

# Schedule Overview

## Virtual



Thursday, December 9, 2021

Session time slots are listed below:

- 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM
- 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM
- 2:30 PM – 3:30 PM

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### A Collaborative Approach to 24 hour, Crisis Response Programming for Students and Families

#### WELLNESS AND MENTAL HEALTH

This session will highlight an innovative, city wide, 24 hour crisis response program serving students and families who require trauma informed stabilization and connection to mental health resources. The presentation includes an overview of the funding and structure as well as concrete resources to design a program informed by best practice.

*Alison Lustbader, Health Program Coordinator, San Francisco Department of Public Health*  
*Alee Sbicca, Director of Crisis Services, Seneca Family of Agencies*  
*Kevin Gogin, Director of Safety and Wellness, San Francisco USD*  
*Jenny Lam, Commissioner, San Francisco School Board of Education*

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### Advocacy 101: How to be an Effective Advocate

#### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ADVOCACY

This session will cover the most effective strategies that both new and veteran school district and county board of education trustees will find useful in Sacramento, Washington, D.C., local legislative offices and the school community at large. Hear from veteran education advocates on how they build and maintain relationships with local, state, and federal representatives. How to build and maintain relationships with legislators, staff, and others in the community as well as tools and resources available to help board members advocate on behalf of their students, local schools and programs and CSBA will also be covered.

*Dennis Meyers, Asst. Executive Director, Government Relations, California School Boards Association*  
*Nancy Chaires Espinoza, Board Member, Elk Grove USD*  
*Raquel Maden, External Affairs Director, California School Boards Association*

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### African American Student Equity: P.R.O.U.D. Academy

#### EQUITY AND OPPORTUNITY

Powerful, Resilient, Outstanding, Unique, Determined (PROUD) Academy is a program that provides culturally relevant curriculum and mentoring for African American students. Data shows that students enrolled in the program not only outperform academically but have higher levels of school engagement. Participants will learn specific, replicable steps to leverage their equity policies and build a sustainable program that increases student achievement for African Americans.

*Lewis Neal, Youth Services Coordinator, Bakersfield City SD*  
*Pam Baugher, Board President, Bakersfield City SD*  
*Tim Fulenwider, Executive Director, ISSD, Bakersfield City SD*  
*Mark Luque, Superintendent, Bakersfield City SD*

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## Asian American and Pacific Islander Students in Focus

### EQUITY AND OPPORTUNITY

California's Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) population contains significant socioeconomic, demographic and academic differences, all of which played a role in their experiences during the pandemic. This session highlights major trends in the broader issues experienced by AAPI students and communities during the pandemic. Panelists will highlight strategies to best uplift AAPI voices in their communities and support AAPI students while addressing rising discrimination.

*Jeremy Anderson, Education Policy Analyst, California School Boards Association*

*Amy Koo, President, Belmont Redwood Shores ESD*

*Gee Wah Mok, Governing Board Trustee, Del Mar Union SD*

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## Beyond Back to School Nights and Surveys: How to Develop Equitable and Authentic Family Engagement

### LEADERSHIP THROUGH GOVERNANCE

Hear innovative strategies for equitable and effective family engagement from local education leaders, including Cajon Valley USD, the San Bernadino superintendent and Families in Schools. Learn from their local efforts as well as the multi year, statewide Community Engagement Initiative that builds the capacity of districts. Additionally, PIQE will share their Ambassadors program, which builds parent leadership and advocacy at the state level through strategic advocacy. Participants will leave with concrete resources and strategies they can adapt to their local contexts.

*Marcelino Serna, Parent/Family Community Engagement Program Special, San Bernardino COE*

*Tamara Otero, Board Member, Cajon Valley Union SD*

*Rachel Gonzalez Martinez, Director of Training and Capacity Building, Families in Schools*

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## Board Meetings in a Virtual World

### LEADERSHIP THROUGH GOVERNANCE

As a result of Gov. Newsom signing AB 361, which allows teleconferenced meetings through Jan. 2024, boards should know what they can and can't, as well as should and shouldn't do. Taking public comment, accommodating speakers in person, and managing online behavior are all important considerations for boards as they look at the future of holding virtual meetings. Tips on translation, streaming, storing recordings and more will be offered.

*Gretchen Shipley, Partner, Fagen Friedman & Fulfrost*

*Matt Vance, Managing Associate, Fagen Friedman & Fulfrost*

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## Conducting a Successful Superintendent Search

### LEADERSHIP THROUGH GOVERNANCE

In this session, board members will learn the steps involved to conduct a successful superintendent search. The discussion will include determining the characteristics of the new superintendent, advertising the opening, involving the district stakeholders, recruiting and screening the applicants, interviewing finalists and selecting a new superintendent.

