



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

February 05, 2024

The mission of the YPI Charter Schools (YPICS) is to prepare students for academic success in high school and post--secondary education, to prepare students to be responsible and active participants in their community, and to enable students to become life-long learners. Students at YPI Charter Schools will become active citizens who characterize the ideals of a diverse and democratic society. Students will provide service to their community, take responsibility for their own learning, and develop the habits of mind and body that will empower them to be successful in high school and beyond.

State

**Excerpt from Overview of the Governor's Proposal
for the 2024-25 State Budget and K-12 Education;
*From School Services of California
Posted January 10, 2024***

When you expect a budget gap of \$68 billion, a budget gap of \$37.9 billion feels like a good day. While there is no debating the magnitude of unrealized revenues from 2022, Governor Gavin Newsom today framed the current budget situation as the state returning to a more normal economic environment from recent years of explosive growth. This is a key difference from the expectations set last fall by the Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) Fiscal Outlook and the tone set today by Governor Newsom.

The good news for education is that there are no mid-year cuts, deferrals, or program rollbacks. The bad news for education is a shrinking Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) due to heavy declining enrollment and a meager cost-of-living adjustment (COLA).

California is better prepared to weather the proverbial storm due to the significant rainy day deposits made during the good years that allow the state to address this budget gap. In addition to reserve withdrawals (including the Proposition 98 Rainy Day Fund), the Governor proposes reductions, internal borrowing, funding delays, funding shifts, and non-Proposition 98 deferrals. It remains to be seen whether one-time funds successfully create a bridge to increased future revenues, or if they eventually run dry and are merely delaying cuts to align actual spending to revenues.

The Economy and Revenues

Governor Newsom assumes a continued slow-growth economy for 2024-25 and notes a possible resurgence of higher inflation and continued elevated interest rates as the biggest near-term threats to the economy. Additional risks include, but aren't limited to, geopolitical tensions, climate change impacts, and the high cost of living in California. Importantly, no recession is forecasted. The Governor's Budget assumes Gross Domestic Product growth to slow to 1.6% in 2024 and 1.2% in 2025, and California unemployment is projected to increase to 5.1% and 5.2% in 2024 and 2025, respectively. Headline inflation is projected to drop to 2.6% in 2024 and 2% in 2025. As he did last year, the Governor began his press conference standing beside a chart showing fluctuations in capital gains revenues as a percentage of personal income, which he again likened to an electrocardiogram, or EKG. The Governor described the economic situation as a story of correction and normalization following a period of distortion, highlighting the unprecedented surpluses in revenue a couple of years ago followed by the deficits experienced in the current year and projected for the 2024-25 budget year.

The largest source of state General Fund revenues is derived from taxes on personal income, including capital gains, and relies heavily on high-income taxpayers. Personal income tax makes up 65% of pre-transfer General Fund revenue for 2022-23 and is projected to account for 74% of pre-transfer General Fund revenue in 2024-25. One percent of the state's highest income earners paid 50% of all personal income taxes in 2021, a slight increase from the prior year. According to the Governor's Budget summary, "[t]hese two related phenomena—significant reliance of the General Fund on capital gains and stock-based compensation, and on taxes paid by a small portion of the population—underscore the difficulty in forecasting personal income tax revenue" and, by extension, General Fund revenues.

Capital gains revenue as a percentage of annual General Fund revenues are projected to stabilize and make up 8.4%, 8.3%, and 8.7% of total annual General Fund revenues for 2022, 2023, and 2024, respectively. The Newsom Administration assumes a stock market that is largely consistent with Wall Street's mid-November 2023 levels.

The Governor's Budget recognizes a budget shortfall of \$44 billion over the three-year budget window (2022-23, 2023-24, and 2024-25). The Governor's Budget draws primarily on the following measures to balance against the shortfall:

- \$13.1 billion in drawdown of reserves
- \$8.5 billion in funding reductions without cuts to Proposition 98 programs
- \$5.7 billion in borrowing
- \$5.1 billion in funding delays over three years
- \$3.4 billion in funding shifts from the General Fund to other funds
- \$2.1 billion in deferrals to payroll and University of California/California State University
- \$5.7 billion in withdrawals from the Public School System Stabilization Account (PSSSA)
- \$402 million in tax revenue proposals

The Governor’s Budget makes significant reductions to the “Big Three” tax revenues relative to the 2023-24 Enacted Budget across the three-year budget window, for a total downward adjustment of \$42.9 billion.

