

Notes from CASN Policy Committee Call – 10/25/12  
*(Previous call: 6/20/12)*

## **State Budget Update**

On June 27, the Governor signed the 2012-13 budget deal after finalizing negotiations with the Legislature, closing a projected \$15.7 billion shortfall. The budget included approximately \$130 million in reductions to preschool and child care, including school-age child care, of which, \$50 million in cuts were unilaterally imposed by the Governor with his line-item veto authority. While significant, this was substantially less than the \$450 million the Governor had proposed cutting in his May Revise.

Much of the budget deal relies on the passage of the Governor's statewide tax ballot initiative in November. If the tax initiative fails, California would face an additional \$8 billion budget gap which would trigger automatic spending reductions primarily to education, including the potential elimination of 3 weeks out of the school year in each of the next 2 years.

## **State Legislative Update**

### Bills Signed by Governor

- AB 1575 (Lara) Prohibits charging fees for extracurricular or educational activities  
**\*\* Signed by Governor on Saturday, September 29. \*\***  
➤ *We need to get a ruling from the CDE legal department that this legislation does not impact after school programs. Should this policy committee write a letter to the After School Division at CDE requesting that they address this issue?*
- SB 1087 (Walters) Raises ASES licensing exemption from 30 to 60 hours per week  
**\*\* Signed by Governor on Thursday, September 27. \*\***  
➤ *Amended to remove all summer camp portions of bill*
- SB 1404 (Hancock) Increases opportunity for districts to charge fees for using school facilities—specifically for maintenance, repair, refurbishing (i.e., for non profits, sports leagues)—during non-school and non-after-school hours, such as evenings, weekends, and summer  
**\*\* Signed by Governor on Saturday, September 29. \*\***  
➤ *We'll have to see how this gets implemented*

### Inactive Legislation

- SB 1385 (Hancock): AS teachers & staff into paraprofessional teacher-training pipeline  
➤ *Held Under Submission by Assembly Appropriations Committee on Thursday, August 16.*

- *The Appropriations Committee similarly held the bill under submission two years ago when then-Assemblymember Torlakson authored the bill.*

### Leadership Changes

Assembly Speaker John Pérez announced some notable changes to Assembly Committee and Leadership positions, including:

- Assembly Appropriations Committee: Chair – Asm. Mike Gatto (D-Burbank)
- Assembly Education Committee: Chair – Asm. Joan Buchanan (D-San Ramon)

### **State Administrative Update**

#### RFA: 21st CCLC for Elementary/Middle School & ASSETs for High School

The After School Division of the California Department of Education (CDE) has announced that two requests for applications (RFAs) are now available to applicants that wish to apply for federally funded after school program grants. There are separate RFAs for 21st CCLC elementary/middle school programs, and for ASSETs high school programs.

The deadline for grant applications is **November 30, 2012**, at 5:00PM.

We wanted to also recognize the CDE because they listened to the feedback and criticisms from the last round of grants. This round the Department is sharing more information, including amount of funding available, number of applicants expected and other vital information. They produced a webinar that is available online. The Department also created a process for application questions. Moving forward, they will take questions via a form on their website. Answers will be posted on the website FAQ so that there is a more fair distribution of information.

#### RFA: ASES Universal Grants

The After School Division of CDE has announced that an RFA is now available for After School Education and Safety (ASES) Universal Grants for programs at elementary and middle/junior high schools.

The deadline for grant applications is **January 17, 2013**, at 5:00PM.

The universal application is for new applicants and for existing grant recipients who wish to increase funding. Approximately \$10 million in funding is available for ASES universal grants. We won't know more about the number of applicants or awards available until after the applications are in. Renewal grant applications will be posted soon.

#### CDE After School Division (ASD) Strategic Planning

The Statement of Strategic Direction for the ASD Strategic Planning process was posted in September. There are 4 major initiatives outlined, with specific goals under each initiative.

The 4 initiatives are (1) System of Support, (2) Grant Administration and Policy, (3) Communication/Information Systems, and (4) Expanded Learning/K-12 Integration. Next steps are to develop implementation plans for each initiative. To accomplish this, workgroups will be formed through an application process that will begin at the end of October or beginning of November. The goal is for the workgroups to develop implementation plans in the next few months.

### School Furloughs

If ballot measures don't pass, there will be a likely increase in school furlough days. In Southern CA, they think that could be up to 15 days (180 day school year → 165 days). When these furlough days occur, can after school programs still use core funds for kids who are out of school? According to Michael Funk, Director of the After School Division at CDE, their lawyers say that this is NOT allowed. Core funding can only be used for after school on instructional days. One idea is to see if schools/programs can get a waiver similar to one used for emergencies (earthquake, lockdowns, etc...). Even though furloughs aren't natural emergencies, they are "budget emergencies."

### Redistricting

Following the upcoming election, there will be new legislative districts being represented. There will be some changes in who represents certain school districts, and other different areas. We'll track the changes. There will also be further leadership changes after the election.

### 2013 Issues (potentially controversial)

- Student Weighted Formula – this will effect how schools are funded and at what level
- Teacher Evaluation Protocol

## **Federal Policy Update**

### 21st CCLC

On Thursday, July 19, the Labor, Health and Human Services (LHHS) Subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee voted to approve their 2013 funding bill, protecting funding for 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) at the same level as last year, \$1.151 billion. In a significant improvement over the president's budget and the Senate appropriations bill the House version does not allow 21st CCLC funding to be diverted to support other programs.

### Sequestration

Sequestration is the automatic, across-the-board cuts to defense and non-defense discretionary spending authorized by the Budget Control Act of 2011 to reduce the national debt by \$1.2 trillion. The bulk of these cuts would impact California in July 2013, though based on the budgeting process, cuts to CCLC may not happen until 2014-14. CDE is currently looking into this question, as well as the status of awards already made.

On Wednesday, July 25, in conjunction with the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health, and Human Services, Education hearing, Subcommittee Chairman Harkin (D-IA) released "Under Threat," a comprehensive report detailing the loss of services for young people if sequestration takes place. Among the findings: 145,180 fewer students would be able to access afterschool and summer learning opportunities currently provided through the 21st Century Community Learning Center (21st CCLC) initiative; and 80,000 fewer children would be served by the Child Care Development Block Grant.

The impact of sequestration in California would include a \$9.7 million reduction to 21st CCLC funding, affecting 37,349 students at 71 locations statewide.

### **Regional Lead update**

- After School Technical Assistance Priority Plan (TAPP)
  - TAPP is for grantees/sites at risk of involuntary reductions, voluntary reductions, or losing grants altogether because of attendance issues, fiscal issues, or results of audit reports.
  - TA offered includes: coaching, consulting, training, mentoring, sharing of information and resources.
  - Will have to report to CDE mid-year with outcomes
  
- New Issue: Charter School CPS Codes
  - Charter schools are assigned only 1 CPS code but often have multiple locations in one geographical area or city.
  - The problem arises because a charter school with multiple sites can only apply for one after school grant. This causes kids who are eligible for after school programs to not get them because they can only apply for one grant per CPS code instead of multiple grants for many sites.