



## Member Alert

This Member Alert provides an overview of recent legislative measures that have been Approved by California Governor Newsom, which are relevant to our TJPA Member Districts.

---

### **AB 801 -Student privacy: online personal information.**

The legislation emphasizes that parents or guardians have control over their children's personal information collected by online platforms used in educational settings. This extends to the right to request the deletion of this data once a student is no longer enrolled in a school.

- **Privacy Policies:** Schools are required to ensure that any online service providers they contract with must clearly disclose their data collection practices and how student information will be used. This is intended to provide transparency and accountability regarding student data management.
- **Alignment with Existing Laws:** AB 801 works in conjunction with existing federal and state laws like the California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA), the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), and the Student Online Personal Information Protection Act (SOPIPA), reinforcing the protection of students' private information.
- **Vendors' Responsibilities:** The bill requires that contracts with educational technology vendors include specific provisions about data security, ownership, and control of pupil records to ensure that students' personal information is safeguarded.

### **AB 1858 - Comprehensive school safety plans: active shooters: armed assailants: drills.**

Existing law requires the comprehensive school safety plan to include the development of procedures for conducting tactical responses to criminal incidents, including procedures related to individuals with guns on school campuses and at school-related functions.

This bill would additionally require, as part of the comprehensive school safety plan, if the plan includes procedures to prepare for active shooters or other armed assailants by conducting a drill, the development of specified procedures relating to that drill.

- **Guidelines for Drills:** The bill requires the California Department of Education to develop and disseminate procedural guidelines for schools on conducting active shooter drills. This includes ensuring drills are age-appropriate and trauma-informed.

- **Parental Notification:** Schools must notify parents a week in advance of scheduled drills and follow up with notification on the day of the drill, promoting transparency and reducing anxiety.
- **Prohibition of Simulated Violence:** The legislation prohibits the use of simulated gunfire or violence during drills, focusing instead on educational strategies that prepare students without inducing fear or distress.
- **Mental Health Resources:** After drills, schools are mandated to provide information about available mental health resources to support students who may experience emotional difficulties as a result of participating in these drills

This bill would authorize a chartering authority to deny a charter school petition that does not include in its proposed development of a school safety plan the same provisions on procedures and policies relating to active shooter and armed assailant drills as are required by the bill in a school district or county office of education comprehensive school safety plan.

**AB 1913- Pupil safety: child abuse prevention: training.**

All employees of school districts, charter schools, and county offices of education must receive training on child abuse prevention. This training will help staff recognize signs of abuse, understand reporting requirements, and promote protective measures for students.

- **Training Content:** The training programs must include education on the various forms of child abuse, the impact of abuse on children, and best practices for preventing and responding to such incidents.
- **Frequency of Training:** School districts are required to ensure that employees complete the training at least once every three years to maintain updated knowledge and practices in child protection.
- **Implementation Plan:** Schools must develop and implement their plans for training, which should align with state standards for child abuse prevention education.
- **Resources and Support:** The bill encourages collaboration with local agencies and organizations that specialize in child protection to provide resources and support for schools in conducting effective training.

**AB 2350 - Open meetings: school boards: emergencies: notifications by email.**

Allows school boards to notify local newspapers and radio/television stations of emergency meetings via email instead of the previously mandated telephone calls. Here are the key requirements and features of the bill:

- **Emergency Notification Flexibility:** School boards can send notifications for emergency meetings by email to each local newspaper of general circulation and radio or television stations that have requested notifications.
- **Waiver of Notification Requirements:** If both internet and telephone services are down, the usual notification requirements are waived. The school board must inform the media about the emergency meeting, its purpose, and any actions taken as soon after the meeting as possible.
- **Notification Process:** The presiding officer or their designee is responsible for sending the email notifications, and all email addresses provided in requests for notifications must be used.
- **Definition of Emergency:** The bill defines "emergency" situations as events that severely impair public health or safety, including:
  - Work stoppages or crippling activities
  - Crippling disasters, mass destruction, or terrorist acts

**AB 2534 - Certificated Employees: Disclosures: Egregious Misconduct**

Mandates that when applying for certificated positions in school districts, county offices of education, or charter schools, applicants **must** disclose any past employment history involving egregious misconduct. This includes actions such as sexual offenses, substance abuse violations, or child abuse. Former employers are required to release records of such misconduct, ensuring that prospective employers can make informed hiring decisions.

**AB 2565 - School facilities: interior locks.**

Mandates that any school district, county office of education (COE), or charter school engaged in constructing a new school facility or renovating, repairing, or modernizing an existing facility must install interior locks on each door. This requirement aims to enhance school safety by ensuring that classroom doors can be locked from the inside, allowing for more effective lockdown procedures during emergencies.

**AB 2715 - Ralph M. Brown Act: closed sessions.**

Introduces new provisions concerning closed sessions for local agencies in California. The bill allows local agencies to hold closed sessions concerning threats to critical infrastructure and cybersecurity. This includes discussions about critical infrastructure controls and information that are vital to public health, safety, and economic security.

- **Definitions:**
  - **Critical Infrastructure Controls:** Refers to networks and systems that are crucial for the local agency, where any incapacitation could significantly impact public services.
  - **Critical Infrastructure Information:** Encompasses information about potential threats or vulnerabilities related to critical infrastructure.

**AB 3216 - Pupils: use of smartphones.**

Also known as the Phone-Free School Act, mandates that school districts, charter schools, and county offices of education develop and adopt policies to limit or prohibit smartphone use by students during school hours by July 1, 2026. This legislation aims to address the negative impacts of excessive smartphone use on students' mental health, academic performance, and social interactions.

- **Policy Development:** Each local educational agency must create a policy regarding smartphone use, with input from stakeholders such as teachers, parents, and students. This policy should be reviewed and updated every five years
- **Limitations on Use:** The policy will likely restrict smartphone use during the school day, including passing periods and lunch, with specific exemptions for emergencies, medical needs, or as specified in a student's Individualized Education Plan

**SB 997 - Pupil health: opioid antagonists and fentanyl test strips.**

Allows middle and high school students to carry federally approved opioid antagonists, such as Narcan, on campus. It also mandates that public schools stock fentanyl testing strips and inform students about their availability.

**SB 1248 -Pupil health: extreme weather conditions: physical activity.**

The bill would require school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools, on or before July 1, 2026, to develop, adopt, and implement weather protocols for extreme weather conditions, and would require the weather protocols to incorporate the standardized guidelines compiled by the department and to detail the specific measures to be taken during extreme weather conditions, as specified. The bill would require the weather protocols to be annually reviewed, evaluated, and, if necessary, updated to incorporate best practices and address any emerging concerns or challenges, and to reflect changes in weather patterns, advances in safety practices, and feedback from stakeholders.

The bill would apply these provisions to physical education classes, sports, and athletic practices and games sponsored by a local educational agency, except for those relating to an interscholastic athletic program administered by the CIF, which the bill would instead require to comply with the established CIF guidelines.