*Mr. Ben Johnson, II, Consultant, McPherson & Jacobson, LLC*

*Daniel Moirao, Consultant, McPherson & Jacobson, LLC*

*William Huyett, Consultant, McPherson & Jacobson, LLC*

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## Critical Issues Facing Small School Districts

### SMALL SCHOOL DISTRICTS

This session will be addressing critical issues that small school districts are facing. With more than half of the school districts in California being considered small, we wanted to use this session to address issues that are impacting many small school districts across California. We will have a knowledgeable panel that will discuss the best practices and challenges associated with small districts. We will be addressing such issues as:

- Superintendent/Governance team relations — governing in a time of stress and conflict
- Transportation

- Teacher Recruitment/Retention/Teacher Shortages
- Connectivity/Distance Learning
- Declining enrollment
- Mental health supports
- Creating and maintaining Partnerships

CSBA understands the importance of addressing such issues and specifically how they impact small school districts. Our conversation will be rich with “out of the box” concepts that you might be able to apply to your small school district.

*Teri Vigil, Governance Educator/Consultant, Board Member, California School Boards Ass, Fall River Joint USD*

*Ignacio Venegas, Trustee, Fall River Joint USD*

*Abigail Solis, Board Member, Earlimart ESD*

*Merrill Grant, Superintendent, Fall River Joint USD*

*Jose Lopez, Board Member, Gonzalez USD*

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## Current Legal Issues Facing Governing Boards: Guidance for Board Members

### LEADERSHIP THROUGH GOVERNANCE

Governing boards have worked nonstop since March of 2020 to effectively serve students and govern amid extremely difficult circumstances including responding to a bevy of new laws, executive orders, and public health advisories and directives. In this session facilitated by CSBA, attorneys from California’s top education law firms will provide guidance on the most current legal issues impacting school districts and county offices of education. The workshop will cover the legal issues determined to be most relevant for governing boards immediately preceding the session.

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

*Gregory Dannis, Shareholder, Dannis Woliver Kelley*

*Peter Schaffert, Partner, Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo*

*Peter Fagen, Partner, Fagen Friedman & Fulfrost*

*Karen Rezendes, Partner, Lozano Smith*

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## Ethnic Studies — Past, Present and Future

### EQUITY AND OPPORTUNITY

Ethnic Studies has long been taught in California’s colleges and universities, but to a lesser extent in its high schools. Several legislative attempts have been made to require it as a condition of graduation at both the high school and collegiate levels. Recognized as the interdisciplinary study of the economic, social, political, and national histories that define our nation’s diversity and historical perspectives, it enhances the understanding, cross cultural understanding, and greater appreciation of our nation’s history and social struggles. Goals of the workshop are to: Explain the importance of Ethnic Studies; explain what it is and what it is not; provide information on benefits to students; dispel myths and rumors about critical race theory; and provide information on how LEAs have already implemented ethnic studies.

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- Provide info on how LEAs have already implemented it

*Jose Medina, Assemblymember, State of California*

*Chris Reefe, Legislative Director, California School Boards Association*

*Luis Alejo, Assemblymember, State of California*

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## Federal Actions and Activity 2021

### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ADVOCACY

An update of all actions and activities of the Biden Administration, Congress and the U.S. Department of Education. Hear about what is happening with the federal budget and the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds, what Congress is

doing (or not), and what we can expect from the U.S. Department of Education, the Department of Agriculture, and the Federal Communications Commission. Also, what is working and what isn't working at the federal level.

*Erika Hoffman, Legislative Advocate, California School Boards Association*

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## How to leverage Medi Cal to Transform School based Mental Health Services

### FUNDING AND FINANCE

California's 2021-22 adopted budget included \$20 billion in historic investments to support the mental health and wellness of children and youth in Education and Public Health. The state's unprecedented investments in community schools, youth behavioral health, and expanded learning opportunities all support a "whole child approach" centered on student wellbeing. This panel includes statewide expertise in Medi Cal finance, as well as board members from San Francisco, Oakland and Washington Unified School Districts to discuss successes and hurdles in leveraging Medi Cal to access federal funding. We will present real life experiences of investing in, and sustaining, school based mental health programs. This includes challenges of federal claiming, as well as opportunities to strategically plan and spend one time funding that leads to long term school mental and behavioral supports.

*Faauga Moliga, Board Member, San Francisco USD*

*Alex Briscoe, Principal, California Children's Trust*

*Aimee Eng, School Board Director, Oakland USD*

*Jackie Wong, Board Vice President, Washington USD/West Sacramento*

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## How to Pass a Parcel Tax for Employee Compensation

### FUNDING AND FINANCE

In 2018, the Davis Joint USD Board of Education set an ambitious goal of ensuring all employee groups were paid at or above the regional comparative average. As a below average funded district, it became increasingly difficult to attract and retain the highest caliber employees, maintain excellent programs and remain fiscally solvent. The Board Parcel Tax subcommittee, in collaboration with senior staff, employee association leaders and community leaders set out to educate the community about this dilemma and pursue a Parcel Tax ballot initiative in the March 2020 election. The Parcel Tax effort was successful and Davis Joint USD leaders want to share what they learned about this ambitious and innovative process.

