

THE CORE

California County Boards of Education

In this issue



President's Message

Amy Christianson, CCBE President, Butte COE

First, I would like to thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve CCBE as your 2017 President. I am thrilled to announce that CCBE has reached 100 percent membership! I am joined by a dedicated executive board and by our program manager, Charlyn Tuter and administrative specialist, Jenn Ng. Together we have brought some exciting programs and changes to our members.

One of my priorities this year has been on improving relationships. Superintendents and board members operate under a model of “shared governance” which could be represented by a Venn diagram. While each entity has been delineated specific responsibilities, the goal of their shared governance occurs in the area of the overlap. That overlap consists of student and district support, advocacy, and strengthening relationships with other elected officials. It’s been my experience that breakdowns usually occur in the board and superintendent relationship when there is not a good understanding of the balance that creates true governance.

The relationship between the county board and the county superintendent can be a delicate balance. Below are a few principles that I have found to be true in working with superintendents, partner organizations, and districts in our county that have resulted in a positive relationship:

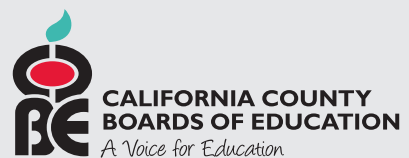
1. **Everyone is empowered to deliberate and make their own decisions.** It is the county board’s responsibility to provide support for the decisions the Superintendent makes within their authority. Regardless of what one may personally believe about the decision, each entity has the responsibility to support the independent decision making of the other.
2. **Top priority is given to preparing for board meetings.** A poorly run meeting is a reflection upon the board and the superintendent. Incomplete reports, deliberations off topic and single issue stances can result in a poorly run meeting that can hinder the reputation of the county office for which the superintendent and board share. It is in the best interest of both entities that board members are well prepared and that board meetings are well run.

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2017 Calendar of Events

December

CCBE Board of Directors Meeting, December 1
 CCBE General Membership Meeting, December 2
 Location: Marriott Marquis Hotel, San Diego, CA



CCBE Annual Conference 2017 Wrap-up

by Bruce Dennis (Riverside COE) and Dana Dean (Solano COE) Conference Committee Co-Chairs

The 2017 CCBE Annual Conference, held in September, was a big success, with a total of 188 attendees. Overall, members found that sessions were very relevant and useful, and the presenters were excellent. Members enjoyed networking and having the opportunity to learn about what other counties are doing and appreciated gaining perspective on the political process and catching up on the latest technical and legislative issues.

The annual conference committee met at the beginning of the year and worked hard to bring CCBE members a conference that would be engaging and thought-provoking, and provide both in-depth and broad sessions to help with the decisions county board members must make to fulfill their mandated responsibilities. This year's theme was "**Prepare for Tomorrow**". We know that starting and sustaining a dialogue on the importance of education with state decision makers, local community members, and parents is key to the success of our students. With this thought in mind, the committee specifically sought presentations that highlighted best practices, engaged county board members and superintendents, and provided practical tools and replicable models in, among others, these important areas:

- Advocacy and its major impact on education policy, local control, and the funding provided to public schools, as well as anticipating and understanding the future political landscape's impact on education.
- LCFF/LCAP overview that provides guidance and tools to identify and seize opportunities to leverage investments in early childhood to improve children's outcomes in their communities.
- Charter schools and the county board's role in the authorization and oversight process for charter schools.
- Governance and the ability to understand and respect the different roles and best practices between county boards and county superintendents.
- Retirement security and its impact on schools and LCFF/LCAP funding for county offices of education.
- Social and emotional well-being and the unique challenges faced by students experiencing homelessness and how schools can remove barriers to homeless students' success.
- Innovation and student learning opportunities that help board members understand the keys to wise technology decisions and provide resources to help guide this process locally.

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CCBE Executive Committee & Staff

Amy Christianson

CCBE President | Region 4: Butte COE

Bruce Dennis

CCBE President-elect | Region 18: Riverside COE

Dana Dean

CCBE Vice President and Editor of CORE
Region 3: Solano COE

Joaquin Rivera

CCBE Immediate Past President | Region 7: Alameda COE

Heidi Weiland

CSBA Director-at-Large, County
Region 6: El Dorado COE

John McPherson

CCBE Treasurer | Region 9: Monterey COE

Charlyn Tuter

CCBE Program Manager

Jenn Ng

CCBE Administrative Assistant

About CCBE

Hours

Monday - Friday: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Contact information

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Holidays (office closed)

Jan 1 | New Year's Day
Jan 16 | Martin Luther King Day
Feb 20 | Presidents' Day
May 29 | Memorial Day
July 4 | Independence Day
Sep 4 | Labor Day
Nov 11 | Veterans Day observed
Nov 23 | Thanksgiving Day
Nov 24 | CCBE Holiday
Dec 25 | Christmas Day
Dec 21-Jan 1 | CCBE/CSBA Holiday

President's Message, continued from page 1

3. **Establish protocols for communication between the county board and the county superintendent early.**

Communication protocols can help keep everyone informed of potential controversial topics or requests for additional information. As a county board trustee, if you have questions or concerns, the first point of contact should be your superintendent.

