



# Office of Government Relations

COMMUNITY COLLEGE LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA

## March 2015 Newsletter

### Upcoming Events:

March 5: Senate Budget & Fiscal Subcommittee 1 – Overview of Prop 98 at 9:30 am

March 11: Joint Assembly Higher Education & Senate Education Committees Adult Education Hearing at 1:30 pm

March 16-17: Board of Governors Meeting

March 24: Assembly Budget Subcommittee 2 – Meeting on Career Technical Education and Adult Education at 9 am

April 8: Assembly Budget Subcommittee 2 – Meeting on California Community Colleges at 4 pm

May 1-3: Annual Trustees Conference - Monterey Hyatt Regency

*Follow bills tracked at:*  
[www.ccleague.org/bills](http://www.ccleague.org/bills)

*Have an event you would like to highlight? Send event info to:*  
[lizette@ccleague.org](mailto:lizette@ccleague.org).

### Vaccination Policy in California Public Education Systems

The recent case of measles at Disneyland has led to an outbreak of more than 130 cases of measles in the US, with more than 100 of them in California. This increase has given rise to the question of whether requirements for attendance at any public education institution in California should be increased. Following is a listing of each of the public education sectors in California with their requirements for student vaccination.

#### K-12

To enter into a public or private elementary or secondary school (including transitional kindergarten), children under 18 years of age must have the following immunizations: polio; diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis (DTP); measles, mumps, rubella (MMR); Hepatitis B; varicella; and a tetanus, reduced diphtheria and pertussis booster (Tdap Booster).

The law allows parents or guardians to submit an exemption from immunization requirements based on their personal beliefs or medical conditions. The California personal belief exemption was reduced effective January 2014 by legislation which required that a parent/guardian who sought to use this exemption must first talk with a health care provider about that decision. This resulted in 20 percent fewer parents seeking the exemption last year when compared to earlier years.

This year, California Senators Richard Pan M.D. (Sacramento) and Ben Allen (Santa Monica) introduced SB 277 to repeal the Personal Belief Exemption for K-12 students and require the governing board of a school district to include in the notifications provided to parents or guardians of minor pupils at the beginning of the regular school term the immunization rates for the school in which a pupil is enrolled for each required immunization. At this point, Senators Pan and Allen are retaining the religious belief exemption. Governor Jerry Brown's office has signaled that he would likely approve such a bill for kindergarten through twelfth grade, although he would prefer to eliminate all waivers except for medical reasons.

In his January budget proposal, the Governor proposed to add a new whooping cough immunization records mandate to the K-12 mandates block grant. While he proposes \$2.8 million to fund this proposed new mandate, the LAO estimates that \$4.5 million would more accurately reflect the cost of this new mandate.

US Senators Boxer and Feinstein have expressed concern about current California policy, on the belief that both the religious objection and the personal belief exemption are flawed policies that should be reconsidered. (At present, there are 20 states in the US that allow parents to opt out based on personal beliefs; 48 states allow an exemption on religious grounds.)

#### California Community Colleges (CCCs)

For community colleges, Education Code §76403 requires district CEOs to “establish procedures necessary to assure cooperation with local public health officials in measures necessary for the prevention and control of communicable diseases of students and compliance with any immunization programs required by the California Department of Health Services regulations.” (Currently, the sole requirement is a hepatitis B vaccine.)

#### California State University (CSU)

Since 2002, CSU has required immunizations against measles, rubella and hepatitis B. They state that they have no plan to widen the list of required shots at this time.

#### University of California (UC)

While the current system wide requirement is the hepatitis B vaccination, some UC campuses have additional vaccination requirements. In early February, UC administrators announced that they plan to require additional vaccinations, effective fall 2017, for all students against the following illnesses: measles, mumps and rubella, meningitis, chicken pox, and tetanus, diphtheria and whooping cough, except for individuals with medical or religious reasons for not doing so.

### **New Bills Set Policy Tone for the Year**

The bill introduction deadline for this legislative session was Friday, February 26. While many bills are still place holders, also know as spot bills, for policies legislators would like to address, some of the introduced bills provide insight into the tone and policy focus for the year. Below are some of the bills the League will monitor closely.

