lower COLAs

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Employment Trends—Statewide Personnel Expenditures

- As we anticipate a change in statewide staffing levels due to the expiration of temporary funding resources—how will this impact the workforce?
- Should we expect an influx of "pink slips" in March 2024?

Emergency Funding: Total Salary and Benefits			
Year	ESSER and Other Emergency Funding Salary and Benefits	Total Salary and Benefits	Share of Total Salary and Benefits
2019-20	\$188,455,140	\$63,957,705,647	0.29%
2020-21	\$2,755,097,950	\$64,475,933,448	4.27%
2021-22	\$4,967,663,622	\$70,594,730,393	7.04%

- \$70 billion was spent on personnel expenditures in 2021-22; \$5 billion was emergency funding
- This is 7% of the LEA workforce funded with emergency funding

Source: Standardized Account Code Structure (SACS) Unaudited Actuals

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Operational Advice—Managing Temporary Employment



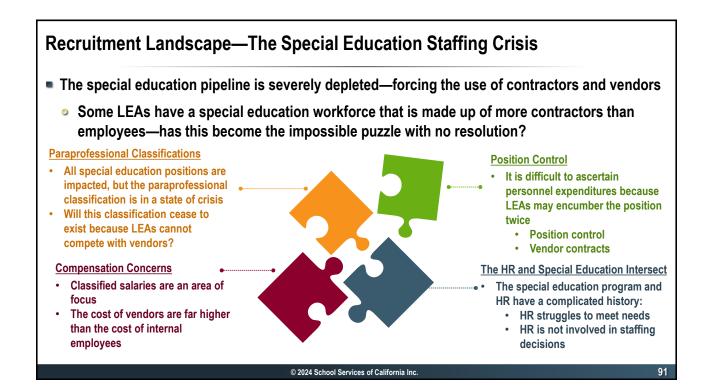
Employment Status

- Avoid overuse of the certificated temporary contract during staffing uncertainties
- Audit certificated employment status and resolve classification issues
- Assess classified positions to ensure appropriate categorization of short-term and substitute employment

Evaluate Programs

 Identify temporary funding sources and align reduction timelines—there are no flexibilities in the statutory layoff timeline!



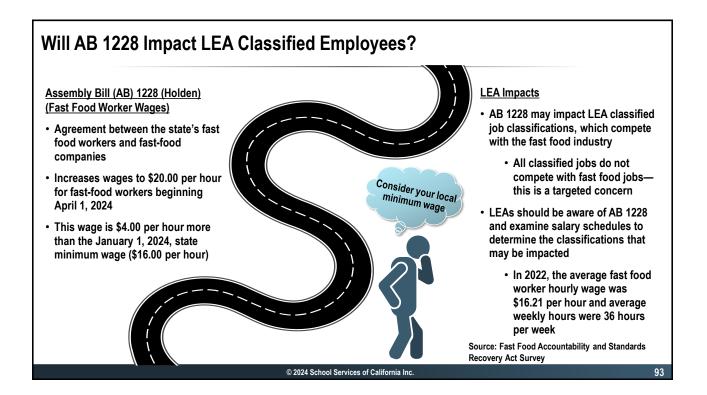


Operational Advice—Addressing the Staffing Crisis

 Workforce shortages require a strategic recruitment approach—focus on the factors within your control and remove internal practices which create barriers in your ability to hire

Employment Requirements	Recruitment Procedures	Job Descriptions and Organizational Structures	
 Examine testing requirements to determine if the test aligns with the assigned work Ensure application requirements reflect the job qualifications Identify application requirements that are eliminating candidates from consideration and remove them 	 Evaluate recruitment cycles and minimize processing time for new hires by utilizing technology Address contract language that is restrictive and limits internal transfers and reassignments Set standards to prioritize recruitment within the HR department 	 Update job descriptions for legal compliance and to reflect the current work requirements of positions Reorganize departments experiencing high turnover due to organizational challenges or staffing misalignments 	
National employment trends and other external factors will influence recruitment capabilities—reimagine the response to recruitment difficulties!			
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Operational Advice—Classified Compensation

- Classified employment is complicated—statewide there are thousands of variations of job classifications that do similar work
 - There is no "one size fits all" solution, but this should not deter LEAs from seeking resolutions to address the recruitment and retention issues experienced within the classified ranks
 - Refrain from doing what has always been done and reimagine the solution

Target the problem areas in the salary schedule:

- Classifications hovering around the minimum wage
- Consider separating salary schedules to make sustainable improvements



- Evaluate part-time employment practices:
- Part-time and entry-level positions turn over at a higher rate
- Create pathways to full-time employment—factor vendor and vacancy costs that don't serve students

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This issue cannot be resolved in isolation—labor partners must participate in the solution process

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Newly Enacted Employment Legislation—School Employees

Certificated Employee Training

AB 5 (Zbur, Statutes 2023) The Safe and Supportive Schools Act

- Beginning with the 2025-26 school year, requires all certificated employees that serve students in grades 7-12 to receive at least one hour of training annually on LGBTQ+ cultural competency
- By July 1, 2025, the CDE must develop an online delivery platform and curriculum
- LEAs required to provide training during paid time and maintain records

School Related Transportation

SB¹ 88 (Skinner, Statutes 2023) Pupil Transportation: Driver Qualifications

- Starting July 1, 2025, establishes new requirements for drivers who provide school-related transportation services for compensation
- Applies to all drivers who are compensated to drive students (LEA employees, contractors, or contracted by any entity with LEA funding)
- Does not apply to LEA employees when transportation is for school activity that doesn't exceed 40 hours per school year ¹Senate Bill