4. **Establish a culture of “sharing the stage.”** We are all viewed as education leaders in the county. An important skill of an effective leader is to “share the stage” with others. You are an elected official, and in almost all cases,

so is your superintendent. Work with your superintendent to develop a plan that allows for everyone to highlight programs and talk with other locally elected officials, clubs and peers.

Many people do not understand the delineations in authority between the county board and the county superintendent. All they care about is that we are working together productively to provide a quality education to those we serve. We get the best results when our relationship is balanced by the responsibilities we perform independently with those we share. ■

Mark your calendar for the CCBE General Membership Meeting and Breakfast

Friday, December 1 | 7:30 – 9:30 a.m.

This year, the 2017 General Membership Meeting and Breakfast will be held in San Diego on Friday, Dec. 1, from 7:30 – 9:30 a.m. at the Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina hotel in the Marriott Grand Ballroom 10 & 11. All county board members and superintendents are invited to attend this meeting.

The CCBE general membership is comprised of county member boards that have paid in full their annual CSBA and CCBE membership dues. The general membership is responsible for the governance of the organization. Their duties are to initiate, review, amend and adopt bylaws, policies, goals, objectives and resolutions of CCBE, and elect CCBE officers and the nominating committee.

At this year's meeting members will have an opportunity to vote for the 2018 CCBE officer positions and Nominating Committee, adopt the CCBE Policy Platform revisions, Superintendent Compensation Task Force report and receive annual committee reports.

This is an important time for CCBE and your attendance at these meetings is essential for the business of the organization to occur. Important decisions have to be made at these meetings and without a quorum, the business of CCBE

cannot function effectively. Without your active participation CCBE cannot continue to be the strong organization that it is evolving into.

As described in the CCBE bylaws, there shall be one vote from each county board. Each county board will select one of their members to serve as their voting representative. A quorum for business at this meeting is 20 county board representatives. Any county board member may participate in debate or initiate action, but only the representative may vote. We are asking each county office of education to help identify their county voting representative who will be attending the CCBE General Breakfast Membership meeting by filling out the county representative form and return it to Charlyn Tuter at ctuter@csba.org no later than Nov. 27. To download the county representative form, please visit CCBE's website at www.theccbe.org/Events/GeneralMembershipMeetings/.

You won't want to miss outgoing President Amy Christianson's year in review and the vision of our incoming president, Bruce Dennis from Riverside COE. Thank you for your time and service toward making CCBE a thriving and significant organization! ■

CCBE Annual Conference 2017 Wrap-up, continued from page 2

The Friday afternoon sessions were very well-attended and received. The first session started with “Guiding Principles of Charter Review” presented by Michael Tucker, Partner (Girard, Edwards, Stevens & Tucker LLP); Eric Stevens, Partner (Girard, Edwards, Stevens & Tucker LLP); Heidi Weiland, Trustee (El Dorado COE) and the second session “Pure Politics,” presented by Kevin Gordon, President (Capitol Advisors Group); Jack O’Connell, Partner (Capitol Advisors Group); and Barrett Snider, Partner (Capitol Advisors Group) provided relevant and thoughtful information that sparked conversations throughout the weekend.

The President’s Welcome Reception on Friday night once again provided a fabulous opportunity for members to network and enjoy delicious food. This year’s student entertainment



featured a performance by Rafael Vazquez on Violin, Maral Chegini on Violin, Omar Diaz on Viola and Isadora Flores on the Cello from Monterey High School.

The luncheon keynote presentation “Advocacy 201” presented by Craig Cheslog, Vice President for Common Sense Media, Debbie Look, Senior Legislative Advisor for the Assembly Committee on Education, and moderated by Dana Dean, CCBE Vice President and Board Trustee from Solano COE, provided members with resources and tips on how members can more effectively engage their state



representatives to achieve real, tangible results for their COE and the greater education community.

Sunday’s heartbreaking and inspiring general session, “School Ties: Understanding and Supporting Homeless Students,” presented by Shahera Hyatt, Project Director from California Homeless Youth Project, Meagan Meloy, Program Coordinator from Butte COE School Ties Program, and Robin McCrae, Chief Executive Officer from Community Human Services in Monterey County, provided members with knowledge on the unique challenges faced by students experiencing homelessness and how schools can remove barriers to homeless students’ success.