#### **AB 176 (Bonta) – Data Collection**

This bill would mandate community colleges to disaggregate their Asian Pacific Islander demographic data into 22 different ethnic or national groups. Currently the system disaggregates the data into 11 different groups including: Indian, Cambodian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, Laotian, Vietnamese, Guamanian, Hawaiian or Samoan. In addition to making the collection of data about the previous sub-groups a state mandate, this bill will also mandate that colleges gather data on Bangladeshi, Hmong, Indonesian, Malaysian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, Taiwanese, Fijian and Tongan groups.

League staff is seeking feedback on AB 176 and effects of local implementation. Please provide any comments and information to Ryan McElhinney at [ryan@ccleague.org](mailto:ryan@ccleague.org).

### **AB 148 (Holden) and SB 114 (Liu) – Capital Bonds and Facilities**

Both AB 148 and SB 114 would authorize a state general obligation bond authorizing an unspecified amount of money to fund educational facilities to be placed before voters in 2016. Both bills will likely address issues Governor Brown has raised regarding the state capital outlay program and K-14 facilities.

Governor Brown has serious issues with state support of local facilities and increasing the state's debt obligation in general. To give districts more control over their local finances, he has proposed the following reforms, but it should be noted that this would not generate nearly enough revenue to build or renovate facilities:

- Raising caps on local bond indebtedness, which have not been raised since 2000.
- Simplify how schools receive impact fees from developers for new construction in school districts (does not apply to community college districts).
- Expand allowable uses of routine restricted maintenance funding to be used for construction and modernization costs.

In addition to Governor Brown's basic philosophical problems with an educational bond, he has also proposed a number of changes for the K-12 revenue bond via the State Allocation Board. Due to excellent work by the Chancellor's Office, Governor Brown's staff have indicated numerous times that he does not have the problem with the way community college resources are allocated. Following are the changes Governor Brown seeks in the K-12 program.

- The state program should target system-wide need by:
  - Prioritizing districts with such low per-student assessed value they cannot issue local bonds.
  - Prioritize funding for health and safety and sever overcrowding.
- Consolidate the 10 state agencies with fragmented oversight responsibility over the program.
- Permit more local control in the design of facilities.

Currently neither bill contains revenues or the policy reforms stated above. League staff recommends a *watch* position to change into a support when resources are included for community colleges.

**AB 200 (Alejo and Jones-Sawyer)** - This bill would gradually increase the total number of competitive Cal Grants from the current number of 22,500 to 100,000 in 2018-19. While community college students comprise the majority of students in this state, they receive only six percent of the resources awarded via Cal Grants. Increasing the number of competitive Cal Grants, which generally go to community college students, will significantly improve financial aid funds for our students. Currently there are over 300,000 qualified applicants for 22,500 awards. By increasing the number of awards, this bill makes some progress towards the goal of serving every qualified applicant. This bill will target financial aid towards a program that benefits community college students; therefore League staff recommends a *support* position.

### **AB 288 (Holden) – College and Career Access Pathways Act**

AB 288 seeks to reduce statutory restrictions that limit the development of dual/concurrent enrollment partnerships, and promote K-12 and community college concurrent enrollment partnerships that target a broader range of high school students. AB 288, also known as the

College and Career Access Pathways Act (CCAP), would authorize the governing board of a community college district to enter into a partnership with the governing board of a school district located within its service area with the goal of developing seamless pathways from high school to community college for career technical education or preparation for transfer, improving high school graduation rates, or helping high school pupils achieve college and career readiness. CCAP seeks to build upon existing concurrent enrollment efforts, the career pathways trust, and the Long Beach College Promise to better prepare high school students for college and career success. The key challenges AB 288 is looking to address are:

- Strong student demand for community college remedial coursework and high cost to provide those courses.
- Low completion rates regarding degrees, certificates, and transfer for community college, particularly for students taking remedial coursework.
- Need to improve college readiness skills of students before they transition to college.