Big Three Tax Revenues (In millions)						
	2022-23		2023-24		2024-25	
	2023-24 Enacted Budget	Governor’s Budget	2023-24 Enacted Budget	Governor’s Budget	2023-24 Enacted Budget	Governor’s Budget
Personal Income Tax	\$122,769	\$101,749	\$118,161	\$113,768	\$118,903	\$114,730
Corporation Tax	\$42,091	\$37,140	\$42,081	\$36,913	\$43,369	\$38,055
Sales and Use Tax	\$33,072	\$33,186	\$33,366	\$34,643	\$34,383	\$35,123

Again, the Governor’s Budget revenue estimates do not forecast a recession—even a mild one. Risks to the projected continuing slow-growth economy are noted and could lead to a recession in which case a mild recession could lead to General Fund revenue losses between \$20 billion to \$30 billion over the budget window.

Proposition 98 Minimum Guarantee, Rainy Day Fund, and Local Reserve Requirements
 Proposition 98 Minimum Guarantee Based on the Governor’s revenue estimates, which account for lower-than-expected 2022 tax collections, the Proposition 98 minimum guarantee for 2022-23 and 2023-24 are reduced by \$9.1 billion and \$2.7 billion from the 2023-24 Enacted Budget levels, respectively. Further, the Governor expects state revenues to rebound from current levels, which will result in an increase in funding for K-12 and community college agencies in 2024-25, bringing the minimum guarantee to \$109.1 billion by the end of the budget window. Proposition 98 in 2024-25 includes additional funding to cover the increased LCFF costs resulting from Transitional Kindergarten (TK) expansion and the required set-aside to support arts and music programs in public schools. Under the Governor’s estimates, Test 1 is operative across the budget window, which means that K-14 education receives nearly 40 cents of every state General Fund dollar.

Proposition 98 Minimum Guarantee, Prior and Current Year (In billions)			
	2023-24 Enacted Budget	2024-25 Governor's Budget Adjustments	Minimum Guarantee
2022-23	\$107.4	-\$9.1	\$98.3
2023-24	\$108.3	-\$2.7	\$105.6

Proposition 98 Rainy Day Fund and Local Reserve Requirements

Changes in state General Fund revenues have similar impacts on the state's requirement to make deposits into and withdrawals from the Proposition 98 Rainy Day Fund (or the PSSSA). The Governor's Budget proposes the following activity in the reserve account.

Proposition 98 Rainy Day Fund (In billions)				
	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Deposits		\$0.3	\$0.3	\$0.8
Withdrawals			-\$3.0	-\$2.7
Fund Balance	\$8.1	\$8.4	\$5.7	\$3.8

For 2024-25, the Proposition 98 Rainy Day Fund balance of \$5.7 billion in fiscal year 2023-24 requires non-basic aid districts with average daily attendance (ADA) greater than 2,500 to maintain a local reserve balance of 10%.

LCFF Entitlements for School Districts and Charter Schools

Recall that the 2023-24 Enacted Budget utilized \$1.6 billion in one-time Proposition 98 General Fund monies to fully fund the 8.22% COLA. Based on the Administration's current projections, there is insufficient new revenue to fill the gap left by the use of those one-time funds in 2023-24 and ongoing obligations.

To address the shortfall, Governor Newsom’s State Budget once again utilizes one-time funds. Of the proposed \$5.7 billion PSSSA withdrawals across the current and budget year, the Administration is proposing to allocate \$5.0 billion for purposes of supporting the LCFF—approximately \$2.8 billion for 2023-24 and another \$2.2 billion for 2024-25. Further, the Governor’s Budget notes that an additional \$38.6 million in available reappropriation and reversion funding will also be utilized to support ongoing LCFF costs in 2024-25.

