



CSBA COUNTY BOARD Governance Workshop

Location: Embassy Suites by Hilton, Steamboat Room

Material: Scan the QR Code to access the workshop material →



FRIDAY, MARCH 8

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Registration
10:00 – 10:30 a.m.	<p>Welcome</p> <p><i>Albert Gonzalez, CSBA President (Santa Clara USD); Vernon Billy, CEO & Executive Director (California School Boards Association); John McPherson, Board Member (Monterey COE)</i></p>
10:30 – 11:15 a.m. <i>Keynote</i>	<p>Mastering Boardroom Diplomacy: Navigating Difficult Conversations</p> <p>Vigorous debate and public participation are hallmarks of a healthy democracy, but effective governance requires civility and respectful communication during board meetings. With political and social agendas at the forefront of many discussions, it has never been more evident that school boards are on the frontline of our democratic process. And as many of us continue to operate with emotional bandwidths that were stretched to the limit during COVID, tensions in school board meetings can run high. Former county and district school board member and current head of CSBA’s Legal Services department, Bob Tuerck, will explain the legal and practical tools county boards have at their disposal for dealing with and de-escalating challenging situations that can arise when interacting with the public and with fellow board members during contentious board meetings.</p> <p><i>Robert Tuerck, Chief, Legal Counsel, District and County Office of Education Legal Services (California School Boards Association)</i></p>
11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	<p>Shared Governance: The Role of the County Board Member</p> <p>Shared governance sounds like a very simple concept. In reality it can be a difficult proposition at best. This panel will share with you a powerful tool that you can use with your governance team to overcome challenges that naturally occur in becoming an exemplary board.</p> <p><i>Beverly Gerard, Board Member (San Mateo COE); Mike Walsh, Board Member (Butte COE); David Patterson, Board Member (Placer COE); Juliana Feriani, Board Member (Tuolumne COE)</i></p>
12:30 – 1:30 p.m.	Network Luncheon Hotel Terrace
1:30 – 3:00 p.m.	<p>Transitional Working Group: The Road Towards Expanded County Services</p> <p>An opportunity for County Board members to ask questions about how CSBA County Board Member Services came about and give input on what is essential for County Board members to see from CSBA going forward in terms of products, services, and focus that will help them be successful in their role.</p> <p><i>John McPherson, Board Member (Monterey COE); Mike Walsh, Board Member (Butte COE)</i></p>
Break	
3:30 – 4:30 p.m.	<p>Expulsions 101: Ed Code, Case Law, Policies and Beyond</p> <p>This session will focus on the expulsion appeal process. It will cover the applicable law and policies, what occurs prior to an expulsion appeal, and the expectations of County Board of Education members in holding a hearing and considering an appeal.</p> <p><i>Joshua Daniels, Chief, Policy and Governance Technology Services (California School Boards Association)</i></p>
4:30 – 5:00 p.m.	<p>Day One Wrap Up</p> <p><i>Amy Christianson, Chief, Member Services (California School Boards Association)</i></p>
Break	
5:30 – 6:30 p.m.	Networking Reception (Optional) Hotel Terrace



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SATURDAY, MARCH 9

8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Registration
9:00 – 10:30 a.m.	<p>Charter School Renewals: It's a 365 day thing!</p> <p>Recent reform legislation has dramatically changed the tools available to county boards for charter petition approval, appeal and renewal. This workshop will discuss requirements and best practice for charter renewals, including the new renewal criteria and the role of the California School Dashboard. We will cover county authorizer best practices, focusing on the unique roles and obligations of county boards in the petition and renewal processes under the Education Code.</p> <p><i>Jeff Hunt, Director of Charter Schools (Fresno COE); Stephanie Medrano Farland, Director of Education Policy (Capitol Advisors Group, LLC); Carlos Machado, Legislative Advocate (California School Boards Association)</i></p>
Break	
10:45 a.m. – Noon	<p>Understanding the County Budget: Tips for New and Seasoned Board Members</p> <p>In this session, we will be discussing the important role of the County Board in overseeing and ensuring transparency of the County Office of Education budget. We will also focus on maintaining positive relationships and conversations with the County Superintendent and avoiding micro-management. Through this session, participants will gain insights on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Why it is crucial for County Boards to approve the budget. - Basic budget terminologies. - The specific areas of the budget that the County Board should be paying attention to. - How to identify warning signs of financial concerns. - The right approach and timing for asking pertinent questions about the budget. <p><i>Chuck Weis, Consultant (California School Boards Association)</i></p>
Noon – 1:00 p.m.	Network Luncheon Hotel Terrace
1:00 – 2:15 p.m. Keynote	<p>Building Bridges to Student Success: Promising Practices and Collaborative Partnerships in Juvenile Court and Community Schools</p> <p>During this session, participants will gain knowledge about Court and Community schools, which are alternative schools that differ from other types of schools. We will explore the Yolo county office's CCS model, its features, and the best practices followed in CCS. The role of County Board members in programming, funding, and oversight of CCS will be discussed, as well as the significance of partnership in the CCS model. Participants will have the opportunity to share their insights on the best practices and challenges they face in their respective counties with their CCS.</p> <p><i>Maria Arvizu-Espinoza, Associate Superintendent (Yolo COE); Shelton Yip, Board Member (Yolo COE); Gayelynn Gerhart, Director of Special Project (Yolo COE)</i></p>
2:15 – 2:55 p.m.	<p>SELPA's: What County Members Need to Know</p> <p>SELPA Structure and Delivery of High-Quality Services and Supports to California's Students with Disabilities: This session will focus on the mission, purpose, and organizational structure of the Special Education Local Plan Areas (SELPA's) across the state of California. The unique qualities that differentiate one SELPA from another will be discussed, along with the critical and collaborative role of the SELPA and the County Office of Education. Local decision-making will be highlighted, which addresses the needs of diverse regions as a part of SELPA Local Plans. The role of the County Board in relation to services for students with disabilities and the districts that serve them will be discussed.</p> <p><i>Elizabeth Engelken, Chair (Sonoma County SELPA and Sonoma Charter SELPA); Veronica Coates, Treasurer (Tehama County SELPA)</i></p>
2:55 – 3:00 p.m.	<p>Closing</p> <p><i>Amy Christianson, Chief, Member Services (California School Boards Association)</i></p>