

Federal 2020 – Programs, Budget and the Elections

Experienced board members

small, rural, urban, suburban, elementary school district, high school district, unified school district, county of education

Workshop

Advocacy and community engagement

What has the federal government been up to for the last year? This workshop will explore federal education program issues, funding for K-12 schools and the impact of the 2020 election. Come and get the most up-to-date information on what to expect for the 117th Congressional Session.

Erika Hoffman, Legislative Advocate, California School Boards Association

Leveraging Change: Partnering with San Miguel

New and First Term board members

small, rural, urban, suburban, elementary school district, high school district, unified school district, county of education

Workshop

Advocacy and community engagement

San Miguel School in the Sunnyvale School District has the highest number of students with a serious emotional disabilities, 68 percent, and English learners, 58 percent, in the district. Follow the district's seven-year journey to encourage and direct unique assets to the highest-need students at this school. Board members wisely leveraged a variety of resources. A social and emotional learning lens supported the process of achieving Ashoka Changemaker school status in 2014. In 2015, the school developed a bilingual program of choice, Juntos. This award-winning community school model has evolved into 40 community partners and received a Golden Bell Award in 2018.

Christina Ballantyne, Principal, San Miguel School, Sunnyvale SD

Esteban Ybarra, Campus Principal, Sunnyvale SD

Michael Gallagher, Superintendent, Sunnyvale SD

Nancy Newkirk, Board Member, Sunnyvale SD

Parent Ambassadors and Their Role in Connecting Families, School Staff and Community

Experienced board members

small, rural, urban, suburban, elementary school district, high school district, unified school district, county of education

Workshop

Advocacy and community engagement

This interactive workshop offers community outreach personnel effective ways to connect families, school staff and community in their role as a liaison. This panel will share ways to recruit, inform and empower parents to become more engaged at home and at school through cultural sensitivity, effective communication skills and building positive relationships. An effective liaison values the knowledge that parents can bring to the school and community.

Teresa Fuentes de Reyes, Parent Ambassador, Moreno Valley USD

Martinrex Kedziora, Superintendent, Moreno Valley USD

Aida Navarro, Parent Ambassador, Moreno Valley USD

Benjamin Robinson, Parent Ambassador, Moreno Valley USD

Re-imagining School Marketing in a Post-COVID Era

Experienced board members

Suburban

Workshop

Advocacy and community engagement

School districts have been under increasing pressure in recent years to compete for student enrollment by marketing their schools. Facing a statewide decrease in student enrollment, coupled with severe budget cuts and the COVID-19 crisis, how will traditional schools evolve and compete in a landscape of increasingly diverse education options for families? This panel will discuss post-COVID trends in enrollment and district communications and offer guidance to board members on how they can discern their community's priorities and strategize for enrollment in uncertain times. Jennifer Dericco, Director of Communications, Santa Clara USD

Lisa Kaplan, Board Member, Natomas USD

Naomi Hunter, Board Member, California Schools Public Relations Association

Rebecca Cramer, Board Member, Pleasant Valley SD

Governance with an Equity Lens

Experienced board members, New and First Term board members

small, rural, urban, suburban, elementary school district, high school district, unified school district, county of education

Critical Issue

Equity, opportunity and accountability

This interactive session focuses on how governance teams can serve students through an equity lens. During this session, participants will reflect on the history of public education, develop an awareness of common equity-related terms in the field and reflect on their role in perpetuating or interrupting opportunity gaps. Participants will be provided with an equity framework to support equity-based policy development including sample policy and practice from districts around the nation. Participants will walk away with strategies they can employ in their school communities immediately in light of the new and unprecedented educational landscape.

Deborah Keys-Write, Equity Network Consultant, The Write Keys 2 Consulting, LLC

Nicole Anderson, Equity Consultant, Nicole Anderson and Associates Consulting, LLC

Budget Apocalypse and Plugging the Fiscal Hole

Experienced board members

small, rural, urban, suburban, elementary school district, high school district, unified school district, county of education

Workshop

Funding, finance, and facilities

In the wake of school closures, Corcoran Joint USD looked for creative ways to plug its fiscal hole. Using proven, scalable processes that any school board can implement, the district focused on revenue-positive strategies, such as

attendance recovery and maximizing mandated cost revenue streams. The workshop will share how Superintendent Rich Merlo is staving off cuts to the classroom, engaging with students in the new normal and connecting with families to mitigate the digital divide to maintain high-quality education.

Brenda Tapp, Operations Manager - IM Consulting, School Innovations & Achievement

Mike Brown, Good Governance Program Manager, School Innovations & Achievement

Rich Merlo, Superintendent, Corcoran Joint USD

Doing More with Less Amid COVID-19: Leveraging Medi-Cal Entitlement to Address Increasing Mental Health Needs

Experienced board members

rural, urban, elementary school district, high school district, unified school district, county of education

Workshop

Funding, finance, and facilities

Even before COVID-19, school districts were grappling with how to address and finance students' social, emotional and behavioral health needs. The recent pandemic has exacerbated issues and schools now must plan and support mental health needs and compounding trauma in the context of budget cuts and growing special education mandates. Using existing resources, districts can strategically access the Medi-Cal entitlement to support their continuum of services. This panel will cover Medi-Cal financing strategies and highlight how three district-county partnerships have structured their programs.

