



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

May 20, 2024

The mission of the YPI Charter Schools (YPICS) is to prepare students for academic success in high school, as well as post--secondary education; prepare students to be responsible and active participants in their community; and 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.

National:

CNN

Brown v. Board at 70: Why the US still has far to go to achieve the promise of integration

Published **May 17, 2024** by **Chandelis Duster, Nicquel Terry Ellis, Alex Leeds Matthews**

Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas – the landmark Supreme Court decision that declared “separate but equal” education unconstitutional in the United States – remains one of the most consequential court cases in American history.

As the nation commemorates the ruling’s 70th anniversary, civil rights leaders and advocates tell CNN the case may have paved the way for more equal and integrated schools, but fierce – and continued – opposition to integration means the ruling in no way assured the end of segregated education in the United States.

Although progress has undoubtedly been made over the decades, research shows many school districts today are racially segregated because they are divided along residential and economic lines...

State:

Cal Matters

Big cuts, no new taxes: Gov. Newsom’s plan to fix California’s budget deficit

BY ALEXEI KOSEFF
MAY 10, 2024

IN SUMMARY

Gavin Newsom proposes a mix of spending cuts and using reserves to balance the state budget. He says that core services will be largely untouched, but some existing programs would be affected.

Faced with ongoing weaknesses in state finances, Gov. Gavin Newsom put forward a [revised budget plan](#) today that he said aims to stabilize California in the longer term by addressing a “sizable deficit” estimated at \$56 billion over the next two fiscal years.

Looking beyond the typical annual budget cycle, [Newsom proposed](#) more than \$30 billion in ongoing and one-time spending cuts, including to education and climate objectives that have been among the governor’s own priorities, though he promised that “core programs” providing social services to needy Californians would be mostly untouched.

“These are propositions that I’ve long advanced, many of them. These are things that I’ve supported,” Newsom said [during a press conference in Sacramento](#). “But you’ve got to do it. We have to be responsible. We have to be accountable. We have to balance the budget.”

The governor’s proposal is an opening offer to the Legislature, which [faces a June 15 deadline to pass a balanced budget](#) or forgo its pay. That leaves a little more than a month for members to sort through Newsom’s solutions and negotiate a compromise that reflects their own concerns amid what is certain to be a fever pitch of lobbying from outside groups hoping to stave off cuts to their preferred programs.

The immediate reaction from Democratic leaders in the Assembly and Senate, who will negotiate a deal with the governor, was cautious and addressed few specifics.

“We are encouraged that the Governor’s May Revision improves budget prospects for future years and saves rainy-day reserves,” Assembly Speaker [Robert Rivas](#) of Salinas and Budget Committee chairperson [Jesse Gabriel](#) of Encino, said in a joint statement, but they added they “will continue to fight to protect core programs for California’s most vulnerable residents and essential classroom funding.”

Senate President Pro Tem [Mike McGuire](#) of Healdsburg and Budget Committee chairperson [Scott Wiener](#) of San Francisco, in a joint statement, said their past budgets “have uplifted communities and Californians — this year will be no different.”

Here are some key numbers from [Newsom’s revised budget for the 2024-25 fiscal year](#), which begins July 1:

-7.3%

With tax revenues coming in below expectations — about \$7 billion lower than [even the governor’s January projections](#) — this revised budget proposal is substantially smaller than the \$310.8 billion spending plan for the current fiscal year. Including the general fund, special funds and bonds, Newsom is proposing to spend \$288.1 billion on state programs next year, down about 7.3%.

\$27.6 billion

This is the remaining deficit that the Newsom administration projects for the upcoming fiscal year. Officials have known since last fall that the fiscal picture was bad, but estimates of just how deep the hole would be varied widely — from a more optimistic \$38 billion by Newsom’s Department of Finance in January to a dire [\\$73 billion by the nonpartisan Legislative Analyst’s Office](#).