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Occupational Safety

SB 553 (Cortese, Statutes 2023)

Workplace Violence: Restraining Orders and Workplace Violence Prevention Plan

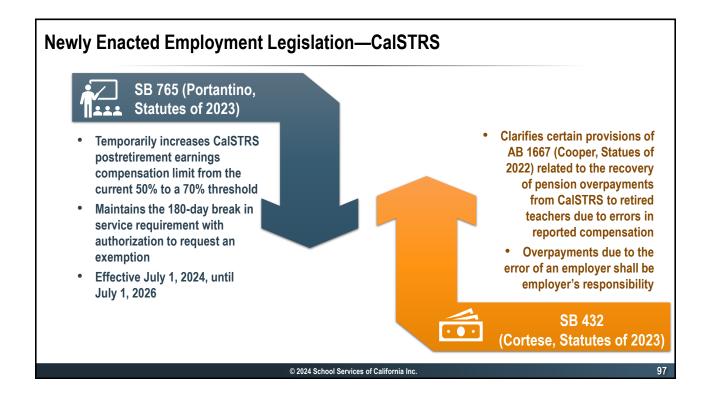
- Starting July 1, 2024, requires employers to implement and maintain an effective workplace violence prevention plan (plan) that includes requirements to maintain incident logs and provide specified trainings
- Employers must provide initial training when the plan is first established and annually thereafter
- Beginning January 1, 2025, authorizes a union representative to seek a temporary restraining order on behalf of the employee(s)

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Newly Enacted Employment Legislation—School Employees

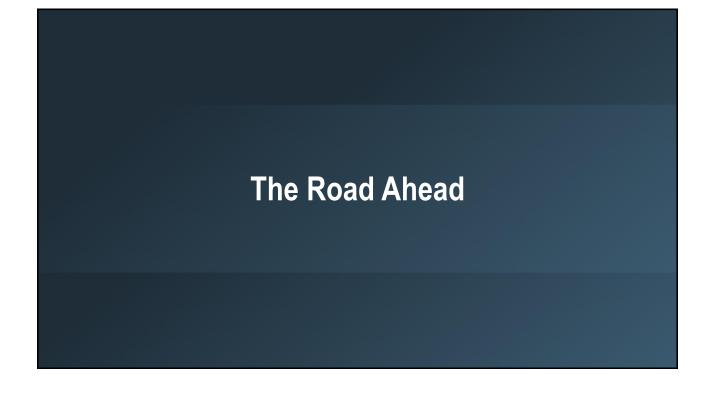
Classified Compulsory Leaves School Nurse Hiring Options School District Governing Boards AB 472 (Wicks, Statutes of 2023) AB 1722 (Dahle, Statutes of 2023) SB 494 (Newman, Statutes of 2023) **Compulsory Leaves of Absence: Pupil Health: Credentialed School School District Superintendents and** Compensation Nurses **Assistant Superintendents: Termination** In a school or a community college Allows, until January 1, 2029, an LEA Prohibits the governing board from district, if a classified employee to hire a licensed vocational nurse taking action to terminate a returns to service after a period of who is supervised by a credentialed superintendent or assistant involuntary leave of absence school nurse if a diligent search has superintendent without cause at a been conducted for a suitable following a finding in favor of the special or emergency meeting of the credentialed school nurse employee, then the district must pay governing board the employee their full compensation LEA must seek approval from This prohibition is also active within for the period of involuntary leave governing board prior to hiring and 30 days of a board first convening These provisions must not reduce must document that a diligent search after an election in which at least one any entitlement to paid leave for a credentialed nurse has been member has been elected or recalled conducted © 2024 School Services of California Inc.











The Budget and Election Year Politics

- In addition to the presidential election, all 80 Assembly seats and half the 40 Senate seats are on the ballot
- Legislators will do their best to protect their voting constituencies against the effects of a negative budget

Due to term limits, experienced legislative budget negotiators Anthony Rendon and Toni Atkins (D-San Diego) are out—replaced by Speaker Robert Rivas (D-Salinas) and incoming Senate President pro Tempore Mike McGuire (D-Healdsburg)



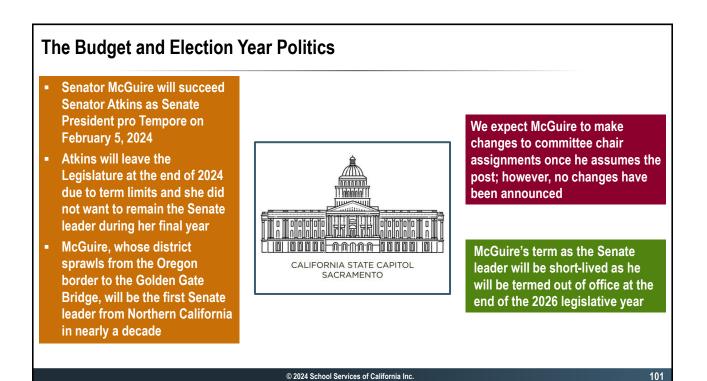
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Assembly Budget Committee chairs are also new

- Assemblymember Jesse Gabriel (D-Encino) replaces Assemblymember Phil Ting (D-San Francisco) as chair of the Assembly Budget Committee
- Assemblymember David Alvarez (D-San Diego) has been tapped to replace Assemblymember Kevin McCarty (D-Sacramento) as the chair of the Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 3 on Education Finance

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The Legislature's Budget Priorities and the Governor's Budget

- Unlike in years past, no legislative caucuses released proposed budget priorities ahead of the 2024-25 Governor's Budget
 - A recent practice has been for Assembly Democrats to release a "Budget Blueprint" and Senate Democrats have released their own priorities as well
- Statements from Democratic legislative leaders are generally supportive of the Governor's approach, such as:

I'm glad to see that the Governor's proposal shares the Senate's ongoing commitment to ensuring that Californians, particularly our children, students, seniors, and those who rely on the state's safety net, are prioritized, that school funding remains healthy, and that budget solutions are ones that uplift California's economy, as well as business and consumer confidence.

