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CCEE Executive Director

Matt J. Navo

Advisory Council Highlights

February 27, 2026

This newsletter is intended to inform the field. Please share this with your regional superintendents or any interested parties.

INTRODUCTION

The Advisory Council (AC) met on Friday, February 27, 2026, to provide input and guidance on the work of CCEE. Executive Director Matt Navo outlined the agenda for the meeting, starting with an overview of the California Practitioners Advisory Group (CPAG) by Winters Superintendent, Rody Boonchouy. The Advisory Council also received an update on the work of CCEE around Secondary School Redesign and Portrait of a Learner, and closed with a discussion on the new governance proposal and important reports for the AC to review.

The next CCEE Advisory Council meeting will be held on **April 17, 2026**.

HOT TOPICS: California Practitioners Advisory Group (CPAG)

CCEE Executive Director, Matthew Navo, transitioned the AC into the Hot Topic discussion of today's meeting, an overview of the California Practitioners Advisory Group (CPAG), with Winters Superintendent, Rody Boonchouy.

Superintendent Boonchouy provided an overview of the [California Practitioners Advisory Group \(CPAG\)](#), explaining its role in providing feedback to the State Board of Education on key educational policies.

He highlighted CPAG's diverse membership and its focus on accountability systems, including the dashboard and LCAP, as well as discussions around new science indicators and student growth measures. Rody also discussed the lack of a statewide definition of college and career readiness in California and the potential benefit of early dashboard data releases.

Supt. Boonchouy also explained that the CPAG is a state board-appointed committee that reviews education policies and highlighted its role in advocating for student growth metrics beyond standardized tests. He encouraged participants to join the [CPAG mailing list](#) for updates and to consider nominating or recommending candidates for the committee. Current CPAG Members can be found [HERE](#).

— 2025 - 26 Meeting Dates
 (Times: 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.)

~~August 29, 2025~~

~~October 3, 2025~~

~~December 19, 2025~~

~~February 27, 2026~~

April 17, 2026

June 5, 2026

Links / References

- [Agenda for February 27, 2026](#)
- [AC Bylaws](#)

CCEE Topics: Secondary School Redesign and Portrait of a Learner

Lieb Sutchter and Christine Olmstead provided the AC an overview of the SBE *Portrait of a Learner* and the California Secondary School Redesign. Lieb discussed the development of a State Portrait of a Graduate Learner, which aims to inform state-level decisions on curriculum, assessment, and accountability. They shared findings from a community survey and focus groups, emphasizing the need for a shared vision to align educational goals. The state board will review these findings at their March meeting, with the goal of adopting a tentative state portrait by May.

Christine presented an overview of the [California Secondary School Redesign Pilot Program](#), highlighting the \$10 million budget allocated for 14 networks across the state to redesign middle and high schools. These 14 networks represent over 70 LEAs and 125 schools that have volunteered to be a part of this pilot. The pilot aims to learn from these networks, inform state policy, and provide resources for other districts to start redesign efforts. Key elements include ensuring every student is known and supported, redesigning for deeper knowledge and skills, advancing equitable outcomes, promoting measurable growth, and building sustainable structures. Ongoing challenges discussed included limited professional development time, bargaining agreements, master scheduling, and connecting various initiatives around dual enrollment and career readiness.

Other challenges discussed were around enrollment decline and the impact of A through G graduation requirements, with members expressing concerns about expanding dual enrollment and CTE while facing enrollment reductions. Christine highlighted issues with the Carnegie unit system of measuring learning by seat time rather than actual knowledge. The group discussed ongoing work to redesign the system, with Christine noting participation in a national association of state boards of education and potential movement on the Carnegie unit issue within the next year.

A link to the presentation shared can be found [HERE](#). If you would like to know more about the Secondary Redesign, please reach out via email to redesign@ccee-ca.org or colmstead@ccee-ca.org.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

Executive Director Navo concluded the meeting with a question to the AC around the Governor's new educational governance proposal. The group discussed concerns about a proposed change in governance structure, with members expressing worry about increased reporting requirements and the highlighted the need for administrative experience in education for leadership roles. Matt provided context on the recommendation to align the state board and department by using a K-12 commissioner, explaining how current staffing arrangements create implementation challenges. The discussion highlighted

three key reports: [PACE Report](#), [System of Support Core Working Group Report](#), and [Getting Down to Facts](#) (scheduled to publish in May).

The CCEE is a statewide organization created in 2013 to advise and assist Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) and the County Office of Education (COE) in accomplishing the goals identified in their Local Control Accountability Plans (LCAPs). If you would like more detailed information on the CCEE and its current initiatives, please visit the CCEE website at <https://ccee-ca.org/>