Aimee Eng, Director, Strategy and Education Partnerships, California Children's Trust

Alex Briscoe, Principal, California Children's Trust

Christopher Williams, Director of School-Based Mental Health & Wellness, Sacramento COE

Trina Frazier, Chief Student Services Officer, Officer of the Superintendent, Fresno COE

Empty Classrooms, Empty Lots: What to Consider Before You Sell

Experienced board members

urban, suburban, elementary school district, high school district, unified school district

Workshop

Funding, finance, and facilities

School districts across the state are addressing the impacts of declining enrollment and significant budget challenges. This workshop will cover best practices for adherence to the law, engaging and informing school communities and other stakeholders, and charter implications of Proposition 39 obligations. New for 2020 is a change in state law to allow the use of proceeds from the sale of land to go to a district's general fund.

Kelley Owens, Partner, Fagen Friedman & Fulfrost

Managing OPEB Liabilities While Cutting Budgets

Superintendents and administrators

small, rural, urban, suburban, elementary school district, high school district, unified school district, county of education

Workshop

Funding, finance, and facilities

During these times of COVID-19 and budget cuts, districts continue to face substantial unfunded Other Post-Employment Benefit (OPEB) liabilities. What can districts do to manage this obligation? This panel will discuss the latest developments on the issue: GASB 75, trust funding, how the state budget impacts your ability to address liabilities, negotiations, reducing costs by restructuring benefits and early retirement plans, pension pre-funding, and districts' experiences in OPEB Trusts (e.g., the CSBA/PARS OPEB Solutions Program).

Debbie Fry, Associate Vice President, School Services of California

John Gray, President and CEO, School Services of California

Rachael Sanders, Senior Manager, Consulting, PARS

Robert Haley, Superintendent, San Dieguito Union HSD

The "New Normal" for Space Utilization Post-COVID-19

Superintendents and administrators

small, rural, urban, suburban, elementary school district, high school district, unified school district, county of education

Workshop

Funding, finance, and facilities

Social distancing protocols resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic have compelled school districts to consider alternative approaches to the use of space, including an increase in distance education, hybrid learning and staggered scheduling. This, in turn, has created conversations about the metrics used by the state for funding, including classroom size, average daily attendance, bond spending/ implementation plans, Title 5/entitlement and California Environmental Quality Act environmental impacts. The panel will discuss options to be considered in making decisions for the "new normal," and how design and construction communities may be impacted by an increased need for flexibility, technology and issues of equity.

Deidree Sakai, Shareholder, Dannis Woliver Kelley

Diane White, President, Integrated Academic Solutions

Graham Clark, Deputy Superintendent, Fremont Union HSD

Matt Pettler, Vice President, School Facility Consultants

Understanding and then Leading your District's Budget

New and First Term board members

small, rural, urban, suburban, elementary school district, high school district, unified school district, county of education

Workshop

Funding, finance, and facilities

School finance and district budgets are overly complicated. Understanding them and then leading the policy development that goes along with them is a daunting challenge for new and experienced school board members alike. This workshop will provide board members with the knowledge and useful tools they can implement to gain a greater understanding of their local educational agency's budget and finances. Attendees will leave with checklists they can utilize to improve their governance and oversight roles.

Brett McFadden, Superintendent, Nevada Joint Union HSD

Daniel Denier, Board Member, Galt Joint Union HSD

Edward Wong, Board Member, Saddleback Valley USD

William Spalding, Superintendent, Galt Joint Union HSD

Community CTE Partnerships that Support Local Districts

Experienced board members

small, rural, urban, suburban, elementary school district, high school district, unified school district, county of education

Workshop

Innovation and student achievement

Learn how to create an educational foundation through a public - private partnership that supports a community goal to strengthen schools. Find out how the county superintendent and county board of education facilitated the formation of this unique and effective public-private partnership between local government, business and schools. Also learn how to promote and market a CTE partnership that meets the needs of school districts and students, all while aligning education with local economic development.

Kathy Goodacre, Executive Director, Career Technical Education Foundation

Lisa Wittke Schaffner, Board Member, Sonoma COE

Growing Capacity with Educator-Led Professional Development

Experienced board members

small, rural, urban, suburban, elementary school district, high school district, unified school district, county of education

Workshop

Innovation and student achievement

Educators from the Instructional Leadership Corps - a collaborative project of the California Teachers Association, Stanford Center for Opportunity Policy in Education, and National Board Resource Center at Stanford - have led high-quality, ongoing professional development for more than 100,000 colleagues in their local districts using research-based best practices. During the downturn in the economy and the ongoing pandemic crisis, board members and district leaders will learn how the ILC could be a cost-savings tool for their districts while also promoting student engagement and growth.