*Matt Best, Interim Superintendent, Davis Joint USD*

*Joe DiNunzio, Board Member, Davis Joint USD*

*Victor Lagunes, Past President and Negotiation Chair, Davis Teachers Association*

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## Improving Student Achievement without Additional Funding

### LEADERSHIP THROUGH GOVERNANCE

In May of 2017, CSBA published "The School Board Role in Creating the Conditions for Student Achievement: A Review of the Research." This workshop will provide an overview of the content and value of the document and will identify over 20 strategies a board can implement to increase student achievement without additional funding. A board member from a small unified school district and a superintendent from a large unified district will provide specific examples of research based, successful programs and practices that will impact student achievement irrespective of the demographics of the district. Each participant's takeaways will include a list of 20 strategies as well as a discussion guide for using the CSBA document with their governance teams.

*Mary Briggs, Director, Research and Education Policy Dev, California School Boards Association*

*Monika Moulin, Board Member, Yosemite USD*

*Mary Sieu, Superintendent, ABC USD*

*Bob Caine, Governance Consultant, California School Boards Association*

*Annette Yee, Governance Consultant, California School Boards Association*

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## Investing in "At Promise" Students

### COUNTY OFFICES OF EDUCATION

Learn about the Alameda COE's "Earn, Learn, Thrive and Lead" model to ensure all their continuation school students have access to career technical education, work based learning, early college, civic engagement and leadership. Learn about Sacramento COE's early college program for court school students, its fifth year high school program, and partnership with Big Picture Learning Schools to help

SCOE students better understand who they are and find their direction in life. SCOE launched a Resiliency Scholarship Fund for its promise students to help them take the next step in their journey to adulthood. The presentations will address how the board of trustees and superintendent work together to promote at promise student success.

*Dave Gordon, Superintendent, Sacramento COE*  
*Bina Lefkowitz, Board Member, Sacramento COE*  
*LK Monroe, Superintendent, Alameda COE*

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## Layoffs: If You Need Them, Are You Ready?

### FUNDING AND FINANCE

The COVID 19 pandemic has had a significant impact on school districts in too many ways to count. In many cases, the pandemic has likely affected your district's budget, and this may result in the difficult decision to lay off certificated or academic positions. Does your district have an up to date seniority list to implement a layoff? Does it know the steps and deadlines necessary to plan for such a layoff? This workshop will give boards the information they need to lead their districts through these challenging decisions.

*Laura Schulkind, Partner, Liebert Cassidy Whitmore*  
*Jenine Lindsey, Executive Director of Labor Relations & ADR, Oakland USD*  
*Amy Brandt, Associate, Liebert Cassidy Whitmore*

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## PreK to Third Grade: A Small District's Big Commitment

### SMALL SCHOOL DISTRICTS

This session will focus on Buttonwillow's effort to build an academic and structural bridge between its preschool and kindergarten third programs using California Education Partners' Preschool Through Third Grade Coherence Collaboration (P3CC). Learn how this small district built capacity and leveraged resources to create cross functional district teams focused on preK through third grade transitions with the greatest benefits to English learners and socio economically disadvantaged students.

*Keyur Shah, Program Manager, California Education Partners*  
*Stuart Packard, Superintendent, Buttonwillow ESD*  
*Jackie Gonzalez, Teacher, Buttonwillow ESD*

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## Present and Future Legal Impacts of AB 130

### EQUITY AND OPPORTUNITY

As we approach the second half of the 2021-22 school year, many school districts will be seeking to address the needs of students who have chosen to enroll in independent study but have not been successful in this type of learning environment. We will explore options for reengagement with a focus on particular issues for students with disabilities. If, as hoped, schools are fully in-person in 2021-22 school year, what will be the potential legal hot spots as we transition large portions of our student population to school sites. Finally, we look at recent legal trends around independent study to provide guidance on ensuring your independent study program is legally defensible.

*Matthew Tamel, Shareholder, Dannis Woliver Kelley*  
*Pamela Townsend, Shareholder, Dannis Woliver Kelley*

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## Pure Politics: The Coming Impacts to K-12 Schools

### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ADVOCACY

The unanticipated impacts of the COVID 19 crisis and the unprecedented array of community, family and student needs 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 new laws on the future of California investments in K-12 and early education.

*Kevin Gordon, President, Capitol Advisors Group*  
*Jack O'Connell, Partner, Capitol Advisors Group*  
*Barrett Snider, Partner, Capitol Advisors Group*  
*Brian McDonald, Superintendent, Pasadena USD*

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## Reimagining Districtwide Professional Learning to Empower Educators

### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ADVOCACY

The pandemic has highlighted the need to adapt professional learning in this rapidly changing environment. To create widespread sustainable change and a culture of innovation, Poway USD has shifted from a one size fits all model of presenting in person professional learning to a virtual model utilizing live and asynchronous sessions, self paced courses, broadcasts and social media. Participants will learn how to transform professional learning by leveraging technology to meet the diverse needs of school districts.