—Senate Budget Chair Nancy Skinner

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The Legislature's Budget Priorities and the Governor's Budget

On the other hand, Republican leaders expressed dismay at the size of the budget problem, for example:

After years of ignoring Republican warnings about unsustainable spending, legislative Democrats and Gavin Newsom now have to deal with a massive deficit. It's time to bring California's budget under control, but not through accounting gimmicks or cuts to education. Our government needs to get back to basics and stop wasting tax dollars on an ineffective and unaccountable bureaucracy.

—Assembly Republican Leader James Gallagher

The Legislature's priorities will come into greater focus as the budget process transitions from the executive to the legislative branch over the coming weeks

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The Road Ahead

- Despite a multibillion-dollar budget deficit, the Governor is calling for limited early action on issue areas not affecting education
- The next steps in the process are controlled by the Legislature, which has the responsibility to vet the Governor's proposals during budget hearings over the next several weeks and months
 - This process coincides with the release of further details on the Governor's Budget proposals, included in trailer bill language, which is usually released at the beginning of February
 - The LAO and public also get to weigh in with their feedback and counterproposals
 - This process prepares legislators to respond quickly after the next official State Budget checkpoint—the May Revision
- You will see us next at the May Revision Workshop!

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Thank you for attending!

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UPCOMING STATE BUDGET WORKSHOP



2024 May Revision Workshop

Stay tuned for the date, time, and details coming soon!

www.sscal.com/workshops



EXECUTIVE SEARCH SERVICES

School Services of California Inc. (SSC) conducts more searches for qualified business services and human resources executives for California school agencies than anyone in the state of California. Our Executive Search Services include, but are not limited to, search and recruitment services for the positions of:

- Deputy Superintendent for Administrative Services
- Assistant Superintendent for Business Services or Human Resources
- Chief Financial Officer or Chief Business Official
- Chief Human Resources Officer

Search Advisors

Leilani Aguinaldo * Danyel Conolley * John Gray Linette Hodson * Sarah Neimann, EdD * Kathleen Spencer

Search Assistants

Nicole Contreras * Joanna Dziuk * Josh Forgia * Kim Seitz * Kelly Satterfield * Teddi Wentworth

www.sscal.com/lea-career-opportunities

RECRUITMENT SUPPORT SERVICES

SSC provides recruitment support services for positions that are not included in our Executive Search Services. Our Search Advisors advise in the development of a competitive recruitment plan, provide support through the selection process, and are available to serve as expert panel members.

For more information, please contact: Joanna Dziuk, Search Assistant joannad@sscal.com (916) 446-7517



CURRENT AND UPCOMING EXECUTIVE SEARCHES



For more information or to apply, please visit: www.sscal.com/lea-career-opportunities

NOTE: If you do not see the executive search listed on the SSC webpage, then it is upcoming and we ask you to please check again at a later time.



School Services of California Inc. 2024 Upcoming Webinars

To register, go to: www.sscal.com/workshops

School Services of California Inc. (SSC) is passionate about offering the training and information we know you need to operate and provide a quality education to your students. To that end, and in an effort to continue to ensure access to the training you need in a convenient format, we offer the following subject-based webinars hosted via Zoom.

Thank you for your unwavering support as we strive to provide you with online content developed to meet your agency's needs. Our Workshop FAQs provide more information on registering and have answers to many of your frequently asked questions. Should you have any additional questions or problems completing your registration, please contact Michelle Berge at michelleb@sscal.com or 916-446-7517.



Dollars and Cents of Collective Bargaining

A Three-Hour Webinar January 30, 2024

State revenues continue to lag and the forecast for education funding is showing signs of a significant pause in the high cost-of-living adjustments received in recent years. These elements combined with statewide declining enrollment will create new financial challenges for local educational agencies (LEAs) preparing for bargaining. The ongoing costs of significant compensation increases in recent years must be considered as LEAs create new proposals in the current economic reality. LEAs must work to solve the complex puzzle of balancing LEA fiscal solvency with competitive compensation packages to recruit and retain highly qualified staff. Whether you are an experienced lead negotiator, or new to the bargaining table, this webinar has something for everyone.

Employee Leave





Managing employee leaves is complicated, difficult, and requires local educational agencies to carefully track eligibility for leave under federal and state laws, a local collective bargaining agreement, board policies, and local practice. In addition, understanding and administering long-term leaves, parental leaves, and curbing leave abuse is difficult for human resources departments if not managed in compliance with the law. This two-part webinar series will provide participants with operational advice on how to effectively manage employee leaves, and includes legal requirements pertaining to leave, documenting differential leave, managing parental and maternity leave, and the interaction of statutory leave with state and federal leave entitlements. Both webinar sessions will include a Q&A session at the conclusion of the presentation.