Ashley Cooper, Teacher, Conejo Valley USD

D'Artagnan Scorza, Board Member, Inglewood USD

Dion Burns, Senior Researcher, Learning Policy Institute

Melissa Gilbert, Project Coordinator and Research Associate, Stanford Center for Opportunity Policy in Educ.

How Using Data Can Propel California Distinguished Schools

Superintendents and administrators

small, rural, urban, suburban, elementary school district, high school district, unified school district, county of education

Workshop

Innovation and student achievement

El Monte City School District had five of its 14 schools recognized as California Distinguished Schools last year and achieved all "green" across the California School Dashboard. The district used data-driven instruction and focused on teacher collaboration to target each student by ability and individual data. Using the English Language Development block, we created embedded interventions, to address the needs of all learners. Groups were fluid and targeted by assessment results. Using data and accountability a district-wide focus was created and gained results with no impact on the budget.

Jennifer Cobian, Board Member, El Monte City SD

Maribel Garcia, Superintendent, El Monte City SD

Virginia Castro, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services, El Monte City SD

Innovation and Arts: The Vital Role of Visual and Performing Arts post-COVID

Superintendents and administrators

small, rural, urban, suburban, elementary school district, high school district, unified school district, county of education

Workshop

Innovation and student achievement

COVID-19 and its resulting budget cuts have created a crisis, but this cannot stop innovation. The arts are most critical at this time. Playing a vital role in social-emotional learning, wellness and achievement, the arts just might be the key that saves us all. During this time, San Gabriel USD recommitted to the arts, creatively restructuring programs to address equity and critical thinking. As a result, teachers have used innovative techniques to bring the arts to virtual classrooms.

Andrew Ammon, Board Member, San Gabriel USD

Heather Wolpert-Gawron, 21st Century Learning and Professional Development, San Gabriel USD

Samantha Theisen, Visual and Performing Arts Program Administrator, San Gabriel USD

Supporting Foster and Homeless Youth: Redlands USD's Academic Case Carriers

Superintendents and administrators

unified school district

Workshop

Innovation and student achievement

Redlands USD's Academic case carriers (ACCs) are credentialed counselors who provide intensive social-emotional and academic support. With 50 students on their caseloads, ACCs are able to help bridge the gaps between schools, families, and the community with the ultimate goal of academic success for the district's foster, homeless and other at-risk students. Working with the schools, ACCs add an additional intensive level of support that lessens the demands placed upon the sites' guidance counselors and administration. This program is funded in the Local Control and Accountability Plan and has resulted in an increase in the district's foster youth graduation rate, to that above state and county averages. This panel will present statistical data and practical ideas that can support participants' own districts in implementing similar supports.

Jim O'Neill, Board Member, Redlands USD

Juanita Watkins, Academic Case Carrier, Redlands USD

Peter Lock, Coordinator, Foster Youth and Student Support, Redlands USD

Sophia Malsher-Lopez, Academic Case Carrier, Redlands USD

COVID-19 FAQ for Governing Board Members

Superintendents and administrators, New and First Term board members

small, rural, urban, suburban, elementary school district, high school district, unified school district, county of education

Workshop

Leadership through governance, California school districts and county offices of education have cared for and educated California's 6.2 million public school students during a time of profound crisis in 2020. The COVID-19 pandemic continues to present significant challenges for California's schools. In this session, CSBA legal staff and other experts will address common questions from governing board members related to the COVID-19 pandemic and provide guidance on best practices emerging in the state.

Keith Bray, General Counsel/Chief of Staff, California School Boards Association

Current Issues Impacting Board Policy

Experienced board members, New and First Term board members

small, rural, urban, suburban, elementary school district, high school district, unified school district, county of education

Workshop

Leadership through governance

This unusual year spotlighted the need to review existing board policies and, when necessary, proactively develop new policies to ensure that the district is prepared to face unforeseen challenges. This informational workshop will highlight current legislative and legal issues impacting policy and present topics that will be addressed in upcoming updates of CSBA sample policies. Attendees will be encouraged to share critical policy issues facing their district or county office of education.

Barbara Laifman, Policy Manual Consultant, California School Boards Association

Bode Owoyele, Associate General Counsel, California School Boards Association

Diane Greene, Senior Policy Manual Consultant, California School Boards Association

Robert Tuerck, Assistant Executive Director, Policy and Governance, California School Boards Association

Welcoming with Open Arms: Building a Strong Governance Team

Experienced board members, New and First Term board members

small, rural, urban, suburban, elementary school district, high school district, unified school district, county of education

Workshop

Leadership through governance

Nearly every district in the state has had an election this year. Have new members joined your board? Do you have a process in place to welcome and orient these new folks and help them integrate into your team? Every time a new member joins your governance team the chemistry and dynamics of the group change. Learn some processes and techniques in this session for welcoming your new members and developing a strong, effective governance team that will serve your students and district well.