*Marian Kim Phelps, Superintendent, Poway USD*

*Jennifer Burks, Associate Superintendent of Tech and Innovation, Poway USD*

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## Roadmap for Farm to School: From Starting to Scaling Up

### WELLNESS AND MENTAL HEALTH

The Natomas USD farm to school program has resulted in school gardens, cooking clubs, farm field trips, and the start of a CTE Culinary Hospitality program which enhances student achievement. This session will cover finding farmers that meet your criteria, contracts, delivery and menuing items. Presenters will also cover farm to school lessons in the classroom and discuss various grants and organizations that can help along the way. Attendees will leave with resources for organizations and knowledge of funding opportunities for farm to school.

*Vince Caguin, Executive Director, Natomas USD*

*Doug Orr, Associate Superintendent, Natomas USD*

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## School After COVID 19: How Boards Can Support Students and Communities

### WELLNESS AND MENTAL HEALTH

Everyone in the education community has been affected by the COVID 19 pandemic. This past school year, schools continued to educate students while communities experienced disruptions to their daily lives, and risks to their health and the health of those around them. As schools returned for the 2021–22 school year, Local educational agencies have worked to ensure students receive appropriate academic support and mental health support. In this session, learn from experts about how governing boards can effectively support students' academic growth as well as their mental health and wellness, and how boards can effectively communicate with families and their school community about their LEA's approach.

*Mike Ambrose, Associate General Counsel, California School Boards Association*

*Lori Mueller, Partner, Donovan Group*

*Barbara Ryan, Trustee, Santee SD*

*Aleah Rosario, Director of Programs, Partnership for Children & Youth*

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## School District Workforce Housing in California: Is it Within Your District's Reach?

### FUNDING AND FINANCE

The cost of housing in many California communities has become the single largest, and sometimes most cost-prohibitive, expense in many households. As public entities, school district salaries often cannot keep pace with the cost of living in the very communities they serve. This session will focus on options for school districts to invest in the development of housing to assist in recruiting and retaining a talented workforce that can live and work in the same community. Recent legislation, such as the Teacher Housing Act of 2016, are making these options more attainable. Some of the topics that will be covered include funding options for workforce housing projects, as well as land use, planning and development challenges for school district entities that are not in the business of routinely building residential developments. We will also touch on various legal and practical structures for pursuing workforce housing.

*Clarissa Canady, Shareholder, Dannis Woliver Kelley*

*Rachel Brilliant, Special Counsel, Dannis Woliver Kelley*

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## “Speaking Out of School”?: The U.S. Supreme Court’s Latest on the Regulation of Off-Campus Student Expression

### LEADERSHIP THROUGH GOVERNANCE

In 2021, for the first time since 2007, the United States Supreme Court addressed student free speech rights under the First Amendment and school officials’ ability to regulate that expression. In *Mahanoy Area School District v. B.L.*, the high court addressed the parameters and limits for schools’ regulation of student off-campus speech. In this session, Lozano Smith Partner and student speech expert Sloan Simmons discusses the Supreme Court’s B.L. decision and its implications for California school districts.

*Sloan Simmons, Partner, Lozano Smith*

*Michael Smith, Partner, Lozano Smith*

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## The Latest on Charter Schools and Tools to Help Small Authorizers

### SMALL SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Charter school authorizing is hard for small districts and county offices, more so after the pandemic and amid changes in California law and politics. Learn about the key challenges and new toolkits for meeting them. Developed in collaboration with WestEd and authorizers from across the state, the toolkits are available at no cost and designed for use by even the smallest authorizers, within staffing and budget constraints. They can minimize legal and financial risks and ensure that charter schools serve all students and contribute to stronger school systems.

*Richard Urias, Principal, Oxnard Union HSD*

*Tom Hutton, Executive Director, California Charter Authorizing Professionals*

*Tim Taylor, Executive Director, Small School Districts’ Association*

*David Patterson, Board Member, Placer COE*

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## Workforce Housing Panel: Strategies Using Existing Property and Stories From the Field

### FUNDING AND FINANCE

District/county school board members, university researchers, community partners, financiers and developers discuss real world experiences and challenges in leveraging existing school property for workforce housing. The panel functions as an opportunity for school districts and county offices of education to hear from colleagues and experts about a novel approach to addressing workforce housing needs with a goal of encouraging further exploration with the support of a statewide organization like CSBA and its partners. Districts and counties facing teacher retention issues, cost of living challenges, and recruitment struggles have an opportunity to leverage unused or underutilized property to create affordable workforce housing. CSBA, UC Berkeley, UCLA, and Chan Zuckerberg are partnering to create clear pathways with technical assistance and expertise for districts and counties to leverage their existing assets in a way that benefits students, teachers, the community, and ultimately retains local control of valuable district real estate.