That prompted Newsom and the Legislature to take “early action” last month to [reduce the deficit by more than \\$17 billion](#) ahead of the regular budget

process. Their plan included some program cuts, but mostly relied on new revenue, internal borrowing and funding delays and shifts for savings, earning criticism from Republican lawmakers for being “gimmicky” and “balanced on hopes and prayers.”

In addition to closing the remaining \$27.6 billion shortfall for 2024-25, Newsom wants to get a jump start on addressing another projected \$28.4 billion deficit in 2025-26.

Why does California have such a financial problem? The [reasons go back two years](#). A downturn in the stock market in 2022 hit capital gains, while high inflation pinched the housing market and the tech industry pulled back on initial public offerings as investments dropped. Those blows have continued as wealthy taxpayers carried forward their losses.

But the drops in revenue were [not fully reflected in the spending plan](#) that Newsom and legislators adopted last summer. Severe winter storms prompted the federal government to delay the income tax filing deadline for most Californians from April until November, and the state followed suit, giving an incomplete picture during the budget process. The state committed to funding programs that it subsequently realized it cannot afford.

\$21.5 billion

The governor’s budget proposal relies on dipping into state reserve accounts, including \$12.2 billion from the rainy-day fund and \$900 million from a safety net reserve, spread out over two years. Separately, Newsom wants to use \$8.4 billion from a schools reserve account next year to stabilize funding for K-12 education that would otherwise drop.

Newsom also announced that he will ask the Legislature to create another new budget reserve account to help balance California’s volatile revenue picture from year-to-year. Under this plan, the state would set aside projected revenue above historical trends and hold off on spending it until it actually

materializes. Newsom said this is easier than amending the existing rainy-day fund to capture more money, which would require approval from the voters.

\$19.1 billion

A large part of how Newsom wants to solve California's deficit involves clawing back \$19.1 billion in unspent funding that was promised just a few years ago, during brighter days when the state had a record surplus. Substantial cuts to one-time spending include \$2 billion for expanding broadband internet, \$820 million for health care workforce development, more than \$700 million for housing development, \$550 million for early education facilities, \$500 million for water storage, \$450 million for behavioral health infrastructure and \$136 million for cleaning up toxic substances in vulnerable communities.

\$13.7 billion

Even more painful may be \$13.7 billion in proposed cuts to ongoing programs, including shrinking the [Middle Class Scholarship program for college students](#) by \$510 million annually and eliminating \$300 million for state and local public health programs. Newsom wants to take an additional 4,600 prison beds out of commission, which could save nearly \$81 million per year.

The governor proposed an overall reduction of nearly 8% to state operations, which he estimated would save \$2.2 billion in 2024-25 and more in the years ahead, though exactly how government agencies would absorb those cuts is still to be determined. Newsom is pushing to eliminate 10,000 vacant state government positions on top of that, which could save \$763 million annually.



Gov. Gavin Newsom addresses the media during a press conference unveiling his revised 2024-25 budget proposal at the Capitol Annex Swing Space in Sacramento on May 10, 2024. Photo by Fred Greaves, CalMatters

Social services programs such as supplemental income for elderly and disabled Californians, welfare and the earned income tax credit will be untouched, Newsom emphasized. That includes the recent [expansion of health coverage to low-income undocumented immigrants](#) of all ages.

“I just think that’s foundational,” Newsom said. “It’s something I believe in. It’s a core of, I think, who we are as a state.”

Other programs will — for now — merely be delayed. The governor proposed to pause an expansion of tens of thousands of subsidized child care slots until fiscal conditions improve, in part so that the state can instead continue to [increase pay for child care workers](#).

\$0

As he has several times in recent years, Newsom reiterated that he will not rely on tax hikes to close California's budget gap, despite calls from many liberal lawmakers and interest groups.

"There are no new taxes. I've not been one of those promoting taxes," the governor said, adding later, "No, I'm not prepared to increase taxes."

But he did concede once again that he believes a broader overhaul of California's volatile tax system is necessary, even if he was not willing to publicly share any of his ideas for the best way to do that.