Daryl Camp, Masters in Governance Faculty, Superintendent, California School Boards Assoc., San Lorenzo USD

Luan Burman Rivera, Governance Educator/Consultant, California School Boards Association

CSBA Climate Change Task Force: What California Schools Can do to Address the Climate Crisis

New and First Term board members

small, rural, urban, suburban, elementary school district, high school district, unified school district, county of education

Workshop

Wellness, school climate and safety

CSBA's Climate Change Task Force, comprised of 14 school and county board trustees and two student representatives, convened in 2020 to identify areas in which CSBA can help its members address climate change and its impacts on schools. In this session, members of the Task Force will share details of the group's ongoing work, offer their perspectives on local climate-related initiatives they have undertaken, and recommend options for boards to address the climate crisis in their communities.

Carlos Regalado Figueroa, Student, Pitzer College/Alliance MIT, Los Angeles USD

Jody London, Board Member, Oakland USD

Renee Nash, Board Member, Eureka Union SD

Sameera Hussain, Student, Harmony Magnet Academy, Porterville USD

Xilonin Cruz-Gonzalez, Board Member, President, Azusa USD, CSBA

Eliminating Vaping Among Students

Experienced board members

small, rural, urban, suburban, elementary school district, high school district, unified school district, county of education

Critical Issue

Wellness, school climate and safety

Learn from a variety of health care, law enforcement and school district leaders about efforts to fight the vaping epidemic on school campuses and in the communities they serve. Hear from retired Santa Clara Community Officer Mike Robinson about the dangers of vaping and his youth outreach efforts. Also join colleagues for a deep dive into Glendale USD's lawsuit against Juul and learn about South Bay Families Connected's leadership effort to end the sale of these products in their community. Panelists will discuss lessons learned and talk about resources available to schools including Prop 56, the California Healthcare, Research and Prevention Tobacco Tax Act of 2016, approved by voters in November 2016.

Hagop Eulmessekian, Director, Student Support Services, Glendale USD

Michael Robinson, Former Community Service Officer, Santa Clara Police Department

Pure Politics: The Coming Impacts to K-12 Schools

Superintendents and administrators

small, rural, urban, suburban, elementary school district, high school district, unified school district, county of education

Workshop

Advocacy and community engagement

Change is a constant reality in California politics, but particularly so in 2020. The unanticipated impacts of the COVID-19 crisis and the ensuing budget meltdown are testing leaders at every level of government including school boards. The variables that shape the political landscape are having a big impact on education policy, local control and the funding provided to public schools. This panel will explore the impact of the new budget and laws on the future of California investments in K-12 and early education.

Barrett Snider, Partner, Capitol Advisors Group

Brian McDonald, Superintendent, Pasadena USD

Jack O'Connell, Partner, Capitol Advisors Group

Kevin Gordon, President, Capitol Advisors Group

Accurate and Equitable Grading System-wide: A Case Study

Experienced board members

high school district, elementary school district, unified school district

Workshop

Equity, opportunity and accountability

Learn how a district tackled "the grading conversation" by engaging its board, superintendent, instructional leaders and teachers by examining the pedagogical weaknesses and unfairness of many common grading practices. With a multi-year strategy of communication and teacher action research, district administrators and teachers co-developed board policies and regulations that made grading more consistent, accurate and equitable, reduced student stress, and decreased racial achievement gaps.

Jeffrey Tooker, Deputy Superintendent, Placer Union HSD

Joe Feldman, CEO, Crescendo Education Group

Maureen Ward, Board Member, Placer Union HSD

COVID-19 Revealed Inequities: How Will We Mitigate the Negative Impacts and Address Identified Barriers Moving Forward?

Superintendents and administrators

small, rural, urban, suburban, elementary school district, high school district, unified school district, county of education

Workshop

Equity, opportunity and accountability

This workshop will feature a conversation about creating culturally relevant and responsive environments for students who have been gravely impacted by inequities revealed in the abrupt transition to distant learning. CSBA's Directors-at-large will use a racial equity lens to discuss how to strategically redesign health and safety policies, teaching and learning environments, social-emotional support programs and other systems to address disparities for students of color. As advocates in meeting the needs of every child, governing boards must develop policies to create equity and ensure that allocated funds are used to support each diverse population. Equity for every child mandates a systemic approach to provide a positive welcoming school culture that eliminates failure as an option for any child. This panel will discuss successful local educational agency blueprints, processes and best practices being implemented statewide in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. Participants will leave knowing what questions to ask about equity and closing opportunity gaps in their LEAs.