*Ruby Bolaria-Shifrin, Director of Housing Affordability, Chan Zuckerberg Initiative*

*Julie Sinai, Board Director, Berkeley USD*

*Albert Grazioli, Director, Facilities Real Estate & Asset Dev., Los Angeles USD*

*Robin Hughes, President and CEO, Abode Communities*

# Friday, December 10, 2021

Session time slots are listed below:

- 10:15 AM – 11:15 AM
- 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM
- 1:30 PM – 2:30 PM

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## 2022 General Obligation Bond Jeopardy

### FUNDING AND FINANCE

Come be a part of a fun, educational, and interactive hour. This session will not be a standard presentation, it will be set up as a Jeopardy format with participants that have subject matter expertise. After providing the basic foundation for a general obligation bond measure process there will be new information related to the political, financial and legal environments that school districts must navigate as they consider much needed funding for school facilities. When considering placing a general obligation bond measure on the ballot, being knowledgeable, well informed and up to date has always been important. With the changes in voter behavior and dramatic changes in interest rates that took place in 2020 now more than ever it is important to have the most current information.

*Adam Bauer, CEO, Fieldman, Rolapp & Associates, Inc.*  
*Darrin Watters, Deputy Superintendent Business Services, Hemet USD*  
*Donald Field, Partner, Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP*  
*John Baracy, Managing Director, Raymond James*

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## Advocacy 102: Insights from a Staffer's Perspective

### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ADVOCACY

This session will focus on how board members can have successful advocacy meetings with state and federal legislators and their staff. Legislative staffers and district representatives will typically join a legislator in advocacy meetings, and as a result, they are uniquely positioned to demonstrate what a successful lobbying meeting looks like. Hear from former legislative staffers and a CSBA advocate on the do's and don'ts to ensure a successful advocacy meeting. The idea for this workshop is to host a discussion between CSBA PACER's and current board members on the lessons they learned as former staffers, combined with an advocate's perspective on what constitutes effective advocacy.

*Nicholas Cabeza, PACERS, California School Boards Association*  
*Linda Salomon Saldana, Board Member, Downey USD*  
*Gina Daly, Board Member, San Rafael City Schools*  
*Cheryl Ide, Legislative Advocate, California School Boards Association*

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## Anti-Racism Coalition

### EQUITY AND OPPORTUNITY

The Palm Springs USD's Anti Racism Coalition was organized in July 2020. The ARC is comprised of staff, parents and students who are laser focused on becoming an antiracist organization. This presentation will outline steps taken to develop a robust policy that ensures board support and ongoing monitoring as well as how to develop short and long term goals rooted in the district's belief statements that illustrate the importance of high expectations for all and for having an inclusive and supportive learning community. This presentation will demonstrate the impact that dedicated staff and community volunteers can have on students of color concerning school connectedness, racism and stereotypes, and academic achievement.

*Lasonya Pitts, Director, Classified Human Resources, Palm Springs USD*  
*Simone Kovats, Director, Elementary Programs, Palm Springs USD*  
*Michael Swize, Superintendent, Palm Springs USD*  
*Timothy Wood, Board Member, Palm Springs USD*

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## Breaking Down the Walls — Outdoor Learning Environments for COVID and Beyond

### WELLNESS AND MENTAL HEALTH

When we take lessons outside our classroom walls, we teach our children that learning can happen anywhere and anytime, promoting lifelong curiosity. At the end of this workshop, participants will have gained a deeper understanding of the importance of learning outdoors and its physical, mental health and overall well being benefits as well as its academic benefits for students. Attendees will be able to advocate for outdoor classrooms and spaces by providing tips to overcome roadblocks, make improvements and achieve success. They will also have learned about funding opportunities to finance the infrastructure and how to invest in professional development and community based partnerships needed to develop, design, construct and implement outdoor learning environments.

*Virginia Marquardt, Principal in Charge, HMC Architects*

*Shaun Hawke, Project Director III, Outdoor & Marine Science Field Study, Los Angeles COE*

*Jema Estrella, Director of Facilities and Construction, Los Angeles COE*

*Julie Strauss, Director, School Advisors*

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## California's Fiscal & Economic Outlook: Implications for K 12 Schools

### FUNDING AND FINANCE

California's top elected officials managing all of the state's fiscal resources are Treasurer Fiona Ma and State Controller Betty Yee. No two people have a sense of the future of the state's economy and fiscal health better than these statewide elected officials. Jack O'Connell, former State Superintendent of Schools and founding partner of Capitol Advisors Group will lead an informative and essential look at the post COVID variables facing the state that will impact the school funding outlook.