With this funding, the base grants by grade span for 2024-25 are increased over 2023-24 by the estimated statutory COLA of 0.76%.

Grade Span	2023-24 Base Grant Per ADA	0.76% COLA	2024-25 Base Grant Per ADA
TK-3	\$9,919	\$75	\$9,994
4-6	\$10,069	\$77	\$10,146
7-8	\$10,367	\$79	\$10,446
9-12	\$12,015	\$91	\$12,106

The TK-3 base grant increase for the class-size reduction (CSR) grade span adjustment is \$1,039 per ADA in 2024-25 and the grade 9-12 base grant per ADA is increased by \$315 in recognition of the need for Career Technical Education (CTE) courses provided to students in the secondary grades.

School districts and charter schools are entitled to supplemental grant increases equal to 20% of the adjusted base grant (including CSR and CTE funding) for the percentage of enrolled students who are English learners, eligible for the free or reduced-price meals program, or in foster care. An additional 65% per-pupil increase is provided as a concentration grant for each percentage of eligible students enrolled beyond 55% of total enrollment, with 15% of the concentration grant to be used to increase the number of adults providing direct services (nurses, teachers, counselors, paraprofessionals, and others) to students.

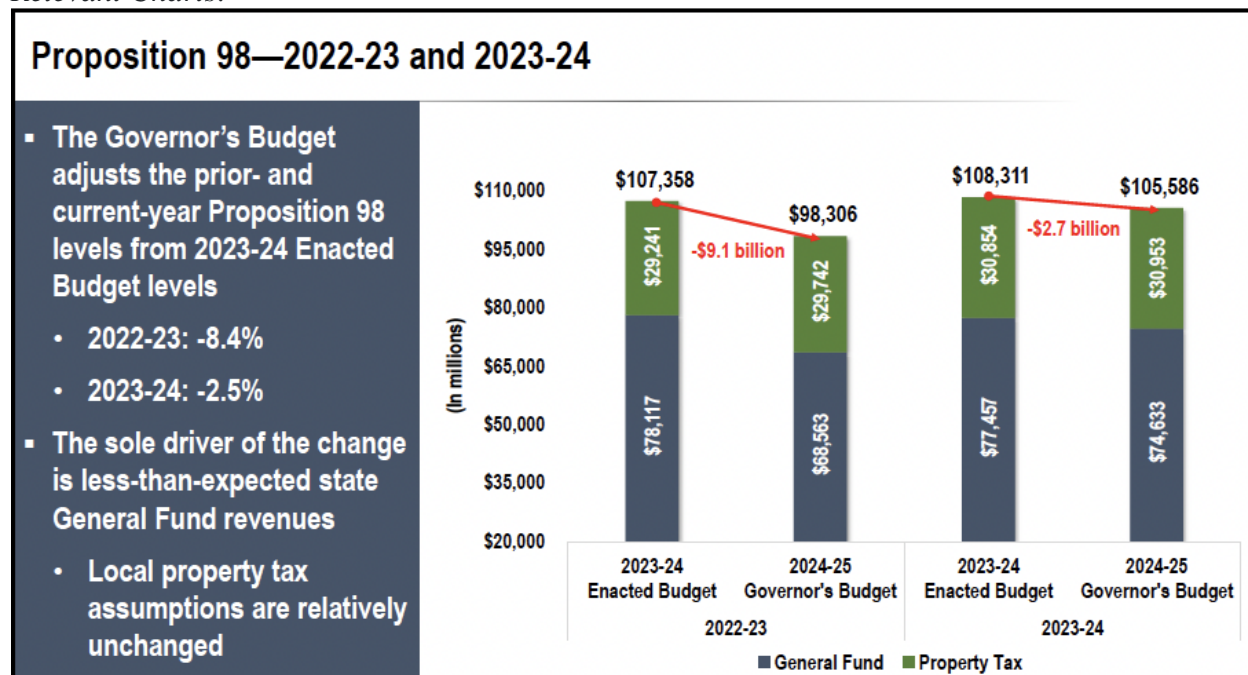
Cost-of-Living Adjustment

The Governor’s Budget estimates, and fully funds, a statutory COLA of 0.76% for the LCFF, which is lower than the LAO estimated in its November Fiscal Outlook report (1.26%). Both are significantly lower than the estimate of 3.94% from the 2023-24 Enacted Budget. While there are still two data points outstanding in order to calculate the final statutory COLA—one anticipated in a matter of weeks and the other at the end of April—time will tell whether the Administration