"Should we reform the tax system? The answer is 'yes,'" Newsom said. "How we do that is a more difficult and challenging conversation."

Cal Matters

[The day that bills die in CA Legislature](#)

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How does it feel to have a proposal you care about get killed in California's Legislature?

For Sen. [Scott Wiener](#), Thursday's "suspense file" process — his 15th since he was elected to the Senate in 2016 — never gets "less stressful or anxiety-inducing." ...

But some bills did make it out of the suspense file, including:

- [Senate Bill 1043](#) to expand reporting requirements for [behavioral treatment centers for teens](#), specifically their use of "seclusion rooms" and restraints;
- [SB 1214](#) to establish a commission to help [California commemorate the 250th anniversary](#) of the United States' founding in 2026;
- [SB 1413](#) to set [standard time year-round](#), doing away with daylight saving time permanently;

- [Assembly Bill 2999](#) to require school districts, county offices of education and charter schools to develop [more “intentional” homework guidelines...](#)

Cal Matters

Community schools so far survive CA proposed budget cuts

Published **May 17, 2024** by **Carolyn Jones**

IN SUMMARY

Gov. Gavin Newsom launched the community school initiative with \$4.1 billion in grants to connect students and their families to medical care, counseling and other services.

Budget [cuts may be looming](#) for many California programs, but one multi-billion-dollar initiative has so far evaded the ax: an ambitious push to bring medical and dental care, counseling, parenting classes, cultural activities and other services to public schools.

Gov. Gavin Newsom has so far spared what’s known as the community school initiative, which pairs schools with local nonprofits and other government agencies to provide services to students and their parents. The goal is to transform schools into social service hubs with strong ties to families and the community – an approach that [research](#) shows can boost student attendance, reduce suspensions and raise test scores...

Local:

Los Angeles Times

California public school enrollment drops again, but transitional kindergarten is up

Published **May 17, 2024**

Enrollment at California’s public schools continued to decline this year, but by only .25%, or 15,000 students, state data showed, a much slower pace than the steep declines experienced during difficult pandemic years when classes were forced online.

A total of 5,837,690 students were enrolled in the 2023-24 school year, according to [data released Thursday from the state Department of Education](#). During the 2020-21 academic year, California experienced the largest drop in 20 years, losing 160,000 students.

Although the outflow of students may have been stanchd, “I would characterize that as the thinnest of silver linings,” said Thomas Dee, a professor at Stanford Graduate School of Education. “The real story is that students haven’t returned, and our schools have yet to adjust to the new reality.”...

YPICS:

On Thursday, May 9, 2024, from 4:30 pm-6:30 pm, YPICS participated in a Community Listening Session conducted by LACOE at Vaughn Charter School. The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors created the Prevention and Promotion Systems Governing Committee. (PP GC) to improve collaboration coordination and strategic investments into the resources and opportunities that prevent adverse life outcomes and promote well-being so all students thrive. Participants engaged in a discussion about how LACOE can improve services preventing child abuse, neglect, and the well-being of students. Supervisor Lindsey Horvath was the guest speaker. Thank you to the Bert Corona Charter High School Team (Mr. Dueñas (YPICS COO), Mr. Silverio (BCHS Community Schools Coordinator), and the Bert Corona Middle School Team (Dr. Myers, Executive Administrator; Ms. Sepulveda, BCCS Community Schools Coordinator; Ms. Kashani, Parent Coordinator, Student Leadership Team Members (6th Grade: Osmar Alfaro and Brisa Arguelles, 7th Grade: Jennifer Betancourt, and Roselyn Escamilla, and 8th Grade: Isaac Tejeda and Maria Tejeda and mom) and the LSC Team, Karina Favela-Barajas, the YPICS Senior Director of School Community Partnerships, and Executive Director King-Berg. The highlight of the evening was listening to the real solutions proposed by our middle school scholars.