

CSBA's 2019 Legal Symposium for Experienced Board Members Agenda
San Diego Convention Center, San Diego, CA
December 4, 2019

7:00 a.m.	Registration/Check-In Open
8:30 – 8:45 a.m.	Welcoming Remarks – Loren Soukup , CCSA President and Sr. Assoc. General Counsel, School & College Legal Services of California
8:45 – 10:15 a.m. (1.5 hrs. MCLE)	<p>When Trustees are Accused of Ethical Violations: Legal Requirements and Best Practices – This advanced workshop explores the challenges school boards face when an individual trustee is accused of an ethical violation – whether by an external party or another trustee. Having assisted many board presidents navigate such allegations, the presenters will discuss how to respond to such allegations. In particular, the presenters will look at how to comply with the Brown Act, which provides no closed session exceptions to discuss alleged trustee misconduct, while handling such claims as discretely and respectfully as possible. The presenters will also review potential pitfalls and challenges common to internal board ethics policies, and options for the board when they conclude that an ethical violation has been committed.</p> <p>Presenters: <i>Laura Schulkind</i>, Partner, Liebert Cassidy Whitmore; <i>Kristin Lindgren</i>, Associate, Liebert Cassidy Whitmore; Grant Herndon, General Counsel, Schools Legal Service</p>
10:25 – 11:55 a.m. (1.5 hrs. MCLE)	<p>Religious Neutrality in an Era of Political Extremes – There are an estimated 4,200 different religions in the world, but school districts are supposed to be neutral with respect to religion. Combine that with the polarization stemming from the current political climate – the result? School districts are faced with a careful balancing act but need to address the “culture wars” that is being played out on school district campuses. During this session, the presenters will discuss student and staff free speech and free exercise of religion rights, and how to avoid Establishment Clause issues, with a goal of demonstrating to board member attendees how religion can be used as a tool for inclusivity instead of division.</p> <p>Presenters: <i>Michael Smith</i>, Partner, Lozano Smith; Mike Ambrose, Associate General Counsel, CSBA/ELA</p>
Noon – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch
1:10 – 2:10 p.m. (1.0 hr. MCLE)	<p>Complex and Sometimes Awkward Brown Act Issues for Governing Boards, A Four Act Melodrama – After providing a brief legal overview of the Brown Act, the panel of attorneys will utilize their best role playing skills to present scenarios in the form of a fun and lively four act play that will highlight complex, and sometimes awkward, Brown Act issues for attendees.</p> <p>Presenters: <i>Roman Muñoz</i>, <i>Marie Nakamura</i>, <i>Keith Bray</i>, Shareholders, <i>Dannis Woliver Kelley</i>; Loren Soukup, CCSA President and Sr. Assoc. General Counsel, School & College Legal Services of California; Jennifer Carbuccia, General Counsel, Sweetwater Union High School District</p>
2:15 – 3:15 p.m. (1.0 hr. MCLE)	<p>Confronting Crossover Complaint Issues and Public Records Requests Through Collaboration – This session will focus on the many ways in which more and more in today's school world, districts are facing crossover issues that require collaboration across departments, and often between outside legal counsel in multiple arenas. Currently, districts receive volumes of Public Records Requests and complaints which implicate laws, policies, and procedures outside the realm of just one department or area of law. The presenters will identify common crossover themes and scenarios which require collaboration outside of the traditional circles and approaches, and provide concrete guidance on how to identify and tackle crossover issues, including when a request, complaint, or problem should prompt collaboration between one or more departments, or possibly the district's risk management experts. Real world examples will be reviewed to offer solutions that can be utilized in building collaborative and effective processes to better enable districts to avoid and/or lessen negative public/media scrutiny, agency exposure, and ultimately, legal liability.</p> <p>Presenters: <i>Brian Bock</i>, Partner, Fagen Friedman & Fulfroost; <i>Lisa Dennis</i>, Associate, Fagen Friedman & Fulfroost; Ron Wenkart, Partner, Atkinson Andelson Loya Ruud & Romo</p>

(5.0 hrs. MCLE)