Federal Compliance—How to Stay Out of Trouble



A Three-Hour Webinar February 13, 2024

Local educational agencies are in the home stretch of spending and monitoring historic amounts of one-time federal resources that were the result of three federal stimulus packages. These funds, in addition to the ongoing federal funds (e.g., Title I, special education, etc.), have translated to additional reporting and monitoring requirements. The Federal Compliance webinar will walk through the basics of the recurring federal programs and the one-time federal stimulus dollars, as well as the myriad compliance requirements.

Instructional Time and Attendance Planning

A Two-Hour Webinar February 20, 2024



California law requires all local educational agencies to meet specific interrelated instructional time, attendance, and teacher supervision requirements. Noncompliance jeopardizes Local Control Funding Formula funding as well as other sources of funding calculated based on average daily attendance. This Instructional Time and Attendance Planning webinar will provide attendees with current, helpful tools in advance of the coming school year to plan for instructional time and teacher supervision. This will facilitate capturing a greater percentage of enrollment, while laying the foundation for meeting attendance accounting and instructional time requirements.

Charter Schools



A Three-Hour Webinar March 5, 2024

The education landscape is comprised of numerous laws and regulations that dictate how local educational agencies must function. While the application of these laws and regulations is not uniform, most impact charter schools in some way—whether the same or slightly different. This webinar will address how statute applies to charter schools in order to provide attendees with the basics from which to build a strong foundation—from what is required of a charter school petition to the day-to-day operational requirements, such as facilities, instructional time offering and scheduling, and best practices for oversight.



The Audit Challenge— Updates and New Considerations

A Three-Hour Webinar March 19, 2024

The 2023-24 fiscal year brings with it a potential end to new categorical programs as a result of the slowing state economy. However, the programmatic and compliance requirements from the plethora of categorical funding streams over the prior two years are still bountiful. The Audit Challenge webinar will provide up-to-date information on audit regulations relative to these topics as well as tips and tricks for managing and coordinating the audit process.



Recruitment Solutions Reimagined

A Three-Hour Webinar March 26, 2024

The nationwide staffing shortages have significantly affected local educational agencies (LEAs), resulting in multiyear vacancies and the utilization of underprepared educators, staffing gaps that result in the cancellation of critical classified support services, and an explosive uptick in reliance on outsourcing staffing needs through agencies and vendors, which is especially prevalent in positions serving students with disabilities. This new webinar will shift from standard, historical LEA practices to examine processes to address hiring barriers, improve recruitment outcomes, and support quality communication between human resources (HR) departments and special education programs. This interactive presentation is intended for practitioners who are involved in special education staffing and HR staff responsible for recruitment and hiring practices. The presentation will include a roundtable discussion that will allow participants to ask questions and interact with the presenters and other attendees.

Independent Study—Compliance and Best Practices



A Two-Hour Webinar April 2, 2024

Independent study program participation remains strong, and interest in independent study programs is growing. As local educational agencies implement programs that are compliant with the ongoing changes in law, this webinar will further demystify the state's independent study requirements and illuminate the ways they can be leveraged by school agencies to provide a high-quality program with flexible options for students within their communities. Specifically, attendees will gain a better understanding of program design options, along with the legal nuts and bolts of instructional time and attendance accounting for participation in independent study instruction in California. Attendees will walk away with the critical operational tools they need to run a successful independent study program.

SACS 101—Budget Development

A Four-Hour Webinar April 16, 2024

The Standardized Account Code Structure (SACS) software is the required reporting tool that is used in the state of California for financial reporting. The software includes many forms, with changing formats across the various budgetary periods. The training focuses on the budget development period and provides technical advice on each of the required forms, including, but not limited to, the technical review checklist, cash flow, criteria and standards, and the multiyear projection.

Maintenance of Effort Monitoring—Beyond the Basics

A Three-Hour Webinar April 23, 2024

Local educational agencies (LEAs) are working to increase student engagement and attendance and improve student outcomes while facing tighter budgets and diminishing resources. Statewide trends, including declining enrollment, increasing pupil identification, growing intensity of needs, and increased costs of operations, are resulting in the requirement to regularly monitor the federal maintenance of effort (MOE) obligation. Balancing the need for fiscal sustainability and responsibility with the requirement for special education expenditures to comply with MOE requirements to receive federal special education funds leaves many LEAs pondering how to plan, monitor expenditures, and take advantage of allowable exemptions to the MOE obligation. LEAs and Special Education Local Plan Areas have found that regular monitoring of MOE status and timely and efficient documentation of elements for reporting ease the strain of end-of-year processes and reporting and ensure compliance and eligibility for ongoing federal funds. This webinar will provide an overview of MOE requirements, the implications of state, local, and federal revenue and expenditures on MOE, and available strategies for monitoring and managing MOE growth where allowable. Teams will leave with the knowledge and tools to help with local discussions about documentation, strategy, and actions to maximize fiscal options regarding MOE obligations.

Employee Complaints and Investigations

A Three-Hour Webinar



April 30, 2024 Employee complaints require immediate action by the employer to ensure a safe and healthy workplace, reduce legal expenses, and safeguard employees and students. This includes taking steps to stop any workplace conflict or alleged employee misconduct, protect involved parties, and begin investigations. Under various statutory requirements (Title VII, the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, the Occupational Safety and Health Act, and other local laws), local educational agencies are legally obligated to investigate complaints in a timely manner. This webinar offers an overview of types of employee complaints; effective workplace investigation practices, tools,

and resources to effectively manage complaints; and indicators for recognizing when legal counsel may be necessary. The presentation will include a roundtable discussion that will allow participants to ask questions and interact with the presenters and other attendees.