*Jack O'Connell, Partner, Capitol Advisors Group*

*Angelo Farooq, Board Member, Riverside USD*

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## Culturally Responsive Family Engagement

### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ADVOCACY

Bakersfield City SD will share replicable strategies to build and leverage parent leader capacity to create culturally responsive family engagement practices. These pandemic proof scalable in person and virtual practices minimize the number of barriers for parent engagement and effectively engage parents. Presenters will highlight ways to replicate these strategies with minimal cost to create a sustainable culturally responsive engagement program for both schools and local educational agencies.

*Mark Luque, Superintendent, Bakersfield City SD*

*Pam Baugher, Board Member, Bakersfield City SD*

*Dee Dee Harrison, Coordinator, FACE, Bakersfield City SD*

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## Current Issues Impacting Board Policy

### LEADERSHIP THROUGH GOVERNANCE

This year's ongoing climate of uncertainty has underscored the importance of developing a nimble and efficient approach to updating policy in response to constantly emerging data, trends and protocols. 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 creative solutions as well as critical policy issues facing their district or county office of education.

*Tezeta Stewartz, Director of Gamut Policy Services, California School Boards Association*

*Robert Tuerck, Chief Legal Counsel, California School Boards Association*

*Barbara Laifman, Policy Manual Consultant, California School Boards Association*

*Elaine Yama Garcia, Assistant Executive Director, California School Boards Association*

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## Empty Classrooms, Empty Lots — Reuse, Recycle, Retain?

### FUNDING AND FINANCE

As enrollment flattens or declines, districts may have underfilled schools and underused sites. Boards should carefully consider the complex issues of leasing and selling before taking action that will have lasting implications and is likely to raise significant community

concern. These experienced education law attorneys have helped several districts consider options for using surplus land and will offer valuable tips for board members and superintendents.

*Kelley Owens, Partner, Fagen Friedman & Fulfrost*  
*Sarah Polito, Associate, Fagen Friedman & Fulfrost*

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## Critical Race Theory, Ethnic Studies and Assembly Bill 101

### LEADERSHIP THROUGH GOVERNANCE

Join us as we explore the interplay between Critical Race Theory and Ethnic Studies, common misconceptions, changes in the law, and the ways in which local educational agencies are addressing support for and criticism against the new curriculum.

*Brooke Jimenez, Partner, Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo*  
*Beverly Ozowara, Senior Associate, Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo*

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## How Do We Respond to Hate Crimes in California?

### EQUITY AND OPPORTUNITY

Our school communities have been galvanized to equity work and this has brought increased pushback in the form of hate sentiment and violence. How can Board members support our communities in anti hate? What is California's Department of Justice doing? What is happening at the intersection of equity, ethnic studies and dominant culture? How can we respond to support all of our students and specifically, our students of color? Rob Bonta is California's Attorney General, the first Filipino American to hold the position. He represented the East Bay in the State Assembly from 2012-2021. He was born in the Philippines and grew up in the Central Valley where his parents helped to organize farmworkers, alongside Cesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta. He is a graduate of Yale Law School. He works to protect and uplift vulnerable communities and his focus on immigrant rights is critical in California. He will explore and address these current key issues for California School Board members.

*Rob Bonta, Attorney General of California, State of California*  
*Tony Ubalde, Board President, Vallejo City USD*  
*Cynthia Chang, President, Asian Pacific Islander School Board Members Assoc,*

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## How To Lead Your Board Meetings Away From Criticism And Chaos To Decorum And Order

### LEADERSHIP THROUGH GOVERNANCE

Governing boards across the state are under siege with unruly parents and community members angry over COVID related issues (masks and vaccines), ethnic studies issues, and more. Board members and staff are being threatened and often feel unsafe during these public meetings. This session will discuss best practices for addressing and preventing this behavior at your board meetings; de-escalation techniques when chaos begins; and how to ensure Brown Act compliance throughout it all.

*Michelle Cannon, Partner, Lozano Smith*  
*Roman Muñoz, Partner, Lozano Smith*  
*Anne Collins, Partner, Lozano Smith*

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## Leading Through Listening: Student and Community Voice in Disaster Recovery

### COUNTY OFFICES OF EDUCATION

In response to a lack of firsthand data about how the pandemic and California fires have affected students' lived experiences, this session will educate adults on what students have to say about learning and well being in 2020-21. Presenters will explore survey findings from over 22,000 students in grades 3-12 across nearly 90 schools from 19 Sonoma County districts. Through interactive protocols and community building exercises, participants will engage with student voice data, share observations and insights and leave with resources to prioritize youth voices in recovery strategies.

*Sonya Heisters, Deputy Director, YouthTruth*  
*Jessica Progulsk, College and Career Readiness for Student Agency, Sonoma COE*

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## Lift Up All Students with Equity

### FUNDING AND FINANCE

Join us for a discussion on equity and how all students benefit when we focus on what students need versus giving all students the same support. Equity for each and every child mandates a systemic approach to provide a positive welcoming school culture which eliminates “failure as an option” for any child. In light of the pandemic, everyone is coming to school from a different place, and we want all students to succeed. Focusing on equity means understanding where each child is at and so we can offer the right support.