We are pleased to once again thank business partners who sponsored this year’s annual conference and also thank CSBA for their continued support. This year’s sponsors included: Capitol Advisors Group, LLC; 1 Government Procurement Alliance; Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo; Footsteps 2 Brilliance; Dannis Woliver Kelley; Girard, Edwards, Stevens & Tucker, LLP; Swing Education; Lozano Smith; WLC Architects; Studentnest, Inc.; and California Lottery. ■



2018 CCBE Annual Conference Save the Date

We heard you! Thanks to the survey input from this year’s attendees the Executive Committee has already been hard at work securing better facilities and more attendee benefits for next year’s conference. We are thrilled to report plans are underway to move the 2018 CCBE Annual Conference to the lovely Hyatt Regency Hotel and Conference Center on **Sept. 14-16, 2018** for what promises to be the biggest and best conference yet! ■

CSBA Delegate Assembly and CCBE Board of Directors Call for Nominations

The call for nominations for CSBA's Delegate Assembly regional county seats in odd-numbered regions is now open through **Sunday, Jan. 7, 2018**. Elected Delegates serve a two-year term beginning April 1, 2018 through March 31, 2020. In addition to serving on CSBA's Delegate Assembly, regional county Delegates have a dual role and are automatically elected to also serve on the CCBE Board of Directors for a two-year term. To download a copy of the Delegate Assembly nomination forms, please visit CSBA's website at www.csba.org/About/Leadership/ElectionToCsbaOffice/ElectiontotheDelegateAssembly/.

The Delegate Assembly is a vital link in the association's governance and sets the general policy direction for the association. Working with member boards, the Board of Directors, and Executive Committee, Delegates ensure that the association promotes the interests of school districts and county offices of education throughout the state. To view the Delegate Assembly roles and responsibilities, please visit CSBA's website at www.csba.org/About/Leadership/DelegateAssembly/.

There are two required CSBA Delegate Assembly meetings each year. In 2018, the first meeting will be held on May 19-20 in Sacramento. The second meeting will be held on Nov. 28 - 29 in San Francisco at the beginning of CSBA's Annual Education Conference and Trade Show.

CCBE is a statewide organization that is a section of CSBA and partners with it in providing educational leadership serving the unique needs of all county boards of education in California. Through advocacy, training, mentoring, marketing and communication, CCBE serves and represents county boards in the education community, strengthening and promoting local governance, and enabling county boards to help every student succeed.

Members of the CCBE Board of Directors establish the vision, mission and goals for CCBE, and ensure that activities and programs remain focused on those goals and the issues identified in CCBE's policy platform. The CCBE Board of Directors is committed to serving an organization that is dedicated to equity and knowledge by being engaged, tenacious, and champions for education. Individuals who are committed and involved in providing educational leadership are needed.

CCBE Board of Director's roles and responsibilities include:

- Adopt CCBE's budget, policy platform, bylaws and standing rules.
- Provide two-way communication with local county board members and school districts.
- Select and endorse a candidate for the CSBA Director-at-Large, County position.
- Support and participate in CCBE's and CSBA's activities and events.

There are three required CCBE Board of Directors meetings each year. In 2018, the first meeting will be on May 20 following CSBA's Delegate Assembly meeting. The second meeting precedes CCBE's Annual Conference in September, and the third meeting will be on Nov. 29 in San Francisco following CSBA's Delegate Assembly meeting.

For further information about CCBE, please visit our website at www.theccbe.org or contact Charlyn Tuter, at (800) 266-3382 ext. 3281 or by email at ctuter@csba.org. ■

County Board Advanced Governance Workshop

Training in March for your entire governance team

Registration will open soon for county board members to attend the CCBE two-day workshop on Friday, March 23 - Saturday, March 24, 2018 at the Yolo COE in Woodland, CA located about 10 minutes from the Sacramento airport. Board members (both new and veteran) and superintendents alike, can expect to attain a higher level of knowledge and understanding of the county board governance role by participating in this popular program. A wide breadth of timely and relevant topics will be covered, including shared governance, LCFF and LCAP, charter school oversight, California Dashboard, as well as advocacy and legislation. The early bird fee is \$305 per attendee and the regular fee is \$325 after Jan. 10, 2018. A continental breakfast, lunch, networking reception and materials are included in the registration fee. Visit www.theccbe.org for more information and to register. Seating is limited, so be sure to enroll today. ■

CCBE Nominating Committee

Beverly Gerard, Chair 2017 Nominating Committee

The 2017 Nominating Committee met on Sept. 9 to interview candidates for CCBE's 2018 officer positions. Following deliberations, the Committee nominated Dana Dean (Solano COE) candidate for President-elect, John McPherson (Monterey COE) candidate for Treasurer and Sherman Garnett (San Bernardino COE) and Rick Shea (San Diego COE) as candidates for Vice President.

As described in the CCBE bylaws, there shall be one vote from each county board. Each county board will select one of their members to serve as their voting representative. A quorum

for business at this meeting is 20 county board representatives. Any county board member may participate in debate or initiate action, but only the representative may vote. We are asking each county office of education to help identify their county voting representative who will be attending the CCBE General Breakfast Membership meeting by filling out the county representative form and return it to Charlyn Tuter at ctuter@csba.org no later than Nov. 20. To download the county representative form, please visit CCBE's website at www.theccbe.org/Events/GeneralMembershipMeetings/. ■