Bettye Lusk, Director-at-Large, African American, Monterey Peninsula USD

Bruce Dennis, Director-at-Large, County, Riverside USD

Crystal Martinez-Alire, Director-at-Large, American Indian, Elk Grove USD

Gino Kwok, Director-at-Large, Asian Pacific Islander, Hacienda La Puente USD

Joaquin Rivera, Director-at-Large, Hispanic, Alameda COE

Disproportionality in Student Discipline: The Law vs. Practice

Experienced board members

small, rural, urban, suburban, elementary school district, high school district, unified school district, county of education

Workshop

Equity, opportunity and accountability

Various governmental authorities continue to pay close attention to disparities in student discipline, with some districts embracing approaches such as Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports, Multi-Tiered Systems of Support, restorative justice and the like to reduce disparities. This session covers legal requirements and guidance on point, technical assistance for success, and practical best strategies for addressing student disparities on the ground.

Jon Eyler, Chief Executive Officer, Collaborative Learning Solutions

Nancy Dome, Co-founder & CEO, Epoch Education, Inc

Sloan Simmons, Partner, Lozano Smith

Teresa Marquez, Associate Superintendent of Educational Services, East Side Union HSD

Equitable Hybrid/Distance Learning for English Learners: Lessons Learned and Promising Practices

Experienced board members

small, rural, urban, suburban, elementary school district, high school district, unified school district, county of education

Workshop

Equity, opportunity and accountability

In spring 2020, educators mobilized to act quickly in the brave new world of transitioning to digital and distance teaching/learning and reliance on at-home learning. Local educational agencies have all learned a great deal about digital platforms and technology, as well as lessons about meeting the needs of English learners. These lessons will be highlighted to offer suggestions for providing English learners rigorous, well-supported instruction with ample opportunities for language and critical skills development to accelerate learning. Participants will receive tools, strategies and resources to equitably address the language and learning needs of English learners.

Manuel Buenrostro, Policy Associate, Californians Together

Martha Hernandez, Director, Californians Together

Xilonin Cruz-Gonzalez, Board Member, President, Azusa USD, CSBA

Everyone Has a Role in Ensuring Equity

Experienced board members, New and First Term board members

small, rural, urban, suburban, elementary school district, high school district, unified school district, county of education

Workshop

Equity, opportunity and accountability

The State Performance Plan Technical Assistance Project (SPP-TAP) is funded by the California Department of Education to support local educational agencies in addressing disproportionality in all forms: identification, placement and discipline. When LEAs are identified as significantly disproportionate, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act mandates that it review policies, practices and procedures that contribute to its disparate student outcomes, including board policies. We will share best practices for reviewing and revising board policies that may be impacting access and opportunity for all students.

Connie Silva, Director, SPP-TAP, Napa COE

Jack Brimhall, Administrator, California Department of Education

Mildred Browne, SPP-TAP TA Facilitator, Ascendancy Solutions

Shelton Yip, Board Member, Yolo COE

Protocols and Policies for Equitable Online Teaching and Learning

Experienced board members

small, rural, urban, suburban, elementary school district, high school district, unified school district, county of education

Workshop

Equity, opportunity and accountability

Emergency closures in spring 2020 forced educators to quickly turn to remote learning. Ensuring equity and access to quality instruction, resources, tools and support was found to be challenging for many students and staff, but

especially for low-income families, special education students, English learners, and foster and homeless youth. This panel will discuss the research and learn important protocols, evidence-based practices and essential policies to ensure an engaging and effective remote learning experience that promotes strong academic outcomes for all students.

Daryl Camp, President, Superintendent, CAAASA, San Lorenzo USD

Lorrie Owens, Past President, California IT in Education

Michele Bowers, Superintendent, Lancaster USD

Sharla Berry, Assistant Professor, California Lutheran University

Retaining Male Teachers of Color Through Teacher and Administrator Partnerships

Superintendents and administrators

urban, high school district, unified school district, county of education

Workshop

Equity, opportunity and accountability

Over the past two years, educators in Compton USD have been working in partnership with university partners and researchers to create a network designed to retain male teachers and administrators of color. This is a space for them to learn from and mentor each other, increase collaboration through building trust and share challenges through the Issaquah Protocol, which models the developmentally appropriate order for questioning in coaching/consulting situations. Learn how to build on this model in your local context to affirm the humanity of educators of color and their impact on students and school climate.

Abby Ridley-Kerr, Research and Data Analyst, The Education Trust - West

Darin Brawley, Superintendent, Compton USD

John Reveles, Professor, California State University, Northridge

Micah Ali, Board Member, Compton USD

Show Me the Money! The Fiscal and Political Outlook for School Funding

Experienced board members, New and First Term board members

small, rural, urban, suburban, elementary school district, high school district, unified school district, county of education

Workshop

Funding, finance, and facilities

What is the fiscal outlook for the state and for schools in 2021 and beyond? How do the Governor, Legislature and voters play into CSBA's call for Full and Fair Funding? In this workshop, you will get an insider's perspective on what to expect from Sacramento. The nonpartisan Legislative Analyst's Office will present their most recent fiscal outlook for the California state budget with a focus on K-12 education. This session will include a frank discussion of what's on the horizon post-election., Dennis Meyers, Assistant Executive Director, Governmental Relations, California School Boards Association

Edgar Cabral, Deputy Legislative Analyst: K-12 Education, California Legislative Analyst's Office

Edgar Zazueta, Director of Policy and Governmental Relations, Association of California School Administrators

Board/Superintendent Relationships: The Good, the Great and the 'Oh, No!'

