



State Legislative Update

- Senator Bill 1 as introduced by Senators Romero, Huff, Alquist, and Wyland on August 27, 2009 will eliminate any barrier to linkage of student achievement data or California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS) and the California Longitudinal and Teacher Integrated Data Education System (CALTIDES).
- The Governor has announced a special session for Race to the Top legislation as presented by President Obama and U.S. Secretary of Education Duncan to discuss:
 - Eliminate cap on the number of charter schools.
 - Provide for an open enrollment process for students from lowest performing schools.
 - Provide better longitudinal data on student achievement; including for info. on individual students
 - Provide for salary schedules that recognize merit.
 - Address needs of lowest (500) performing schools and allow for them to reorganize structure.
 - Requires schools identified as one of the lowest 5% of "performance" to change their governance structure or staff/leadership/principal or take other immediate steps.
- Senator Hancock's bill SB 640 was signed by the Governor. SB 640 improves Regional Occupational Programs. It is a very technical bill but it is available for review.
- Senate Bill 515 is back in the Senate for concurrence between both houses. SB 515 would require Regional Occupation Centers/Programs, high schools and community colleges to ensure that at least 50% of the sequenced courses offered, are in career sectors where there is a high priority need for skilled persons as determined by the Labor and Workforce Development Agency. SB 515 also encourages consultation with the local Workforce Investment Board in determining how career technical education programs can address the high priority career sector needs in the region or in the state.
 - Current law requires recipients of federal funds to generally consider local or state regional workforce needs. SB 515 provides for the use of specific Labor Department statistical data developed for Workforce Investment Board activities. Placing conditions on the receipt of funds in SB 515, will lead to greater emphasis on the planning and updating of curriculum to meet workforce needs and to provide skills certificates in areas that will truly lead to apprenticeships, post secondary education and high skills, high pay careers.
- Senator Hancock is working in the legislature to try to correct technical glitches in the budget as a result of the categorical tiers.
- Forty two (42) new Green Academies have been given established from awards granted by the California Department of Education in the California Partnership Academy program.