

Federal Court Blocks DACA Rescission

- On January 9, a federal judge blocked President Trump's elimination of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA).
- ACSA President Lisa Gonzales submitted a declaration of support to the court on behalf of the organization and ACSA signed onto an amicus brief.
- The decision means anyone who had DACA status prior to September 5, 2017 can apply for renewal. No first-time applicants will be accepted. The case now heads to the Ninth District Court of Appeals.

Targeted Assistance Program

The work of superintendents has increasingly become defined by their ability to navigate the challenges of political pressures and conflicting interests (local, state, and national), superintendent governance, unpredictable school finances, labor relations, school bonds, standards-based reform, and greater demands for accountability of increased student performance through state and federal legislation.

As school district superintendents navigate these challenging times, ACSA is delivering its new Targeted Assistance program designed to provide in-district support for superintendents.

Experienced district leaders, industry experts and ACSA partners will share successful practices, knowledge and experience.

The program focuses on providing direct assistance in three key areas to leadership and the achievement of students:

- Labor relations/negotiations
- Governance
- School bonds/facilities.

For more information, visit www.acsa.org/targeted-assistance-program.

Professional Development:

2018 ACSA Superintendents' Symposium
Leading Courageously
January 24-26, 2018

Monterey Conference Center
Monterey, California

Our goal is to provide you with strong learning opportunities—the success of these collaborative activities depends upon the participation of all superintendents. As such, we are encouraging you to be present and actively involved from Wednesday through the last session on Friday.

We are aware that some superintendents take vacation days to participate in activities before and after the event. Please remember your Form 700 reporting requirements and district Conflict of Interest policies

To register for this event, visit
www.acsa.org/suptyposium

We Work for You

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State Update

From the desk of:
Dr. Wesley Smith, ACSA Executive Director



"Supporting education leaders as they serve California's students."

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K-12 Education Funding Overview

Gov. Brown's budget proposes a General Fund budget plan of \$131.6 billion, a 4.1 percent increase from the current fiscal year. This year's investments in K-12 public education are comparable to the year-over-year augmentations schools have received since the November 2016 passage of Proposition 55. The budget proposes to fund the Proposition 98 minimum guarantee at \$78.3 billion, a \$3.1 billion over 2017-18 funding levels. This results in an average increase of \$465 per-pupil over the level provided in the 2017-18 budget.

The budget includes the following proposals for public education:

- **Local Control Funding Formula:** Nearly \$3 billion to fully fund 100% of the formula targets two years early. As a trade-off, the budget proposes requiring local educational agencies to show how their budget expenditures align with the strategies detailed in the Local Control and Accountability Plans for serving students generating supplemental grants.
- **One-time Discretionary Funding:** \$1.8 billion in one-time discretionary block grants allocated on a per-pupil basis equivalent to \$295 per ADA. As in years past, funding will offset any outstanding mandate reimbursement claims.
- **System of Support:** The budget provides a \$70 million investment in ongoing Proposition 98 funds to further implement the state system of support. Of this amount, \$55.2 million would go towards county offices of education to assist in the improvement of school districts identified for differentiated support, and \$11.3 million to continue funding the California Collaborative for Educational Excellence.
- **Special Education:** The administration proposes requiring SELPAs to complete a SELPA local plan template that aligns services and resources noted in their local plans with the goals identified in their member district's LCAPs. Most notably, \$167 million would be dedicated to increase the availability of inclusive early education and care for children aged 0-5. A \$10 million ongoing Proposition 98 allocation would also be made for SELPAs to work with county offices of education to provide technical assistance to local educational agencies to improve student outcomes as part of the system of support.

- **Teacher Shortage:** The administration proposes \$100 million in one-time Proposition 98 funds to increase and retain special education teachers, with half of the funding earmarked for a Teacher Residency Program aimed at preparing and retaining special education, science, and math teachers, and the other half dedicated to one-time competitive grants to local educational agencies developing or implementing new or existing locally identified solutions that address a local need for special education teachers.
- **Career Technical Education:** The administration proposes an ongoing increase of \$200 million Proposition 98 funds to establish a K-12 specific component of the Strong Workforce Program to encourage the establishment and support for K-12 CTE programs that are aligned with needed industry skills. An additional \$12 million in ongoing Proposition 98 funds would fund local industry experts who would provide technical support to local educational agencies operating, or proposing to operate, CTE programs.
- **K-12 School Facilities:** Proposition 51 in November 2016 to authorized \$7 billion in state general obligation bonds for K-12 schools. The budget proposes approximately \$640 million in bond authority for 2018-19 to fund new construction, modernization, CTE and charter facility projects.

System of Support for school districts

- This fall, the state identified 228 school districts for differentiated assistance under LCFF.
- The county superintendent of schools shall provide identification in writing of the school district's strengths and weaknesses relative to the LCFF priorities.
- School districts are the primary drivers of the type of technical assistance and support they receive.
- In consultation with their county office of education, school districts ultimately determine whether to modify existing programs or services to receive additional support, including from providers other than county offices of education, as part of differentiated assistance.
- Districts may determine modifications to local goals, actions and services, if any, through the LCAP process.
- Districts may choose or hire a support provider for additional support or services addressing the underlying need(s) they identify through the review of data.

Notable Legislative Proposals

Career Technical Education Funding: AB 1743 (O'Donnell) would continue the CTE Incentive Grant (CTEIG) for three additional years at \$500 million annually, with 1:1 local/state match. The bill, which is considered a starting point for discussion for a permanent CTE funding model, would not fund new CTEIG applications, but instead is intended to continue funding existing CTE programs that have been evaluated and certified by the California Department of Education as being "successful."

New LCFF Targets: Assemblymember Murusutchi has declared intentions to introduce legislation that would seek to create new funding targets for the Local Control Funding Formula. While the bill is not yet in print, the objective is to use this as method to commit the governor and Legislature to continue prioritizing LCFF funding after the current funding targets are met. The California School Funding Coalition, organized by School Services of California, has been identified as a sponsor of the legislation.

Substitute Waiver Permit Extension: ACSA will pursue new legislation to seek statutory relief on the number of days substitutes may remain in the classroom. Currently a substitute is only given a permit to be in the same class for 30 days for general education and 20 days for special education.

Extension of the Probationary Period: Assemblymember Weber will renew efforts to make legislative changes that grant additional time for a decision on permanent status for teachers. AB 1220 stalled in the Legislature last year but Weber will make this a priority this year.

Marijuana Legalization Resources

- In response to the legalization of recreational marijuana, ACSA is working to provide guidance to address issues related to employees, students and parents.
- The law firms of Fagen Friedman & Fulfroost and Lozano Smith will participate in a legal workshop at Superintendents' Symposium on Jan. 24-26, 2018. In the meantime, should you have any questions regarding the role of schools and marijuana legalization, please contact ACSA Legislative Advocate, Laura Preston at lpreston@acsa.org.