New and First Term board members

small, rural, urban, suburban, elementary school district, high school district, unified school district, county of education

Critical Issue

Leadership through governance

Research shows that a strong relationship between the board and superintendent is essential to the success of any district or county office of education. Trust and open, honest communication are crucial to building and maintaining a strong governance team. During this challenging time, a cohesive partnership is more important than ever. This workshop will focus on the principles of effective governance in order to assist school district and COE governance team members in strengthening their interpersonal relationships, improving their organizational effectiveness and keeping local educational agency efforts focused on learning and achievement for all students.

Luan Burman Rivera, Governance Consultant, California School Boards Association

Steven Ladd, Governance Consultant, California School Boards Association

COVID-19: Rebound, Reboot, Reinvent A District's Data Culture

Superintendents and administrators

urban, suburban, elementary school district, high school district, unified school district, county of education

Workshop

Leadership through governance

COVID-19 presents an opportunity for districts to rebound, reboot and reinvent a culture that relies on data to make decisions. Santa Ana USD tapped into their data culture and created solutions to collect and use information from stakeholders to identify students' academic learning gaps and social-emotional needs and take action. Presenters will share their data warehouse and tools such as pulse surveys, an electronic class creator, and data walls that, while created for the crisis, will be used well beyond to support multidisciplinary teams and district initiatives such as implementing Multi-Tiered Systems of Support.

Emily Wolk, Executive Director, Research and Evaluation, Santa Ana USD

Rigoberto Rodriguez, Board Member, Santa Ana USD

Sonia Llamas, Asst. Superintendent School Performance & Culture, Santa Ana USD

Engage, Inform, Communicate, Transform

Superintendents and administrators, New and First Term board members

urban, suburban, elementary school district, high school district, unified school district

Workshop

Leadership through governance

Communicating in the public arena is highly scrutinized now more than ever. When information is more available, abundant and instant - and complaints still arise - how do you respond? Follow the journey of a motivated 30-school district in year two of a strategic communications initiative. See how smart strategy, effective training and a deliberate focus on communications can combine to earn public trust and keep a community engaged and supportive, even during a pandemic.

Bonnie Moss, Principal, Clifford Moss LLC

James Han, Board Member, Torrance USD

Laura Crotty, Vice President, Clifford Moss LLC

Tim Stowe, Interim Superintendent, Torrance USD

Leading Change in Times of Crisis

Superintendents and administrators, New and First Term board members

high school district

Workshop

Leadership through governance, Guiding an organization through daily operations while managing transition is not easy, yet it is an integral part of leadership. The current challenge of managing a response to a pandemic requires creativity rather than looking for the "old new normal" since the "old normal" was broken on so many levels. This session will focus on three phases of change: triage, transition and transformation, which are integral in the process of envisioning a "better normal."

Russell Castañeda Calleros, Board Member, Whittier Union HSD

Sepideh Yeoh, Governance Consultant, California School Boards Association

Special Education: Delivery of Services During Current Times of 2020

New and First Term board members

small, rural, urban, suburban, elementary school district, high school district, unified school district, county of education

Critical Issue

Leadership through governance

What are the various and creative ways that special education services are being delivered during the current pandemic? What legal implications have local educational agencies faced during 2020? What special education concerns do board members need to understand? In this session, hear from practitioners and experts in the field of special education about what they are experiencing and implementing. Attendees will leave with knowledge of the

many considerations relating to specific areas of disability and various delivery models used during the pandemic. Panelists will also address how the implementation of individualized education programs (IEPs) has been affected during the pandemic and the impact this has had on students and school districts and county offices of education. Cynthia Vargas, Managing Partner, Fagen Friedman & Fulfrost LLP

Elaine Yama-Garcia, Associate General Counsel, California School Boards Association

Patty Metheny, Administrator, East Valley SELPA

Zhanna Preston, Executive Director, Special Education, Murrieta Valley USD

Virtual Board Meetings: Lessons Learned

Experienced board members

small, rural, urban, suburban, elementary school district, high school district, unified school district, county of education

Workshop

Leadership through governance

This workshop is a collaboration between the Superintendent and Executive Assistant of Yolo COE, the Executive Assistant of Davis Joint USD, and the Executive Assistant of Woodland Joint USD. This panel will share the group's experiences with virtual board meetings, lessons learned, and some best practices. It will cover preparations before school board meetings, such as posting the agenda with sample wording, and different ways to accept public comment. The panel will also share how it conducted virtual meetings by live streaming and using Webex, Zoom, and Google Meet.

