



**Legislative Update
March 8, 2021**

Assembly Bill 86 (Ting-D, San Francisco) passed unanimously in the Senate and 71-4 in the Assembly and **was signed into law** last Friday by Governor Newsom. This act provides \$2 billion as an incentive for schools that have not already done so to offer in-person instruction beginning April 1, starting with the earliest grades.

The legislation also allocates \$4.6 billion for all school districts regardless of whether they meet the timetable Gov. Gavin Newsom called for in his “Safe Schools for All” plan.

If counties are in the red tier on April 1, they would be expected to offer in-person instruction to students in all elementary grades, as well as to one grade in middle or high school.

For those districts that do not open on April 1, the amount of incentive funding they would receive would be reduced by 1% a day through May 15.

The legislation also includes an additional \$4.6 billion that Newsom called for in his proposed January budget. That funding is not specifically tied to school reopening, but is intended to help school districts do so, as well as help them address the significant learning loss that many students in California are experiencing as a result of the pandemic.

School districts need to be open during the window of April 1 to May 15. Certificated staff will need to supervise students who want to attend.

The bill requires the following:

- An LCAP Addendum
- Support for Critical Learners: Foster Youth, Homeless, English Learners, Students with technology needs, Disengaged Students, At-Risk (abuse, neglect, exploitation).
- K-6, plus one secondary grade level
- Testing cadences if in Purple (weekly)

All LEAS will receive:

- \$1,000 per homeless student
- \$725 per ADA for state special schools (does not include Adult Ed.)
- **MVLA expects 1.4 Million for Incentive Grant and 3.1 Million for Expanded Learning Grant**

Allowable uses:

- Additional learning time/resources/PD/etc.
- 15% set-aside allowable for providing services through distance learning (85% must be spent on in-person)
- 10% may be used on reopening expenses
- \$460 million set-aside for para-educators.
- Funds available for expenditure through September 30, 2022
- Prioritize staff working in-person in public schools
- Vaccines - 10% of doses will be for staff working in public schools. With codified doses.
- Provides \$30 million in one-time funding for safety enforcement and technical assistance.
- Funds available for expenditure through August 31, 2022, (summer school allowable through 2022)

Assemblyman Phil Ting, D-San Francisco, chairman of the Assembly budget committee who introduced the bill, said “Covid-19 has played out so unequally across California that no one plan will suit every area.”