

# CCSESA FOCUS

## An Update to County Superintendents of Schools

Friday, May 22, 2015

### **Budget Actions in Assembly and Senate Begin to Frame Major Issues**

This week the Senate and Assembly budget subcommittees completed their actions on the proposed budget for 2015-16. From here the process will move to a budget conference committee and discussions of Legislative leadership with the Governor. It is expected that a budget will be approved and sent to the Governor by the June 15 deadline.

Of particular interest to county superintendents: the Governor, Senate and Assembly all have taken positions supporting the \$2.1 billion increase in on-going funding to school districts through the LCFF formula, and the \$40 million in one-time funding to county offices of education for LCAP review and technical assistance. Since all major parties have agreed on these provisions, it appears very likely that these funds will be approved as part of the final budget.

Significant differences were made evident between the Governor and the Legislature on how to support quality CTE programs. Last week we highlighted the Governor's revised proposal, which is greatly improved over the January proposal, but continues to provide for competitive grants. Both the Senate and Assembly took actions to allocate the funds on a per ADA basis, rather than competitively. Department of Finance staff expressed strong objections to this approach.

The Assembly approved the Governor's proposed allocation of \$3.5 billion in one-time funds, including the intent statement that they be used for standards and assessment implementation and teacher induction. In contrast, the Senate reduced the figure to \$3 billion and then appropriated \$800 million in one-time funding for "Educator Effectiveness." County superintendents may recall the discussion at our April General Membership meeting about the \$800 million cost projection for proposed legislation to expand the scope of collective bargaining to include teacher and administrator evaluation. This appears to set the stage for discussions about the teacher evaluation bills as part of the budget negotiations.

In separate action, the Assembly appropriated \$190 million in one-time funds for Beginning Teacher Support and Assistance (BTSA) and Peer Assistance and Review (PAR). As anticipated, the issue of child care and preschool expansion will be a key topic in the final budget negotiations. The Assembly supports such expansion through higher revenue estimates, the Senate shifts child development into Proposition 98. The Governor has been reluctant to increase these programs due to the ongoing cost implications.

At our CCSESA Board meeting on Monday, State Superintendent Torlakson referenced his proposal for an assessment implementation office, including grants to county offices to help develop resources for use by county offices and school districts throughout the state. That proposal was approved by the Assembly and will thus be part of the final budget deliberations.

**Contact: Peter Birdsall, Executive Director • P: (916) 446-3095 • C: (916) 719-1315**  
**[pbirdsall@ccsesa.org](mailto:pbirdsall@ccsesa.org) • [www.ccsesa.org](http://www.ccsesa.org)**