Construction Basics and Accounting

A Three-Hour Webinar May 7, 2024



While existing state bond dollars have been exhausted and a new bond measure has yet to be approved, the state has provided school facilities funding as part of the last three State Budgets, including money targeted to support facilities for full-day preschool, transitional kindergarten, and kindergarten. It is critical that school agencies understand the basics of school construction and funding before they embark on facilities projects, as they require the establishment of facilities-specific fiscal processes and tracking to ensure that public dollars are spent with fidelity. This webinar will provide an overview of the timelines and approvals necessary for the construction and/or modernization of school facilities, step-by-step details on the basics of school construction accounting, tips on getting both your physical and electronic files and accounts organized, and updates on the latest happenings in the State Capitol as it relates to future state facilities funding.

Special Education—Both Sides of the Equation

A Three-Hour Webinar June 25, 2024



Local educational agencies (LEAs) continue to require substantial General Fund contributions to cover special education programmatic costs in personnel, service delivery, and administrative support, despite increased state funding for special education programs. For the 2024-25 school year, LEAs face tightening resources, challenges with staffing and service provision, and tough choices in the face of minimal increases to special education funding. It is more important than ever for special education leaders and fiscal colleagues to plan and implement special education programs focused on student needs in alignment with the initiatives and accountability plans of the district. In an era of tightening resources and systemic shortages, collaborative local decision-making about how to align actions and prioritize decision-making that will result in improved student outcomes will be crucial. This webinar will provide participants with up-to-date information on funding changes, tools for effective program management aligned with fiscal responsibility, and tips on ways to ensure equity, promote inclusive practices, and improve outcomes for students with disabilities.



To register, go to: www.sscal.com/workshops



Management Consulting Services

School Services of California Inc.'s (SSC) professional staff is available to lend its extensive range of expertise to school agencies confronted by particular challenges. SSC's experts have a wealth of direct experience in managing school agencies through challenging times and can provide assistance with the unique cash, budget, staffing, and operational needs. Whether facing internal budget control issues, organizational demands, central office staffing concerns, or collective bargaining issues, SSC's consultants bring with them both the experience and ability to recognize the uniqueness of every situation. Below are descriptions of some of SSC's Management Consulting Services.

Financial Studies and Support

SSC staff has significant financial expertise to support local agency needs in the area of budget development and management, cash management, multiyear financial planning, attendance accounting, and any other fiscal needs of the organization. Some of the services provided to support local agencies with their financial operations are:

- Budget and Multiyear Projection Review
- Budget Review for Negotiations
- Multiyear Financial Projection Review or Preparation
- Cash Management Wellness Check
- Budget Reduction Options Analysis
- Analysis of Long-Range Financial Plan
- Fiscal Process and Reporting Review
- Position Control Review
- Attendance Accounting Evaluation
- Audit Findings Resolution and Appeal
- Charter School Funding Review
- Chief Business Official and Fiscal Director Coaching

Negotiations Support and Factfinding

We provide negotiations support to the local agency and its bargaining teams in a wide variety of ways. Budget reviews for negotiations, interventions during mediation, and service on factfinding panels are all well within our circle of competence. We can help make the difference between a successful negotiations outcome or continued labor-management problems.

Administrative Organization and Efficiency Studies

SSC staff provides customized studies and recommendations covering sensitive and critical issues of local school agency administration, business office or human resources department organization, and procedural efficiencies. Our professional staff has a proven track record in evaluating the local school agency organization, staffing structures, workload assignments, procedural efficiencies, and the adequacy of procedures and systems. What follows are some of the types of studies provided in this area:

- Central Office Administrative Organizational Review
- Comparative Staffing Analysis
- Central Office Staffing Analysis and Comparative Study
- Business Office Efficiency Study
- Human Resource Operations Review
- Hiring Practices Consulting
- Maintenance, Operations, and Transportation Organizational Review
- Comparative High School Staffing and Master Schedule Study
- Independent Study Program Review

Human Resources Studies and Support

SSC human resources experts can provide support to local agencies with their human resources operations. Some of the services provided include:

- Human resources organizational review, position analysis, and efficiency assessment
- Chief Human Resources Officer, Director, or other supervisory-level leadership development and coaching
- Recruitment and selection support services
- Specialized trainings for HR staff and administrators and supervisors for complaints and investigations and supervision and evaluation



Management Consulting Services

 Focused operational studies: employee leave management, position control, recruitment and selection

- The SSC HR Network
- Employment Resources Center (job postings)

processes, and other HR functions

Employee Salaries, Benefits, and Working Conditions Analyses

SSC conducts analyses of employee salaries, employee and retiree benefits, and employee working conditions to assist local school agencies with managing costs, attracting and retaining employees, and negotiating successor agreements with local bargaining units. For example, SSC can conduct the following:

- Collective Bargaining Agreement Risk Analysis
- Health and Welfare Benefits Review
- Comparative Analysis of Employee Working Conditions

Special Education Services

Our special education services can engage educational partners and set the groundwork for meaningful and sustainable change while prioritizing systemic alignment and student outcomes. We offer focused studies, which can include the review and analysis of revenue, expenditure, student, program, and/or staffing data to prepare strategies for the future of the local agency special education program. Types of the services we offer:

- Special Education Fiscal Review, which may include analysis of budget, contributions, and transportation
- Maintenance of effort analysis and planning
- Analysis of disability data and special education data system elements
- Special Education Department Efficiency and Effectiveness Study
- Special Education Local Plan Area Allocation Model Review/Facilitation
- Special Education Facilitated Self-Study or targeted area consultation and coaching
- Ongoing training and support for special education fiscal issues through the Special Education Fiscal Collaborative

School Construction and Facilities

Whether your agency is faced with surplus property or in the midst of new construction projects, which has resulted in the need for assistance with the project management pro- cesses necessary for routine maintenance, modernization, and construction of school facilities—SSC offers a range of services for local school agencies, including:

- Organization of Construction Accounting and Filing System
- Facilities Department Organizational Review
- Facilities Program Review
- Construction Accounting Review
- 7-11 or Boundary Committee Facilitation
- Charter School Proposition 39 Facilities Request Support
- Facilitation and Operational Support for the Sale or Lease of Surplus Property

Charter Schools

While our services are available to charter schools, traditional school agencies approving charter schools need to be prepared with knowledge regarding the considerations that come along with charter schools—from potential liability issues to available facilities options.

