

Notes from Special Post-Election CASN Policy Committee Call – 11/27/12  
*(Previous call: 10/25/12)*

Goal: Review post-election outcomes to determine implications for after school and out-of-school time.

## **Federal Elections Update**

### Congressional Elections

The new California Congressional delegation consists of 39 Democrats (including Senators Barbara Boxer and Dianne Feinstein) and 15 Republicans.

### Sequestration/Fiscal Cliff

There have been no changes to potential sequestration since the previous call. If sequestration goes through, the impact in California would be a \$9.7 million reduction to 21st CCLC funding, affecting 37,349 students at 71 locations statewide. These cuts would begin in the 2014 budget (which comes out 2013) for Cohort 9, NOT Cohort 8, which sites are applying for now.

### Education Policy

There have been no shifts in education policy, as ESEA reauthorization is still on hold. There will also likely be no legislative changes in the coming months; rather the focus will be on administrative issues like waivers and Race to the Top.

## **State Elections Update**

### State Assembly and Senate Elections

The General Election was a huge victory for Democrats who gained a supermajority in both houses of the Legislature. Although the Democrats have pretty much controlled both houses of the California Legislature for over 50 years, this is the first time the Democrats have had a supermajority in both houses since 1883.

Having the supermajority gives the Democrats total control of the outcome of ALL legislation, including taxes, urgency bills, constitutional amendments, as well as all bills to place any measure on the statewide ballot for voter consideration.

It is possible, however, that the supermajority will not be fully seated until later in 2013, or possibly 2014 due to vacancies created by Congressional victories. Due to these Congressional victories, some Assemblymembers and Senators will be vacating their State Legislative position to move to the Federal level. These vacant seats will be filled with special elections within 6 months, or possibly longer. The vacant seats are in strong Democratic regions, so the Democrats will likely retain control of these seats.

*In the meantime, between now and January 2013, we want to encourage the after school field to take newly elected officials to visit local programs between sessions.*

Assembly Leadership will remain the same as the caucuses recently voted to keep Speaker John Pérez and Republican Connie Conway as their leaders for 2013. Senate leadership is expected to remain the same: President Pro Tempore Darrell Steinberg and Republican Leader Bob Huff.

### Prop 30

Prop 30 passed! No trigger cuts! No new immediate money either. The state is first paying back debt to school districts from years of underfunding/borrowing. An expected increase in revenues won't be until 2014.

Leading into the election, larger urban districts had less debt and fewer layoffs. Other smaller districts, in preparation for the failure of Prop 30, had their school boards take action and pass austere budgets. Now that Prop 30 passed, they have more money in their budget than expected and plan to restore cuts to pre-threat levels (including less furlough days, extended school year, full time schedule for staff). Also, after school programs in larger districts over-served students early in the year thinking that Prop 30 may not pass. Now they have to figure out how to serve kids later in the year.

*There's a district-to-district analysis of funding. If anyone gets any good info or outcomes, please share with the field because those findings will be very helpful.*

Question: Is anyone having conversations about restoring the cuts vs. doing business differently?

*Districts we've talked to say that the conversation on how to do things differently has not started yet. The conversation will depend on district leadership. Also how far along common core implementation is will impact the thinking on the issue. Common core is expected to be the centerpiece of assessments change that is coming in 2014-15. Some in the field are nervous over the new assessment rollout, which is tech-based, and require the right hardware, software and training.*

*There will be a webinar on December 12 from 10AM-12PM on the impact of Prop. 30 on out of school time. The webinar is hosted by ASAPConnect and will be recorded and made available for those that cannot attend.*

Please join Samantha Tran of Children Now, Dr. Andi Fletcher, and others for a rich discussion on the passage of Proposition 30.

This webinar will address how Proposition 30 may impact the out-of-school time programs and will explore what new opportunities might be created.

Log-in information at <http://connect2.sccoe.org/prop30/>

This webinar is intended for after school TA providers including trainers, consultants, coaches, mentors, directors, resource brokers, etc.

### State Budget

The passage of Prop 39 created \$1 billion in new revenue for the state. This could have an impact on the funding levels for Prop 98 and the General Fund. Also, the LAO recently reported that due to the passage of Prop 30, the state has reduced its projected deficit to \$1.9 billion for 2013-14, and it's optimistically projected that the state could have budget surplus by 2014-15.

### Local Initiatives

The voting public came out in strong support of public education. The majority of local school bond measures and parcel taxes passed. This will bring much needed revenue to local districts. *[See attached list of local education measures that passed.]*

### Child Care Realignment

Another issue that has come up that we should keep on the radar is possible Child Care Realignment in 2013, which could impact after school programs funded by child care for school-aged children. This could happen and we need to keep an eye on it. The discussion should begin in early 2013 and we should make sure to connect with Nina Buthee (CCDAA) and Ruth Obel-Jorgensen (Cal-SAC).

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### Student-Weighted Formula

Another big issue facing school financing is the student-weighted formula, which will attempt to change how districts are funded per student. There was a big push on this from the Governor's office last year and it will be a priority for the upcoming session as well. This reform could significantly change how much funding districts receive. Action on this will start in January. In the meantime, there have been high-level meetings with legislative leadership and key stakeholders to shape policy in the coming Legislative session (last year the Governor proposed this policy change through the budget process).

## **Administrative**

### School Meals Program

The ASD recently issued a memo that clarifies policies around after school programs serving meals. Programs can serve a "meal" if it includes a snack component. The options are now three-fold; programs can serve (a) a snack, (b) a meal with snack component, or (c) a snack and a meal.

### Changing Fiscal Agents

The ASD released a form for after school programs to change fiscal agents. *This is for ASES programs only.* If a program would like to change fiscal agents, they must **complete and**

*submit the form by early January.* This issue arises mostly in cases where a district has a city as the fiscal client and the city wants to take back the programs or when a large County Office of Education partners with a consortium of programs who applied for grants for multiple districts and now a district wants to go out on its own.

#### Voluntary/Involuntary Reductions

Voluntary/Involuntary Reductions work will start in early February 2013. If a program is taking a voluntary reduction for 2013-14, they will have to submit their attendance data earlier than the January 31 deadline because voluntary reduction paperwork is *due earlier in January* and attendance data needs to be part of that submission. Please remember that this year they are using calendar year data.

#### Implementation Teams

The next phase of the ASD's strategic plan is to fill the Implementation Teams tasked with moving forward on the 4 areas of defined focus in the Statement of Strategic Direction. The deadline to apply for an Implementation Team has been *extended to Friday, December 7.*