Legislative Day 2020 Reimagined

Live Webinar
Recorded April 21, 2020
Today’s Webinar

LOGISTICS
• All lines muted
• Use chat to submit questions
• Recording shared after
• Continue the discussion

AGENDA
• Legislative Day Reimagined Plan & Logistics
• Revised Priorities & Advocacy Talking Points
• Local Meeting Logistics
• Q&A
• Don’t Forget About the PAC!
Today’s Legislative Coaches

Vittoria Abbate
State Legislative Chair
CCAE

Steve Curiel
VP Legislation
CAEAA

Dawn Koepke
Legislative Advocate
McHugh Koepke & Associates
Reimagining Legislative Day 2020 Amid COVID-19

• Statewide Shelter in Place Order – March 19th
• Massive Economic Impacts Anticipated
• Legislature on Joint Recess until May 4th
  • Policy & Budgetary Hearings Expected to Resume, Public Access & In-Person Access Likely Impacted
• May Revise Budget
  • “Workload Budget,” Tough Decisions Anticipated
• CCAE & CAEAA Confronting Budgetary Realities & Preparing for Worst Case Scenario, Revising Budgetary Priorities
Legislative & Budget Timeline

• Legislature Currently in Respective Districts
• Legislature to Reconvene May 4th
• Governor To Release May Revise Week of May 11th – 15th
• Legislature Must Pass Balanced Budget by June 15th
  • Priorities – COVID-19 Impacts & Response, Homelessness & Wildfire
  • Expected to Pass “Workload” Budget, Walk Back January Expansion & New Funding Proposals, Possible Cuts
  • Expected to Revisit Budget Details & Make Additional Adjustments in August 2020, Before End of 19-20 Legislative Session
• Legislative Adjournment August 31st
Reimagining Leg Day 2020 – Logistics

• Revising 2020 Priorities – Protect K12 Adult Education
• State Advocacy – Ongoing
• Immediate K12 Adult School Field & Student Engagement
  • Preparation of Materials
    • Talking Points
    • Draft Legislator Letter w/ COVID-19 Efforts & Impacts, Adult School Fact Sheet
  • Draft Resolution
• Remote Field Advocacy Meetings w/ Local Legislators
Revised Priorities & Advocacy Talking Points

Dawn Koepke, Legislative & Budget Advocate
McHugh Koepke & Associates
NEW **Priority** ASK – Maintain Adult Education Funding & COLA Proposal

• During last recession, Adult Education demand increased due to people becoming unemployed and seeking to retrain and improve their skills in order to get back to work quickly.

• Unfortunately, increased demand was met with a significant decrease in supply as local districts, given “categorical flexibility,” reduced Adult Education services to adults in order to protect programs for kids.

• While current stagnant funding isn’t sufficient to meet growing need, it’s critical to maintain – if not grow – current funding amid the COVID-19 pandemic to avoid further erosion of Adult Schools in California.

• Appreciate COLA in the Governor’s FY 20-21 January budget proposal - urge the Legislature to continue to include it in its final budget allocation.

**ASK** – Maintain current funding for the CA Adult Education Program and include the proposed FY 20-21 COLA in the final budget.
ASK – Address Funding Distribution & Timing

- Year over year as a result of process issues between CDE and the Community College Chancellor’s office, Adult Schools have not received their CAEP funding until more than half way through the school year.

- While school districts have been willing to float Adult Schools, as school district budgets tighten amid the COVID-19 pandemic they’ve been clear this cannot continue and Adult Schools will be left without access to funding they are allocated July 1st each year based on budget and consortium plans.

- **ASK** - In accordance with funding decisions made by consortia in their plans, establish a line item in the CDE budget to distribute Adult School funding directly to adult schools as provided in the CAEP regional plans.
ASK – Increased Funding!

