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Updates from CDE Regarding Implementation of AB 1505

On May 29, 2020, the California Department of Education (“CDE”) released a memo providing updates pertaining to the implementation of AB 1505. AB 1505, which becomes operational July 1, 2020, changes the submission process for new charter school petitions. Additionally, it drastically alters the charter renewal process, dividing the charters up for renewal into high-performing charters, low performing charters, and middle-performing charters. AB 1505 also modifies the process for appeals to the State Board of Education.

Effects on Regulations

While CDE is considering whether new regulations are needed to address all the procedural changes due to AB 1505, the CDE reached out to charter authorizers, the charter school community, and other stakeholders to solicit written feedback on the areas where regulations may be needed. CDE is in the process of reviewing those comments. This will determine the extent to which new state regulations will be proposed or amended.

Appeal Process

The SBE will not likely consider any charter school appeals under the “abuse of discretion” standard before January 2021. It is not clear as to whether the State Board will continue to authorize charter schools after July 1st, or whether the district or county board that denied the charter will be deemed the authorizer. If you recall, under AB 1505, the State Board of Education is getting out of the charter authorizing business.

SBE Response to COVID-19 Regarding Re-

newal Classification

The CDE plans to create a data file that includes all charter schools that have been in operation for two or more years and provide each school their status (i.e., high-, middle-, or low-performing) based on 2018 and 2019 Dashboard data. The CDE will post a list of open charter schools and their respective performance tracks regarding renewal.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, administration of statewide assessments in the spring of 2020 were suspended. As a result, the lack of assessment data will impact the calculation of performance levels and colors for the December 2020 California School Dashboard, which will also impact the determination of charter schools on the high-, middle-, and low-performing renewal tracks. Under AB 1505, a charter school without sufficient performance levels shall be considered in the middle-performing track. It is our understanding that, in 2021, all schools that are up for renewal will be placed in the “middle-performing” track absent the production of a 2020 Dashboard. This space will be updated if CDE puts out any more information on this.

More, next month.



Written by Edward Sklar and Everett McLean of Lozano Smith, Attorneys at Law.

Office Hours

12:00-1:30 pm

- **June 10th**
- **June 25th**

**See Events tab
on CCAP's
website**

Our Mission...

To advance quality public education for all students by providing charter school authorizing professionals with the support, resources, and collective voice necessary to foster high-performing, fiscally sound, autonomous, and accountable charter schools.



Helpful Guidelines for Schools



TONY THURMOND
State Superintendent
Of Public Instruction

To read the latest information pertaining to guidelines for safely reopening schools:

Stronger Together: A Guidebook for the Safe Reopening of California's Public Schools by CDE

COVID-19 Industry Guidance: Schools and School-Based Programs by CDPH

Safe School Seven: (Seven) Critical Components of a Remote Education Plan



Our friends from the National Charter School Institute and the Nevada Action for School Options collaborated and developed seven critical components to support authorizers and school boards in evaluating remote education plans. Click [here](#) to access the downloadable checklist.

Tri-State Alliance Weekly Call

The Tri-State Alliance, comprised of California, Colorado, and Florida, aims to improve the quality of the charter school sector by addressing the current gap in best practice resources, training and professional development for district and small/rural authorizers. The Tri-State Alliance is hosting weekly webinars on authorizing tasks affected by COVID-19. Please join our webinars 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. (PDT) <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89250972008>:

- 6/18—Special Education
- 7/9—English Learners
- 7/23—Interim Assessments and the Evolution of Accountability
- 8/6—Monitoring enrollment and Student Education...

Legislature Releases 2020-21 State Budget Agreement



A message from CASBO: “On June 3, 2020, the Senate and Assembly reached an [agreement](#) on the 2020-21 State Budget to close the projected budget shortfall of \$54 billion by anticipating \$14 billion in additional federal fund support with triggered reductions in the event funds do not materialize, and utilizing \$11.8 billion in state reserves. The plan rejects the Governor’s May Revise proposals to reduce Proposition 98 by \$8.1 billion, which consists of the 10 percent reduction to the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF), loss of cost of living adjustment, reductions to the state preschool reimbursement rates, and reductions of \$352 million to various categorical programs” (Bachez & Esquivel, 2020).

To read the full article by Sara C. Bachez and Elizabeth Esquivel, Governmental Relations click [here](#).

Access and Equity for all Students

In keeping with our mission advancing quality public education for all students, CCAP has this special section highlighting resources that are aimed at supporting access and equity for all students. The following resources have been procured for you, our members.

- [Supporting Immigrant and Refugee Students](#): Considerations for School Leaders in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic provided by Californians Together.
- [English Learner Communities of Practice](#): Integrated ELD Secondary 6-12 provided by Californians Together.
- California Department Office of Education/English Learner Support Division has links to distance learning resources that can assist educators with providing language support to students and families. [Access their latest updates.](#)

Highlighting Our New Partnership



SSDA is committed in providing quality information to its members and the education community at large. This month their webinar series features *Keys to Success in Hybrid & Personalized Learning*.

This is “a 4-week series featuring exemplar hybrid and blended learning schools that are focused on instructional practice, social-emotional learning, and parent and family engagement” (SSDA, 2020). To register for upcoming webinars [click here](#).