The College and Career Access Pathways would do the following:

- Expand access to concurrent enrollment programs for students by specifically authorizing college courses to be offered on a high school campus exclusively to high school students.
- Increase exposure to college coursework and environments for underserved students.
- Accelerate learning by allowing students to take up to 15 units of community college coursework instead of 11 units.
- Promote accountability by granting school districts more authority to monitor a student's progress and obtain student academic records from the participating community college.
- Increase transparency by requiring Career Access Pathway partnerships to be adopted at a public, regularly scheduled meeting of each respective governing board to ensure that members of the public have an opportunity to weigh in.
- Gather data that is more consistent and reliable from school and community college districts to allow for better analyses of concurrent enrollment programs and to ensure that school districts are not displacing high school teachers by inviting community college courses.

This is a high priority bill the will take the dedicated work of many stakeholders to ensure its passage. We invite you to become more involved by encouraging other stakeholders and organization to support AB 288. The League can provide you an advocacy toolkit by contacting Legislative Advocate Lizette Navarette ([Lizette@cleague.org](mailto:Lizette@cleague.org)). We have the opportunity to ensure more students will have early exposure and access to a college education – let's get AB 288 passed.

### **The Future of Adult Education Still a Hot Topic**

Over the last two years, a major statewide policy dialogue around adult education redesign and reinvestment has come to the forefront. The League has carefully tracked and advocated to build support for a system that allows regional collaboration, but most importantly delivers on students' unmet education needs. This is one of the defining issues of this year's budget process.

The League acknowledges Governor Brown for presenting a comprehensive approach to workforce development. The goal of this comprehensive statewide approach is "reinvesting and reshaping California's workforce preparation systems." Within this proposal, adult education is identified as a key part of the statewide effort aimed at getting students into programs that are more closely linked to regional workforce needs and to better coordinate services at colleges and

schools. The League appreciates that the proposal embraces and builds upon the local collaboration of the seventy AB 86 Regional Consortia. As the budget committees of the Senate and Assembly review the Governor's January Adult Education proposal, the League will continue to stress the importance of local fiscal decision-making through a sustainable and efficient governance structure that provides a balanced voice between community colleges and K-12. We support a one-year transition period followed by the on-going funding of a program that emphasizes collaborative service delivery to close need gaps in each region. Additionally, the League is requesting that further review of the proposal include an investment in a data infrastructure to improve coordination, and start-up resources for areas where there are limited adult education services.

## **Must Read**

**By Rita Mize, Director of State Policy & Research**

### ***Implementation Update: Reforming Transfer from CCC to CSU*** **Legislative Analyst's Office, February 2, 2015.**

This report reviews the implementation progress on the Student Transfer Achievement Reform Act of 2010 (SB 1440, Padilla) which established Associate Degrees for Transfer (ADTs) to enable community college students to transfer to the California State University (CSU) system more easily and with a maximum of 60 units. In addition, this legislation prohibited CSU from requiring that students complete more than 60 additional units at the upper-division campus.

The report notes that the legislation reformed the transfer process, set implementation targets for both community colleges and the California State University, and noted that both "segments continue to make notable progress but they may not be fully on track to meet the Legislature's targets for implementation." More specifically they found that:

- The segments have created a sufficient number of curricula (33 model curricula that focus on 80 percent of students who transferred) to meet the spirit of the legislation and are discussing potential subject areas to meet the requirement for curricula in areas of emphasis;
- While several colleges already offer all the degrees they are required to offer by fall 2015, most still have a few left to develop and a few are lagging far behind.
- While most students entering a community college remain unfamiliar with the new degrees, hopefully recent community college investment in education planning will improve their understanding of transfer reform.
- The effectiveness of priority admission policies could not be evaluated since CSU could not disaggregate the data to determine the extent to which students were admitted to their campus or major of choice.
- While most CSU campuses accept ADTs and honor the 60-unit guarantee in at least one concentration within each related major, a few are lagging in acceptance and some majors have low acceptance rates among several CSU campuses.

Given their findings, the LAO recommends that the Legislature require:

- One report from the community colleges in fall 2015 and reports from CSU in fall 2015 and 2016 to track their progress in creating associate degrees for transfer and accepting transfer model curricula, respectively; and

- An annual report, beginning in fall 2018, on student outcomes including admission to campuses and programs of choice, units taken and graduation rates.

**Read the full report at:** <http://lao.ca.gov/reports/2015/edu/reforming-transfer/reforming-transfer-020215.pdf>

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*For more information, contact the League's Government Relations staff:*

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