We will define what equity is and what it is not. Equity is about providing the supports that each child needs to achieve their fullest potential, but the supports alone don’t guarantee success. Every child still has to put in hard work and diligence in order to reach their potential. Receiving the right supports at the right time helps to level the playing field so one child isn’t working twice as hard as another child.

As governing boards, district administration, and other stakeholders involved in meeting the needs of every child, you must review your district’s policies, administrative regulations, and programs to ensure that they are intentional in its focus on equity. Every district is in a different stage on the equity journey, so this presentation will share some of the resources available to help you move forward in creating an equitable learning environment.

*Barbara Mullen, Chief Equity and Diversity Officer, Providence Public Schools*  
*Bettye Lusk, Director-at-Large, African American, Monterey Peninsula USD*  
*Diann Kitamura, Retired Superintendent, Santa Rosa City Schools*  
*Ricardo Esquivel, Assistant Superintendent, San Bernardino City USD*  
*Matthew Espinosa, Program Specialist, Elk Grove USD*  
*Casaundra McNair, Director of Special Education, Riverside County Office of Education*

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## Masking and Vaccination Laws

### LEADERSHIP THROUGH GOVERNANCE

Pushed by both new scientific data and quickly changing regulations, boards are facing constant questions about masks and vaccines. This experienced education law attorney will provide an update on the latest guidance and laws, as well as help board members strategize how to navigate these controversial topics in their contact with parents, students, staff and media.

*Lisa Mori, Partner, Fagen Friedman & Fulfrost*

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## Mental Health and Wellness in School Communities — Immediate Engagement and Enduring Support

### WELLNESS AND MENTAL HEALTH

The COVID 19 pandemic exacerbated mental health problems for students, staff and parents. These issues have left district leaders wondering what they can do to best support their schools and communities. This panel will address uplifting the voices of marginalized communities as they respond to mental health issues, strategies for maximizing the multi tiered systems of supports and resources to support holistic mental health investments.

*Jeremy Anderson, Education Policy Analyst, California School Boards Association*  
*Theresa Reed, STARS Advisor and FYSI Liaison, Pasadena City College*  
*Mayra Alvarez, President, The Children’s Partnership*  
*Mara Madrigal Weiss, Executive Director of Student Wellness and School, San Diego COE*

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## Our Vision, Mission, Strategic Plan, and Pandemic Journey

### SMALL SCHOOL DISTRICTS

This passion filled workshop will engage all participants in the Greenfield USD journey to staying focused on our vision, mission, core values and strategic plan amid a pandemic. The impact on student academic achievement and social emotional learning through engaging a variety of stakeholders was a core focus of our successful progress. Our team will share how we engaged labor partners, staff, families, community and students in the design of instructional schedules, health protocols, safety measures, social emotional support, nutrition and family engagement to ensure the postsecondary success of all our scholars. Our governance team will share our unwavering GUSD vision of #ALLmeansALL!

*David Kong, Board Member, Greenfield USD*  
*Denise Jaime, Board Member, Greenfield USD*

*Sonia Heredia, Board Member, Greenfield USD*  
*Dee Heckman, Board Member, Greenfield USD*

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## **Pandemic Pushout: Closing Equity Gaps Widened by Closures**

### EQUITY AND OPPORTUNITY

The pandemic elicited a story of gaps and divides: digital, access, learning, and income divides and a statewide enrollment drop of nearly 3 percent, the majority of which were Black and brown students. Essential to closing these gaps is creating a culture of showing up. We won't have lasting change until we improve attendance. Join as West Contra Costa USD shares how they implemented an MTSS model leveraging culturally relevant messages and outreach to connect with families, identify barriers to attendance and create a welcoming school environment.

*David Kopperud, Education Programs Consultant, California Department of Education*  
*Erica Peterson, National Education Manager, School Innovations & Achievement*  
*Tony Wold, Associate Superintendent, West Contra Costa USD*

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## **Promoting Board/Superintendent Coordination on Implementing Charter School Reform Legislation**

### COUNTY OFFICES OF EDUCATION

Recent reform legislation has dramatically changed the tools available to school district authorizers for charter petition approval/renewal, as well as authorizer oversight. School districts can now consider the financial impact of a proposed new charter school on their community, whether the proposed charter school will serve the needs of the entire community, and the impact of the proposed charter schools on district programs. Stockton USD serves a demographically and ethnically diverse community. This workshop will discuss how school boards can best coordinate with the superintendent and staff in carrying out new reform measures in the area of charter petition review, charter renewal and fiscal and academic oversight to most equitably serve all students.

