



April 13, 2016

## **CS NEWSFLASH:** **IDENTIFYING FACILITIES NEEDS & SEE YOU AT CASBO!**

With a \$9 billion school facilities bond slated for the November election, many Local Educational Agencies ("LEAs") are gearing up to get in line for State funding. To prepare for the potential approval of the bond, LEAs should be proactively surveying the needs of their facilities. This includes identifying priority project areas and which can be funded using a combination of Local and State funding sources. Now is also the time to engage your community and begin an open dialogue of the community's wants and expectations. Having an informed community from the start will help gain support if your LEA finds it necessary to pursue voter approved funding.

LEAs can find it helpful to step back and analyze the more immediate or near future (within 3-5 years) wants and needs of the LEA, the Board of Trustees, and the Community in order to establish a set of overall goals to focus on. These parties need to work together to identify priority projects and set an implementation plan. Putting this plan into action can include any combination of facility and funding analyses to outline critical facilities needs and the ability to fund them. Piecing together this puzzle is completely dependent on the LEA, so you may find any number of the following studies helpful in determining your overall needs:



### **Where to Start:**

If you're unsure what studies your LEA needs, a capacity analysis is a great place to start. With many LEAs in the process of completing enrollment projection studies, now is the perfect time to evaluate facility capacity. Completing these studies concurrently with or immediately after enrollment projections help LEAs to understand how future enrollment will impact current facilities. This helps ensure all facilities are functioning at their maximum efficiencies. Now is the ideal time to evaluate capacities so the entire summer can be used to make necessary adjustments to class sizes and locations.

If you have any questions regarding how to take action on your facilities needs, please do not hesitate to contact us at 949.250.8320 or [info@coopstrategies.com](mailto:info@coopstrategies.com).

### **Visit us this week at CASBO!**

We are excited to once again be attending the California Association of School Business Officials ("CASBO") Annual Conference. The 2016 conference will be held April 14-15 at the Pasadena Convention Center. We've got a great game and prizes planned, so be sure to stop by and visit us at Booth 506!



**Cooperative Strategies, LLC**