SSC can assist school agencies with meeting their oversight responsibilities, evaluating petitions for new and renewing charter schools, and navigating the Proposition 39 process and other requests for facilities and facilities funding.

Reorganization, Unification, and Territory Transfer Studies

From inception to the election polls, SSC staff has experience in guiding school districts through the lengthy state processes for reorganization and making thoughtful decisions on school district boundary changes, including the Local Control Funding Formula calculations, local property tax implications, debt service issues, etc. SSC staff are also available to perform advocacy and legislative services, as needed, for unique situations.

PLEASE CONTACT KATHLEEN SPENCER, VICE PRESIDENT, FOR MORE INFORMATION. (916) 446-7517 | www.sscal.com | Email: kathleens@sscal.com School Services of California Inc. | 1121 L Street, Suite 1060, Sacramento, CA 95814

The cost and timeline for consulting services is unique for each engagement and is based on the scope of services provided. If you would like more information about any of our consulting services, please contact us using the information above.

Governmental Relations Services



School Services of California Inc. (SSC) has the strongest legislative team in Sacramento due to our exceptional knowledge of the legislative process, combined with an in-depth understanding of K-14 statutes and regulations, the State Budget process, and cutting-edge policy issues. Our team acts quickly and effectively on behalf of clients, keeping them involved in and informed of all legislative decisions.

Whether helping to solve a client's unique legislative problem or working with coalitions to impact major statewide education policy and fiscal matters, SSC advocates are regarded as key participants in the legislative process and reliable sources of factual information. This reputation, along with more than four decades of collective experience and a diverse network of contacts, enhances the SSC team's ability to help clients meet their legislative objectives.

The SSC lineup is considered the premier team of PreK-14 Governmental Relations in Sacramento. Over the last four decades, there has been no other organization that has had such a lasting impact on education policy. The SSC team, which also consists of members of the organization's consulting unit, has been at the forefront of almost all of the major school finance developments over the last 40+ years. SSC advocates have played a significant role in initiatives such as special education equalization, California State Teachers' Retirement System (CalSTRS) member issues, categorical reform and flexibility, audit reform, school business official training, class-size flexibility, and mandate reform. Because of our long-standing reputation as knowledgeable representatives of K-12 education and community colleges, we serve as a trusted resource for legislators and legislative staff.

As term limits make an ever-increasing impact on the way business is done under the Capitol dome, the SSC team's technical expertise and reputation for solid policy and budget analysis are increasingly valuable to the Legislature. In addition, SSC advocates have many contacts throughout the executive branch and in the California Department of Education (CDE), making their efforts on your behalf even more effective.

Coalitions Supported by SSC

- California School Funding Coalition—advocating for overall increased school funding
- Coalition for Adequate Funding for Special Education advocating for increased special education funding
- CTE JPA Coalition—advocating for joint powers authority (JPA) providers of career technical education (CTE)
- Schools For Sound Finance—advocating on behalf of community funded school districts
- Education Mandated Cost Network—advocating mandate reform and prompt state reimbursements

Just a Few of the Successful Legislative Changes Led by SSC

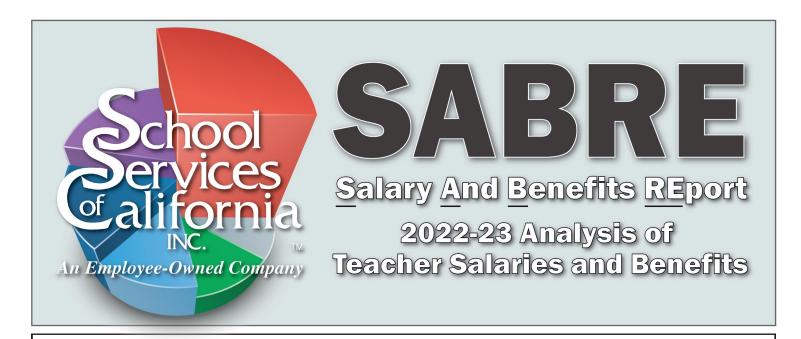
- Special Education—Advocated for more adequate funding in the State Budget
- CalSTRS/CalPERS Relief—Advocated for the more than \$3 billion in employer relief for CalSTRS and the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) in the 2019-20 State Budget Act
- CTE—Protected funding for critical, high-quality programs
- Audit Reform—Developed a process and structure for the school agency audit process

Areas of Expertise

- State Budget Development, Advocacy, and Enactment
 - Legislative Policy Initiatives
 - » Adult Education
 - » CTE
 - » Early Childhood Education
 - » Risk Management Issues
 - » Special Education
 - » Technology Funding
- K-14 Statutes and Regulations
- Local Control Funding Formula and School Finance Reform
- State Board of Education Policy Setting and Waivers
- School Facilities and the State Allocation Board
- State Controller's Office Apportionments and Audits
- CDE Regulations and Audits
- Special Education Finance Reform
- Mandate Claims and Reimbursement
- Retirement Systems, Regulations, and Audits

Please contact Michelle McKay Underwood, Vice President, if we can be of service

(916) 446-7517 | michelleu@sscal.com School Services of California Inc. 1121 L Street, Suite 1060, Sacramento, CA 95814 www.sscal.com



For many years, School Services of California Inc. (SSC) has had the opportunity to capture and analyze the Form J-90 Teacher Salary and Benefits Schedule from school districts in California. From this large accumulation of data, we are able to compile a comprehensive analysis of the salaries and benefits of certificated nonmanagement employees and how they compare to selected districts, regions, and the entire state.