*John Yeh, Partner, Burke, Williams & Sorensen*  
*John Ramirez, Jr., Superintendent, Stockton USD*

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## **School Funding 101: Demystifying How School Funding Works from the State Level to Your Board Room**

### FUNDING AND FINANCE

Have you ever wondered how Proposition 98 works? What about the Local Control Funding Formula? How do local property taxes relate to the state General Fund? What about local reserves and the school district reserve cap? Deferrals? This session will include an overview of the state and local public school finance system and budgeting processes. It will cover what school board members need to know about state funding and how it flows to school districts and county offices of education. Presenters will also look at local budgeting issues that are critical for governing boards.

*Dennis Meyers, Assistant Executive Director, Government Relations, California School Boards Association*  
*Mike Fine, CEO, Fiscal Crisis & Management Assistance Team (FCMAT)*

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## **Show Me the Money!**

### FUNDING AND FINANCE

What is the fiscal outlook for the state and schools in 2022 and beyond? 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 for the state budget.

*Dennis Meyers, Asst Executive Director, Government Relations, California School Boards Association*  
*Edgar Zazueta, Sr. Director of Policy and Government Relations, Association of CA School Administrators*

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## **Social Emotional Learning for Student Success**

### EQUITY AND OPPORTUNITY

This presentation will share strategies, resources and tools to support K 12 students to have a successful educational learning experience during this pandemic adjustment. Participants will be introduced to a series of field guides for teachers, administrators,

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students and parents exploring policies, new programs and strategies to promote student wellness and educational success. There will also be a policy issue focus on how School Board members are challenged to create policies incorporating social emotional learning into academic success programs. Additional resources are needed in order to maximize student success. School Boards and Districts must become adept at seeking state and federal funding, specifically for social emotional learning, in order to augment district initiatives.

*Michele Bowers, Superintendent, Lancaster USD*

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

*Adam Clark, Superintendent, Mt. Diablo USD*

*Ken Wesson, Educational Consultant, Brain Considerate Learning*

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## Suicide Prevention, Intervention, and Postvention: Guidance for School Boards

### EQUITY AND OPPORTUNITY

In response to an uptick in mental health crises among youth, state legislators passed AB 1767 and AB 2246 mandating age appropriate policy on suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention for grades K 12. Now that policy is in place, learn how school boards can implement best practices and garner stakeholder engagement in an effort to prevent suicide among students from two experts: Stan Collins of non profit Directing Change and Monica Nepomuceno of the California Department of Education. Attendees will also receive an overview of related board policies and resources.

*Monica Nepomuceno, Education Programs Consultant, Mental Health Svcs., California Department of Education*

*Stan Collins, Suicide Prevention Specialist, Directing Change*

*Barbara Laifman, Senior Policy Manual Consultant, California School Boards Association*

*Robert Tuerck, Chief Legal Counsel - Legal Services, California School Boards Association*

*Greg Francis, Senior Policy Manual Consultant, California School Boards Association*

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## The Silent Plague in Small Districts: Overcoming Chronic Absenteeism

### SMALL SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Chronic absenteeism is a silent plague among small school districts. School closures resulted in poor student outcomes including record levels of course failure and steep rises in social and emotional issues. An EdSource analysis of chronic absenteeism in 1,000 districts revealed where chronic absence rates were above the statewide average and 75 percent were in small, rural counties. Stretched resources compound the issue as staff members wear many hats. Learn what Sierra Sands Unified SD does to keep students engaged and how the district builds a collaborative relationship with parents to support their budget and student success.

*Jessicca Rodgers, Operations Manager, School Innovations & Achievement*

*David Ostash, Superintendent, Sierra Sands USD*

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## The Student “Voice” in Decision Making and Board Governance

### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ADVOCACY

The student voice has become an integral part of high school governance with the inclusion of student board members. Placer Union HSD student board members gather diverse student populations four times a school year to participate in student voice meetings. The topics are timely and often requested by the students such as distance learning, diversity and inclusion, mental health and substance abuse/use. The student board/voice program is an alternative form of governance because, often, unilateral decisions are made with little or no input from students. Model/replicability program outlines student board member selection process, governance training, sub committee of diverse student voices targeted student board reports.

*Maureen Ward, Board Member, Placer Union HSD*

*Deborah Brannam, Board Member, Placer Union HSD*

*Lucas Webster, Student Board Member, Placer Union HSD*

*Clay Cantrell, Student Board Member, Placer Union HSD*

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## Unprecedented Challenges Require Strong, Effective Leadership

### LEADERSHIP THROUGH GOVERNANCE

The years 2020 and 2021 have seen unprecedented challenges for schools, county offices, and districts. In these difficult times, strong leadership is more essential than ever. Building an effective governance team requires hard work, trust, and open, honest communication. Research shows that a strong relationship between the board and superintendent is crucial to the success of the district. This workshop will focus on the principles of effective governance to assist governance team members in strengthening their interpersonal relationships, improving their organizational effectiveness, and keeping district and county office efforts focused on learning and achievement for all students.

*Luan Rivera, Governance Consultant, California School Boards Association*

*Daryl Camp, Governance Consultant, Superintendent, California School Boards Assoc., San Lorenzo USD*