Garth Lewis, Superintendent, Yolo COE

Monica Roque, Executive Assistant, Davis Joint USD

Noemi Morones, Executive Assistant to Superintendent and Governing Board, Woodland Joint USD

Yvette Seibert, Executive Assistant, Yolo COE

What You Don't Know Will Hurt Them: Sex Trafficking Prevention in Public Schools (and Colleges)

Superintendents and administrators

small, rural, urban, suburban, elementary school district, high school district, unified school district, county of education

Critical Issue

Leadership through governance

Human trafficking of children for sexual exploitation is an increasing social and cultural problem facing educators across the country. Staff and administrators at schools and colleges should educate themselves on the development of this social epidemic and how it has compromised and endangered the welfare and potential livelihoods of thousands of children as early as in elementary school. It is imperative for anyone working with children and young adults in the 21st century to understand how to recognize the signs of victimization, how children may be at risk to be lured into the not-so-underground network of global sex trafficking, and how to mobilize and implement resources - including agency and community partnerships - to prevent and minimize its harmful effects.

Elizabeth Rho-Ng, Partner, Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo

Gabriel Sandoval, Partner, Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo

Vibiana Andrade, General Counsel, Los Angeles COE

Bullying Intervention System

Superintendents and administrators

small, rural, urban, suburban, elementary school district, high school district, unified school district, county of education

Workshop

Wellness, school climate and safety

Learn how San Bernardino City USD implemented a highly effective approach called the Bullying Intervention System. Using the system, staff, students or parents can call upon a team of experts to assist in conducting an innovative restorative practice called the Undercover Anti-Bully Team (UABT). Since the beginning of the BIS, 73 cases across the district have been resolved through the UABT approach. The system also includes a QR code reporting system, database, training through a gradual release model, and efforts to clearly define the system for the whole community. Marlene Bicondova, Director, Positive Youth Development, San Bernardino City USD

Michelle Myers, Program Specialist, San Bernardino City USD

Stephanie Fletcher, Program Specialist, San Bernardino City USD

Improving Student Wellness with Healthy Buildings

Superintendents and administrators

small, rural, urban, suburban, elementary school district, high school district, unified school district, county of education

Workshop

Wellness, school climate and safety

In the wake of COVID-19, student wellness and health is more important than ever before. Next to their homes, students spend the majority of their time in school facilities. Practicing good building health practices can reduce student sick days, increase student attention and improve average daily attendance. In this session, learn about best practices regarding a variety of topics ranging from building readiness, reducing CO2 levels in the classroom and improving indoor air quality.

Elliott Feldman, Account Executive, Schneider Electric

John Calise, Executive Director, Berkeley USD

Tyler Thompson, Account Executive, Schneider Electric

New 2020 Title IX Regulations: Recommendations for Responding to and Investigating Sexual Misconduct Cases

Superintendents and administrators

small, rural, urban, suburban, elementary school district, high school district, unified school district, county of education

Workshop

Wellness, school climate and safety

Title IX prohibits sex discrimination in a school's activities and programs and requires all schools, from K-12 to postsecondary institutions, to take appropriate steps to prevent and redress issues of sex discrimination. This session will answer the question, "What do the new final Title IX regulations mean for K-12 school districts?" Presenters will review the new 2020 regulations and discuss what school districts need to do to be in compliance. Participants who attend this workshop will be able to critically review their district's policies and procedures and will be provided with additional resources and recommendations for implementation.

Billie-Jo Grant, Board of Director, Faculty, S.E.S.A.M.E., Cal Poly State University

Dave Ostash, Superintendent, Sierra Sands USD

Kurt Rockwell, Board Member, Sierra Sands USD

Terri Miller, President, S.E.S.A.M.E.

Site-Based Mental Wellness

Experienced board members

small, rural, urban, suburban, elementary school district, high school district, unified school district, county of education

Workshop

Wellness, school climate and safety

The San Mateo Union high school district's Mental Health Wellness program provides prevention and short-term intervention services for students facing social and emotional challenges that impact academic performance, attendance and behavior at six comprehensive high schools and one continuation school. The program offers short-term individual, group and drop-in support in a confidential, non-judgmental space staffed with wellness counselors dedicated to improving the health, well-being and educational outcomes of all students. This workshop will discuss the district's process and experience in setting up a site-based mental health program, student usage, and outcomes both from a student and site-based perspective. The presentation will also discuss the costs and innovative ways of funding a program like this.