The SABRE provides up to 38 side-by-side comparisons of your school district with up to 20 other districts per report on certificated salaries, health and welfare benefits, and working days. These comparative districts are entirely user selected and may be geographical, of like type and size, of similar funding levels, or a combination of all of these. The report consists of five valuable types of displays. Each report includes:

- Ten graphical displays and 27 comparison tables with side-by-side analysis
- All district teacher salary schedules, health and benefit schedules, and other selected data important for compensation evaluation in an easy-to-read common format

The entire report is an essential resource for school district administrators, especially for those at the negotiating table or in the human resources or fiscal departments.

Types of comparisons include:

SALARIES

Each district's salary at the minimum, maximum, average, BA+30 at Step 1, and BA+60 at Step 10 are compared and ranked against the region, statewide averages, comparable district averages, and each of the comparable districts. Each comparative analysis also provides detailed statistics that can help give seniority, step, and educational accomplishment information. Readers, as a consequence, are able to get a comprehensive cross-comparison and analysis of district compensation to that of other selected districts.

Benefits

Each district's health, dental, life, vision, and other insurance benefits are displayed and compared. What makes the SABRE analysis unique is that it shows not only the maximum benefits, but also the district average based on actual placements. When the average district contribution cost is added to salary, a true total compensation picture is drawn.

OTHER COMPARISONS

The SABRE also includes comprehensive analyses of how your district compares in per diem amounts, number of instructional and teacher service days, percentage of salary adjustments, and total compensation.

PRICE:

The SABRE costs \$350 for client districts and includes two runs of 20 selected districts in each report emailed in PDF format to your district with a custom cover. If you would like the reports delivered to your district as a hard bound copy, the cost is \$450 for client districts. Clients will also receive a discount of \$50 on the price of our Comparative Analysis of District Income and Expenditures (CADIE) report if it is ordered any time during the year.

To Order:

Complete the order form and mail, fax, or email it to SSC.

2022-23 SABRE and 2021-22 CADIE Order Form

It is easy to order a SABRE and CADIE. We will be happy to help you select an appropriate comparison group, or you can specify which districts you wish to be compared to, or even the criteria you would like SSC to use in choosing the comparison districts.

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Vector Training

Prepare All Educators to Meet the Needs of Your Diverse Learners Inclusive Instruction & Interventions Professional Development Courses

The Vector Training Inclusive Instruction & Interventions online professional development courses equip administrators, teachers, and paraeducators with the skills, instructional strategies, and resources needed to improve instruction and learning outcomes for all students.

- Prepare paraeducators to safely and effectively support students in both general and special education classrooms.
- Help educators understand, prevent, and respond to challenging behavior. •
- Improve compliance with special education laws and new training mandates.
- Increase flexibility and personalization in professional development. •
- Deliver through Keenan SafeSchools Training or the Vector Training System.

Flexible Subscription Options Maximize Professional Development Opportunities

With 100+ courses in one centralized system, and flexible subscription options, you can easily meet the professional development needs of educators across your district. Course topics include:

ADHD

•

- IEP
- Autism Spectrum Disorder •
- Behavior
- Dyslexia •
- Early Childhood
- General Instruction

- Instruction & Learning
- Paraeducators
- **Principals**
- **Special Education Law**
- **Trauma-Informed Practices**

Course bundle options include:

- Full Course Library •
- **Effective Classroom Instruction**
- Serving Students with Diverse Needs
- Paraeducators

Request a Demo VectorSolutions.com/k12 Keenan





SSC HR NETWORK and Employment Resource Center

THE SSC HR NETWORK

The School Services of California Inc. (SSC) HR Network (Network) is a learning opportunity for local educational agency (LEA) human resources (HR) practitioners interested and committed to creating a virtual community of practice. The Network provides HR staff wanting to stay informed and connected a place to learn, share resources, and grow in their professional practice without having to leave their office and regardless of the location of their LEA. The Network is hosted and monitored by SSC's HR Team, who also participate by sharing their practice and experiences with colleagues.

Cost of Membership

\$195.00 annual subscription (per member)

- Shared documents, templates, and other resources
- Hot topic discussions
- Legislative updates
- Information regarding HR learning opportunities
- SSC advice and guidance
- Virtual roundtable meetings for HR Network members

Who Should Join?

Chief HR officers, HR directors, technical and clerical HR staff, and staff who are involved in the oversight and management of HR functions.

Roundtable Meetings

SSC Network members are invited to attend our virtual HR roundtable meetings hosted and facilitated by the SSC HR team. We encourage your attendance in joining our "community of practice" to discuss the key issues currently confronting HR professionals.

The schedule for virtual meetings is available on the SSC HR Network page: www.sscal.com/join-ssc-hr-network.

Please visit <u>www.sscal.com/join-ssc-hr-network</u> to join the HR Network.

