State of the System

PACE Annual Conference
January 25, 2024
State of the System

Attendance and Outcomes

Lucrecia Santibañez
PACE Annual Conference
January 25, 2024
Student achievement trends

Source: https://edpolicyinca.org/publications/california-test-scores-show-little-improvement-after-pandemic
Chronic absenteeism over time

Source: [https://edpolicyinca.org/newsroom/why-arent-students-showing-school](https://edpolicyinca.org/newsroom/why-arent-students-showing-school)
Changes in chronic absenteeism by group, 2019-19 to 2021-22

Source: https://edpolicyinca.org/newsroom/chronic-absenteeism-post-pandemic

Policy Analysis for California Education
State of the System

The Political Landscape

Carl Cohn
PACE Annual Conference
January 25, 2024
State of the System
Teacher Morale and the Educator Workforce

Joseph Bishop
PACE Annual Conference
January 25, 2024
Voices from the Classroom: Developing a Strategy for Teacher Retention & Recruitment

Details results from a survey of 4,632 CA TK-12th grade teachers

2 out 5 teachers surveyed said they have considered leaving the profession.

1 out of 5 said they will probably or definitely leave the profession within the next three years.

1 out of 2 said burnout from stress was the #1 reason for leaving the profession.

1 out of 3 said political attacks on teachers was the #2 reason for leaving the profession.
Teachers surveyed chose these words to describe how they felt about their current position as a teacher:

- "Exhausting" 1 out of 2
- "Stressful" 1 out of 2
- "Frustrating" 1 out of 2
- "Overwhelming" 1 out of 2
- "Rewarding" 1 out of 3
- "Fulfilling" 1 out of 3
- "Enjoyable" 1 out of 5
- "Empowering" 1 out of 7
When the Lights are Turned On:
Documenting the Impact of COVID on California’s Education Landscape

KEY FINDINGS

- **Inequities in remote learning conditions** were widespread.
- **Remediation, student learning acceleration and socialization** are universal challenges after lost in-person instructional time.
- Pre-pandemic achievement patterns are accelerating for **students of color**.
- **Social, emotional and mental health needs** are far exceeding capacity.
- **Little state guidance or support** was/is being provided to schools to deal with an unprecedented education crisis.
- **Basic needs** are more fundamental to student learning than ever before.
- **A weak pipeline of educators and staff and ongoing retention challenges** is negatively affecting schools.
- **An aggressive state policy response is needed** to support racial justice and equity.
State of the System

Budget Outlook

Edgar Cabral
PACE Annual Conference
January 25, 2024
Proposed Budget for Schools in Context

- State facing a $58 billion budget deficit in 2024-25 and projected to have deficits in subsequent years (projections of around $30 billion annually).
- Schools largely avoid reductions in Governor’s proposed budget.
Major 2024-25 Budget Proposals for Schools

- 0.76 percent cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for LCFF and other K-12 programs.
- Costs increases for TK expansion ($796 million) and universal school meals ($122 million).
- $500 million one time funding for green school bus grants.
- Several minor augmentations (literacy screening training, math curriculum framework training).
Proposed School Budget Relies on Two Key Components

- State assumes an $8 billion reduction in Prop 98 spending in 2022-23. Proposal intended not to impact school and community college budgets, but state not accounting for costs until outyears.

- Budget uses $4.6 billion of $8.5 billion in Proposition Reserve to cover K-14 costs in 2023-24 and 2024-25.
Key LAO Overview Comments

- Revenues optimistic but plausible.
- Budget lacks plan for implementing $8 billion reduction to schools and community colleges.
- Budget likely unsustainable in future years.
Implications for Schools

● More constrained funding this year
  ○ Combination of relatively low COLA, declining attendance, and typical cost increases will mean tighter budgets.

● Planned use of one-time funds affects budget outlook
  ○ Federal ESSER III funds ($13.6 billion) expire September 2024.
  ○ State arts, music, and instructional materials grant ($3.4 billion) can be used through 2025-26.
  ○ State learning recovery grant ($6.8 billion) can be used through 2027-28.
State of the System

PACE Annual Conference
January 25, 2024