April Torres, Director, Mental Health Programs, San Mateo Union HSD

Kevin Skelly, Superintendent, San Mateo Union HSD

Marc Friedman, Board Member, San Mateo Union HSD

Supporting Mental Health for Students and Educators

Experienced board members

rural, urban, suburban, high school district, unified school district, elementary school district

Critical Issue

Wellness, school climate and safety

Hear a multi-pronged approach to supporting mental health for students and the educators that work with them. Hear about how Bakersfield City School District opened four student wellness centers that provide individual, group and family therapy with credentialed school social workers. Learn about the California Department of Education's Mental Health Services Program, including youth suicide prevention and postvention resources. Finally, participants will learn about how to support teachers impacted by secondary traumatic stress (STS), including Support for Teachers Affected by Trauma , a curriculum for preK-12 educators that offers ways to mitigate the effects of STS through self-care techniques and other resources.

Mary Briggs, Education Policy Analyst, California School Boards Association

Monica Nepomuceno, Education Programs Consultant, California Department of Education

Steve Hydon, Director of Social Work in Schools Program, University of Southern California

Tim Fulenwider, Executive Director, Instructional Support Services, Bakersfield City SD

The Way We Were: Honor Tradition, Imagine the Future

Superintendents and administrators

suburban, unified school district

Workshop

Wellness, school climate and safety

Research on school climate and wellness includes alternatives to exclusionary discipline, mindfulness and trauma-informed approaches. These strategies address equity among students that are furthest from opportunity. As school districts focus on climate, a growth mindset expands the conversation from "What is wrong with you?" to "What happened to you?" Objectives include: Creating an equitable school climate, improving student wellness and developing meaningful partnerships with community resource providers.

April Jones, District Marriage and Family Therapist, Hemet USD

Tracy Piper, Director, Student Support Services, Hemet USD

Valerie Velez, Health Education Program Specialist, Hemet USD

Working Together for Student Success: Collaborative Problem Solving

Superintendents and administrators, New and First Term board members

small, rural, urban, suburban, elementary school district, high school district, unified school district, county of education

Workshop

Wellness, school climate and safety

In the Magnolia School District, district administrators engage with staff leaders to face issues together, finding that communication among empowered staff groups enhances district analysis, strengthens its results and facilitates understanding and implementation of key plans and programs. These efforts have led the district's diverse student population to impressive achievement levels, and Magnolia SD is proud to be designated a "positive outlier" by the prestigious Learning Policy Institute at Stanford University. The district's collaborative practices, in planning as well as in negotiations, are fundamental to its success. This panel will share strategies and training tips so that other districts can embrace a collaborative culture that leads to students' success.

David Appling, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources, Magnolia SD

Frank Donavan, Superintendent, Magnolia SD

Louise Taylor, Assistant Executive Director, School Employers Association of California

Nathan Zug, Board Member, Magnolia SD

Navigating Employee Leave Policies During the COVID-19 Era

Superintendents and administrators

small, rural, urban, suburban, elementary school district, high school district, unified school district

Table Talk

Equity, opportunity and accountability

Employee leave policies are complicated at the best of times, let alone during a global pandemic. With the passing of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, California Executive Orders, and many city-wide ordinances, school districts must understand when and how to apply relevant leave policies to ensure compliance with the multitude of labor and employment laws. This workshop will focus on the policies available to school employees - both old and new - and when each policy may be utilized.

Alexandra Worthy, Associate Attorney, Parker & Covert LLP

Grant Funding Strategies During these Unprecedented Times

Experienced board members

small, rural, urban, suburban

Table Talk

Funding, finance, and facilities

During these challenging times, we are faced with maximizing returns on the district public funds being spent on grant writing services. We have spoken to countless administrators who have shared a variety of scenarios regarding the pending 2020-21 budget cuts. Our team of project managers has researched and identified COVID Care Act funds and other grant funding opportunities that are available to increase student achievement, learning outcomes, and attendance strategies, therefore, we can create funding strategies to address the greatest concerns for every district board members/administrator throughout California.

Steve Samuelian, CEO, California Consulting, Inc.

Using Early Retirement Plans to Reduce Layoffs

Superintendents and administrators

small, rural, urban, suburban, elementary school district, high School district, unified school district, county of education

Table Talk

Funding, finance, and facilities

As school districts face the damaging effects of COVID-19 on their budgets, layoffs have become the reality. Join a discussion with industry experts to learn how Early Retirement Plans can be an important tool to create budget savings and restructure your workforce while reducing or avoiding layoffs. The discussion will include examples from school districts that illustrate the latest approaches used to (1) properly analyze the fiscal impact and (2) design and implement successful plans.

Ryan Nicasio, Vice President, PARS

The Five Pillars of Healthy Buildings

Superintendents and administrators

small, rural, urban, suburban, elementary school district, high School district, unified school district, county of education

Table Talk

Wellness, school climate and safety

In the wake of COVID-19 student wellness and health is more important now than ever before. Next to their homes students spend the majority of their time in school facilities. Practicing good building health practices can reduce student sick days, increase student attention, and improve ADA. In this session learn about the five pillars essential to healthy buildings that include everything from building readiness, reducing CO2 levels in the classroom, and improving indoor air quality.

Tyler Thompson, Account Executive, Schneider Electric