THE SSC EMPLOYMENT RESOURCE CENTER

The SSC Employment Resource Center is a space on the SSC website, dedicated to LEA employment resources and tools. Information regarding SSC HR learning opportunities, *Fiscal Report* articles, links to HR resources, and information about the SSC HR Team are available on the Employment Resource Center page.

In addition, the Employment Resource Center provides opportunity for LEAs to post vacancy announcements for all positions. For information regarding job postings and access to HR resources, please visit: <u>www.sscal.</u> <u>com/employment-resource-center</u>.

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School Services of California Inc. Special Education Fiscal Collaborative

The School Services of California Inc. (SSC) Special Education Fiscal Collaborative (SPED Fiscal Collaborative) is an information-sharing and capacity-building resource focused on school finance and special education fiscal literacy. We invite local educational agency (LEA), county office of education, and Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) fiscal staff and leaders to join our team of experts for high-quality, timely, and relevant information and resource sharing related to special education fiscal planning, implementation monitoring, and alignment with mandated plans and reporting requirements for special education.

The SPED Fiscal Collaborative provides members with the following:

- Ten one-hour virtual webinars and/or tutorials each year
- Access to special education finance experts through a cloud-based user group email platform
- Networking opportunities with job-alike partners
- A resource hub with tools to meet the unique fiscal needs of those supporting special education programs
- Interactive roundtables and small group engagements, support for maintenance of effort (MOE) monitoring, and annual review of required end-of-year (EOY) reporting processes





- EOY forms and process Standardized Account Code Structure (SACS)
- Census Day activities
- Extraordinary Cost Pool (ECP) Principal Apportionment Data
- Collection (PADC) software

Professional Learning Offerings

Activities of the SPED Fiscal Collaborative provide hands-on learning, and encourages collaboration at the local and regional level. Our goal is to increase the knowledge and capacity of special education fiscal staff and leaders as you collaborate and implement quality programs. Professional learning topics include, but are not limited to, the following:

- ECP application submissions
- Preparation for First Interim MOE interim forms
- Budget update
- Calendar of special education fiscal activities
- Preparation for Second Interim
- Overview of trailer bill language
- Second Interim and budget planning
- California School Accounting Manual (CSAM)
- May Revision
- Extended school year
- California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data
- System (CALPADS) Special Education Data
- System activities
- MOE monitoring
- Enacted Budget

Cost and Registration

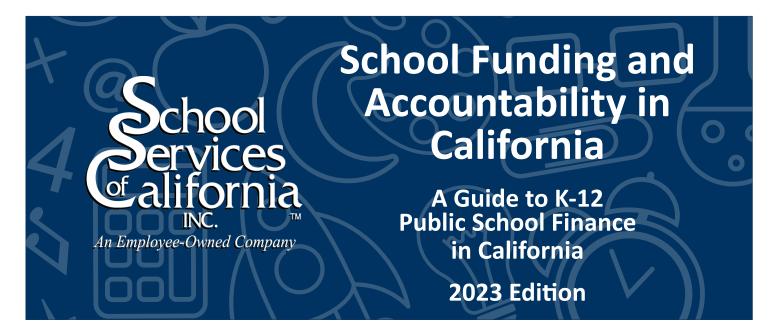
Tiered rate structure to encourage multiple participants from LEAs/organizations, and support capacity-building communication and information sharing at the local level.



Let us know you are interested in joining the SPED Fiscal Collaborative at https://www.sscal. com/join-the-collaborative. We will contact you with registration information.



Enrollment	Rate
Less than 1,500 or SELPA Director + additional staff member	\$1,500
1,501 to 10,000 or Necessary Small SELPA Consortium	\$2,500
10,001 to 50,000	\$3,000
50,001+	\$3,500



The only book devoted to California's unique public school finance system has been updated to reflect the progression of the relatively new funding model for K-12 education as well as other new and modified major programs. This edition explains the Local Control Funding Formula for school districts, charter schools, and county offices of education, and delineates how the funding formula ties to the educational planning document—the Local Control and Accountability Plan. In addition, a general history of school finance in California and explanations of Proposition 98 are provided, along with explanations of funding of special education, charter schools, federal, and other major state programs. The 2023 edition reflects the 2023-24 Enacted State Budget and addresses many funding issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic's effects on schools.

This book is filled with practical information to assist local educational agency officials with understanding and leveraging the various revenue sources in support of services for students. The analyses in this book will help foster understanding of current and future trends in school finance, including the key factors affecting future Proposition 98 funding. The 2023 edition of *School Funding and Accountability in California* will prove an invaluable school finance reference, training, and planning manual throughout the year.

Detailed enough to be of use to the most experienced practitioner, yet clear enough for the newcomer to the field, this book is essential for everyone interested in California school finance. The expertise of the entire School Services of California Inc. team has gone into making this book the authoritative work on school finance in California.

TO ORDER https://bit.ly/46Fa4nz

Kindle and paperback versions are available for \$59.99



About SSC

Since 1975, School Services of California Inc. (SSC) has helped school districts, charter schools, county offices of education, and community colleges carry out their management and operational responsibilities. Efficient and effective administration of California's public education system has always been SSC's primary mission.

SSC serves more than 1,200 California public school agencies. SSC publishes a timely book on California school funding and accountability; produces comparative in-depth budget and salary data reports for school districts; publishes the *Fiscal Report* and *Community College Update*; provides collective bargaining services; delivers school finance/operations training to more than 8,000 attendees annually; provides governmental relations services; and prepares numerous reports on school agency compensation, local budgets, efficiencies, and organizational structures.

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