

## COUNTY OFFICE FACILITY PLANNERS MEETING UPDATE

#### **JANUARY 2022**

### UPCOMING EVENTS

### **CASH Web-Shop**

Budgets, Initiatives, Bonds, Audits and Staffing Challenges: Headwinds and Tailwinds 2022 Thursday, January 13 10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Zoom

### **CASH Web-Shop**

Planning for a Local GO Bond in a Turbulent Political Environment Thursday, January 27 10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Zoom

# 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference on School Facilities

February 23-25, 2022 Sacramento SAFE Credit Union Convention Center

## **UPDATE**

## **Governor's Budget Proposal**

On January 10<sup>th</sup>, Governor Newsom released his proposed 2022-23 State Budget, which prioritizes fighting the COVID-19 pandemic, combating the climate crisis, addressing homelessness, tackling the high cost of living in California, and education. The Legislature will review these proposals and negotiate with the Administration. The Governor will release revised proposals in May that reflect that negotiation and updated revenue estimates. The Constitutional deadline for the Legislature to send the Governor a final budget bill is June 15<sup>th</sup>.

## **School Facilities Program**

The Governor's Budget allocates the remaining Proposition 51 bond funds—approximately \$1.4 billion—to support school construction projects. Because Proposition 51 bond authority is expected to be exhausted in 2022-23, the Budget proposes approximately \$1.3 billion one-time General Fund in 2022-24 to support new construction and modernization projects through the School Facility Program. The Governor characterized the combined \$2.225 billion as a two-year bridge to allow time for his Administration to work with the Legislature to determine the timing of the next statewide school bond.

#### **Implementing Transitional Kindergarten**

The Governor's Budget proposes the next step to implement the creation of universal transitional kindergarten (TK) for all four year-olds. His budget maintains the commitment to full implementation by 2025-26, despite requests by some school organizations to consider a more conservative implementation pace. The Budget *does not* propose specific funding for TK facilities.

The Governor's Budget proposes the following for transitional kindergarten:

- \$639.2 million (General Fund) to expand eligibility for TK in FY 22-23, to all children turning five years old between Sept. 2 and Feb. 2 (two additional months of eligibility). This will increase access for at least 56,000 children.
- \$383 million (Proposition 98 General Fund) to add an educator to every TK class, reducing student-to-adult ratios to more closely align with the State Preschool Program.

The Governor encourages schools to use State Preschool Programs to provide wraparound care for income-eligible students so that they may have a full day of developmentally appropriate care and education. While policymakers prefer full-day TK programs, part-day programs are currently permitted. Regarding facilities funding, the Office of Public School Construction has taken a more narrow approach, requiring *full-day* programs in order to access the Preschool, Transitional Kindergarten, and Full-Day Kindergarten Facilities Grant Program. The 2021 Budget Act provided \$490 million for this program, to planned for allocation in 2022 and 2023. Regulations to implement this program are pending before the State Allocation Board.

Visit the CASH website (www.cashnet.org) for more information and to register for these events!

### **Expanded Learning Opportunities**

The 2021 Budget Act (last year) allocated funding for the Expanded Learning Opportunities (ELO) Program, which aims to provide all students in low-income communities with no-cost



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access to nine hours of academic and enrichment activities per instructional day and for six weeks each summer by 2025-26. The Governor's Budget proposes increased per pupil funding for the ELO program, continues increased reimbursement rates for the After School Education and Safety (ASES) Program and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Centers programs, and \$937 million one-time Proposition 98 General Fund to support Expanded Learning Opportunities Program infrastructure, with a focus on integrating arts and music programming into the enrichment options for students.

### **School Transportation**

The Budget proposes \$1.5 billion one-time Proposition 98 General Fund, available over three years, to support school transportation programs, with a focus on greening school bus fleets. Specifically, grants of at least \$500,000 would be available with priority for local educational agencies with high concentrations of low-income students, youth in foster care, and English language learners, as well as small and rural local educational agencies.

The Administration assumes that with \$500,000, a local educational agency would be able to acquire an electric school bus, construct the bus's charging station, and support other local school bus transportation needs. Additionally, the Budget proposes a workgroup to streamline the process of training and licensing new school bus drivers.

## **School Food Services**

Beginning in the 2022-23 school year, all public schools will be required to provide two free meals per day to any student who requests a meal, regardless of income eligibility. Further, all schools eligible for the Community Eligibility Provision, the federal universal meals provision, will be required to apply for the program by June 30, 2022 (if they are not already participating) to reduce volatility in costs to the state and to maximize federal reimbursement for meals served. The state will then cover any remaining unreimbursed costs up to the combined state and federal free per-meal rate.

The Governor's Budget proposes the following for School Food Services:

- \$596 million Proposition 98 General Fund, on top of \$54 million provided in the 2021 Budget Act, to fund universal access to subsidized school meals.
- \$450 million one-time Proposition 98 General Fund, available over three years, to
  upgrade school kitchen infrastructure and equipment to incorporate more fresh,
  minimally processed California-grown foods in school meals. CASH staff will
  provide additional information on the proposed facilities funding when it becomes
  available.

## CMMCP and SFLA Application Deadlines Extended to January 15th

CASH offers two Professional Development Programs that give you the unique opportunity to learn best practices and necessary skills from today's experts: the CASH Maintenance Management Certificate Program (CMMCP) and the School Facilities Leadership Academy (SFLA).

Visit the CASH website (www.cashnet.org) for more information and to register for these events!

Both programs have extended their application deadlines to January 15. Learn more about CMMCP and SFLA, or submit an application, by visiting the CASH website.



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## <u>CASH 43rd Annual Conference on School Facilities: Wednesday-Friday, February 23-25, 2022</u>

CASH is excited to return to Northern California. The Board of Directors and Annual Conference Planning Committee are pleased to invite you to join your school facilities peers and colleagues participating in CASH's largest annual event, February 23-25, 2022 at the Sacramento SAFE Credit Union Convention Center!

The Annual Conference on School Facilities is the organization's premier event and draws more than 2,000 school facility professionals from around the state. Conference registration includes access to concurrent education sessions, general sessions, and a trade show with over 200 exhibitors. Attendees will find a wealth of education on a myriad of topics for expert and novice school facilities industry professionals alike. In addition, attendees have access to an abundance of networking opportunities.

For the latest updates on important matters affecting school facilities, visit <a href="www.cashnet.org">www.cashnet.org</a>. Connect with CASH on Facebook or follow us on Twitter: @CASHFacilities.

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