or the LAO have a clearer crystal ball, it is very apparent that the statutory COLA will be closer to 1% than 4%.

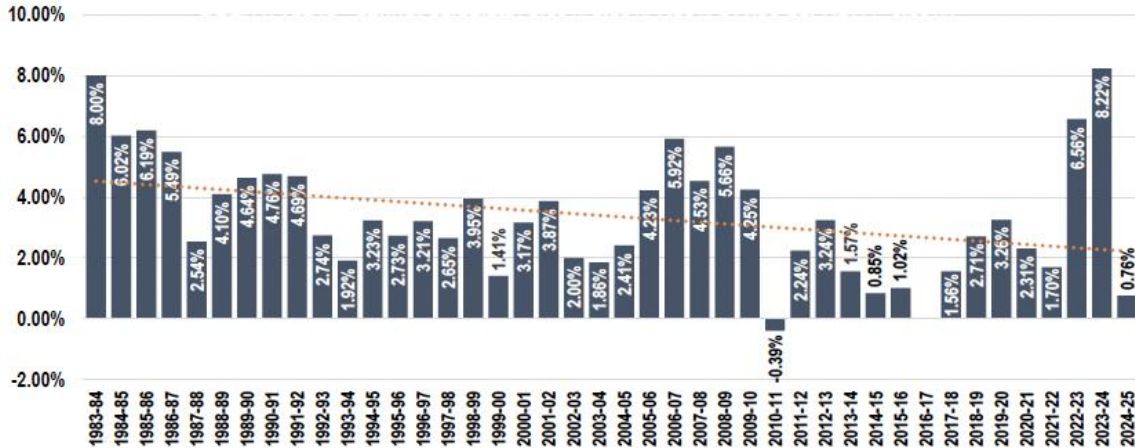
The Governor's estimated COLA would also be applied to other education programs funded outside of the LCFF, including the LCFF Equity Multiplier, Special Education, Child Nutrition, State Preschool, Foster Youth, Mandate Block Grant, Adults in Correctional Facilities Program, Charter School Facility Grant Program, American Indian Education Centers, and the American Indian Early Childhood Education Program—as well as county offices of education and community colleges.

Relevant Charts:



Historical Statutory COLAs

- The statutory COLA for 2024-25 feels anomalous relative to the last two years, but when looking back, COLA is beginning to normalize to historical trends—COLAs above 6% are the anomalies



2024-25 LCFF Funding Factors

Grade Span	TK-3	4-6	7-8	9-12
2023-24 Base Grant per ADA ¹	\$9,919	\$10,069	\$10,367	\$12,015
0.76% COLA	\$75	\$77	\$79	\$91
2024-25 Base Grant per ADA	\$9,994	\$10,146	\$10,446	\$12,106
GSA	\$1,039	—	—	\$315
2024-25 Adjusted Base Grant per ADA	\$11,033	\$10,146	\$10,446	\$12,421
20% Supplemental Grant per ADA ²	\$2,207	\$2,029	\$2,089	\$2,484
65% Concentration Grant per ADA ³	\$4,965	\$4,566	\$4,701	\$5,589
TK Add-On (inclusive of COLA)	\$3,067	—	—	—

¹Average daily attendance

²Maximum amount per ADA—to arrive at LEA's grant amount, multiply adjusted base grant per ADA by 20% and UPP

³Maximum amount per ADA—to arrive at LEA's grant amount, multiply adjusted base grant per ADA by 65% and UPP above 55%