• While we appreciate the inclusion of COLA in the Governor’s budget, it is not sufficient to meet the needs of the gaps in services and increasing costs.
• K12 Adult Education is an effective, nimble and cost-effective system of delivery for the most marginalized adults in our communities.
• K12 Adult Education is one of the most effective tools to ensure adults have access to short-term programming and career re-training to weather the impacts of a recession.
• Increase CA Adult Education Program funding by $110 M to address unmet needs and cover increasing costs.
ASK – Develop Carryover Criteria for CAEP Funding

• To ensure CAEP carryover to the greatest extent possible, the Legislature should develop clear criteria to guide acceptable levels and reasons for carryover.

  - Each year, consortia must certify expenditures for the prior school year by October 31st.
  - Beginning in FY 21-22, 15% consortium carryover cap for any given year.
  - Any consortium carrying over more than 15% of its annual allocation will have their allocation reduced by the amount exceeding 15% carryover in the following year.
  - Unspent dollars will be made available for onetime expenses in other regions and/or technical assistance.
  - Technical assistance will be provided to any consortia with excess carryover in order to ensure needs of the region are addressed in future years.
ASK – Education Code Updates

• K12 Adult Education has changed significantly since its inception, but the Education Code has not been updated to reflect the current system and delivery of services under the CA Adult Education Program (CAEP). Updates and align Education Code for K12 Adult Schools to better reflect the current system and delivery of services under the CA Adult Education Program (CAEP).
Ensuring Positive & Productive Remote Legislative Meetings

Dawn Koepke, Legislative & Budget Advocate
McHugh Koepke & Associates
Purpose of Legislative Meetings

• Legislator & Legislative Staff Education
  • Who are K12 adult schools? What adult school is in the member’s district?
  • Who do you serve?
  • The value of adult education to students, families, communities and California
  • CAEP Regional Consortia Activities, Progress, Challenges

• Relationship Building
  • 12 Year Term Limits
  • Tying capitol advocacy to individual districts

• Advocating for Budget Priorities
  • Protecting and Maintaining K12 Adult Education Amid Economic Downturn
  • Preserving Access for the Most Marginalized Constituencies for Short-Term Career Training, Basic Skills to Support K12 Learner and Districts in Distance Learning
Setting Up Remote Legislative Advocacy Meetings

• Identify Participants & Coordinate Logistics among Adult School Team
• Identify Senator & Assembly member @
  http://findyourrep.legislature.ca.gov/
• Submit a Meeting Request via Email to the Members’ Offices (or to key contact, if you have one in the members’ offices) including:
  • Subject of Meeting
  • Requested Timeframe (by May 8th – prior to May Revise)
  • Participants (i.e. Adult School Director/Principal, Teachers, Classified, Student)
• Determine Who Will Provide the Call-In Number or Web Meeting Access Information – Members’ Offices or Adult School Participants?
• Ensure All Stakeholders have Connectivity Information
• Schedule Participant Prep Call to Organize Participants Ahead of Meeting to Ensure Division of Talking Points, etc.
Preparing for Legislative Meetings

• Familiarity w/ Briefing Materials
• What legislators will you be visiting? What do you know about them?
• Day-Of Coordination
  • Identify a “Lead” for each visit
  • Who will “attend” the meeting with the Lead?
  • Divvy up talking points – be sure everyone is prepared to participate at some level
    • Personal experiences, especially from students!
• Keep the meeting brief, but impactful – most meetings are 20 minutes max
• Listen carefully to gauge reactions and hear feedback from legislator and staff
• Do not argue. Always be respectful. If a point of disagreement arises, politely listen and acknowledge the point of view, indicating that you will take that into consideration and appreciate the comments
• If questions arise you cannot answer, let him/her know that you will get back to them with the information and they may follow up with your lobbyist, Dawn Koepke
  • Follow Up, Send thank you note
Q&A

Submit questions via Zoom chat

For additional questions after the webinar, contact:
Vittoria Abbate, CCAE State Legislative Chair,
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Steve Curiel, CAEAA, VP Legislation,
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Strength in Numbers!
Thank you!