



UPCOMING EVENTS

CASH Technical Training:
Capital Funding Sources,
Budgeting and
Procurement/Construction
Options
April 19-21, 2023

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

UPDATE

Legislative Process in Full Swing

Policy committees in both houses of the Legislature have full agendas as they consider bills in advance of the April 28, 2023 policy committee deadline for fiscal bills. Bills deemed to not have a fiscal impact have an additional week. Budget subcommittees also continue to meet to deepen their understanding of the Governor's proposals and to refine their own priorities.

Bond Support Letters Due April 4, 2023

AB 247 (Muratsuchi) the *Kindergarten Through Community College Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2024*, supported by CASH, is expected to be heard in the Assembly Committee on Education on April 12, 2023. While the bill will continue to be shaped by legislative deliberation and stakeholder input as it moves through the process, there is no question that California needs the resources that another school facilities bond would bring. We are asking local educational agencies (LEA) to submit letters of support for AB 247 at your earliest convenience and prior to the deadline of **5:00 p.m. on April 4, 2023**. For your convenience, we are providing a customizable template, which you can download here:

https://cashnet.org/resource/resmgr/weekly/2023_02_27_AB_247_Support.docx.

These letters are critical to show the broad support and need for a K-14 school bond.

The Legislature has moved to an online system for submission of bill letters. Please allow extra time to create the login required in order to upload your letter. More information is available in the Legislative Position Letter Portal at <https://calegislation.lc.ca.gov/Advocates/>.

We're asking that you email a copy of your letter to your own Senators and Assembly Members. The online tool found at <https://findyourrep.legislature.ca.gov/> can help you identify them, but since LEA boundaries do not mirror legislative districts, you may have more than one representative in each house.

Please also email a copy of your letter to us via Aileen Dalen at adalen@m-w-h.com.

Preschool, Transitional Kindergarten (TK), and Full-Day Kindergarten (FDK) Facilities Grant Program Budget Update

The Governor's budget proposes to delay \$550 million (General Fund) from FY 2023-24 to FY 2024-25 for the Preschool, TK, and FDK Facilities Grant Program (PTKFDKFGP). CASH opposes this delay and believes the program is important to successful implementation of universal TK. This proposal was recently discussed in Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 2 on Education Finance. The Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) indicated that delaying the funds would be "reasonable" given the state's budget problem, and stated that workforce challenges appear to be a greater barrier to successful TK implementation. They reported that 75% of schools who submitted a planning grant survey response to the Department of Education indicated that they have adequate space to meet projected TK enrollment. CASH is working to



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educate policymakers that most available classroom space does not meet the unique needs of our youngest learners, who require specialized facilities to meet their developmental needs.

The most recent application filing round of the PTKFDKFGP closed March 2, 2023, and with approximately \$360 million available for apportionment. The Office of Public School Construction (OPSC) received a total of 446 applications from 208 applicants requesting \$1.48 billion. The conversation will continue in the Legislature as we work toward the Governor’s release of the May Revision budget proposal.

School Climate Change and Sustainability Legislation

A number of bills have been introduced that relate to the state’s climate change priorities and sustainability goals including school water quality (AB 249/Holden), school interior temperatures (AB 384/Calderon), extreme heat mitigation (SB 499/Menjivar), drought resistant buildings (SB 745/Cortese), master plan for sustainable schools (SB 394/Gonzalez) and other related bills. CASH and other school organizations are concerned about the cost impact of complying with these proposals, as well as existing state requirements related to existing state building and energy codes (CalGreen, solar storage, CO2 monitors, water quality, organic recycling, etc.), as well as a clear path to compliance in the state agency oversight process. As these bills go through the committee process, CASH is actively working with our school association partners, key stakeholders, legislators and their staff to raise these concerns and seek funding and administrative clarity. In some cases, we work collaboratively with staff and stakeholders to seek amendments, in other cases CASH will oppose bills that we believe cannot reasonably be improved.

AB 1115 (Papan) – Underground Storage Cleanup Trust Fund (UST) Reauthorization

This bill reauthorizes the UST Fund that allows qualified applicants access to funding to remediate underground storage tanks. The UST Fund includes the School District Account (SDA) that allows schools specified access to clean up funds. School districts have used the UST Funds when they have found previously unknown underground storage tanks on their existing or future school sites. CASH strongly supports AB 1115 and extension of the UST sunset.

The California Energy Commission (CEC) Extends CalSHAPE Application Deadline for Round Four Funding

The CEC has extended the CalSHAPE deadline to apply for Round Four funding to Wednesday, May 31, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. These funds can be used for school HVAC system assessments, filter upgrades, minor repairs and installation of CO2 monitors to comply with state requirements. Visit the CalSHAPE webpage at <https://www.energy.ca.gov/programs-and-topics/programs/california-schools-healthy-air-plumbing-and-efficiency-program> for more information.

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