



Laura Schulkind

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EXPERIENCE

Partner Laura Schulkind leads the firm's Public Education Practice Group. With over 30 years of experience, Laura is a sought-after education-law expert in a wide range of areas that confront California's public school and community college districts. Her areas of expertise include district governance and board efficacy; ethics and conflicts of interest; government transparency under the Brown Act and Public Records Act; student rights and discipline, including FERPA, Title IX, DACA, and serving students with disabilities under Section 504 and the IDEA; academic, certificated and classified evaluation and discipline; administrator contracts and evaluation; employee leave rights and the interactive process; contract grievance arbitration; unfair labor practices charges before PERB; labor negotiations with academic employees; harassment; employee misconduct investigations; and discrimination complaints made to outside bodies including OCR, EEOC and DFEH. Laura also taught education law in UC Berkeley's Principal Leadership Institute for ten years.

Laura is particularly recognized statewide for her expertise in designing lawful strategies to promote employment diversity in the community colleges. She was a primary writer of the updated Title 5 Regulations relating to diversity hiring, and was instrumental in their adoption. She has since trained thousands of community college administrators, faculty and staff across the State on designing and implementing strategies to improve workforce diversity, and processes for unbiased decision making. She has also developed strategies and practices for improving the diversity of vendor pools in district RFP and RFQ processes.

Prior to joining Liebert Cassidy Whitmore, Laura was a partner at a Bay Area law firm that specializes in education law. While there, she represented school districts and other public entities on a wide range of school law and employment issues. Among other things, she twice represented coalitions of school districts challenging aspects of the STAR testing program and has a particular interest in psychometrics and legal issues relating to equity in testing.

A sought after presenter, Laura regularly conducts workshops for school districts, community college districts and professional organizations across the State in areas such as diversity hiring, Title IX/CLERY, board effectiveness, the Brown Act, conflicts of interest, harassment, best practices in management, certificated evaluation and discipline, school safety, employee leaves, student discipline, and serving students with special needs.

EDUCATION

JD, The New York University School of Law
BA, Wesleyan University

LEGAL EXPERTISE

Employment Law

Investigations
Litigation Services
Private Education
Public Education

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS LITIGATION

Plaintiff v. Private University (2012) - Negotiated a favorable settlement of under \$10,000 on behalf of a private university in a lawsuit brought by a former student asserting race discrimination and breach of contract claims.

Mosley v. West Contra Costa Unified School District (2011) - Petitioner was a vice principal. The school district (District) served a timely notice pursuant to Ed. Code § 44951 on March 11 advising Petitioner she may be reassigned to a non-administrator position for the following year. In May, the District sent Petitioner a letter in error stating that her assignment for the upcoming year would be as a vice principal. The Superintendent wrote to Petitioner in June informing her that the May assignment letter had been sent in error and the Board had not approved her assignment as an administrator. The Board subsequently assigned Petitioner to a counseling position. Petitioner filed a writ challenging the District's action. The court held that the May assignment letter did not rescind the March notice, that Mosley remained on notice of potential reassignment, and the district properly exercised its authority to assign Mosley to a counseling position.

AFFILIATIONS

President, California Council of School Attorneys

PUBLICATIONS

Questions and Answers Regarding Responding Quickly to Disasters, Nov 15, 2018

Questions and Answers Regarding Responding Quickly to Disasters, Oct 13, 2017

DeVos Calls For Revising Title IX Regulations, Announces Public Comment Period, Sep 7, 2017

President Trump Issues Executive Order Entitled: "Enhancing Public Safety in the Interior of the United States", Jan 26, 2017

Revisions to the Title 5 Regulations, *Press Release* Feb 26, 2014

PRESENTATIONS

Creating a Culture of Respect, West Valley Mission Community College District, Saratoga, May 3, 2019

Promoting Safety in Community College Districts, Central CA CCD ERC, Monterey, Mar 29, 2019

Allegations and Reports of Sexual Misconduct: Effective Institutional Compliance with Title IX

and Related Statues, Central CA CCD ERC, TBD, Mar 29, 2019

Managing the Marginal Employee, West Valley Mission Community College District, Saratoga, Mar 15, 2019

Summit 2: "Safety", Bay Area CCD ERC, Santa Clara, Feb 8, 2019

Hiring the Best While Developing Diversity in the Workforce: Legal Requirements and Best Practices for Screening Committees, Rancho Santiago Community College District, AM- ORANGE & PM - Santa Ana, Feb 5, 2019

Hiring the Best While Developing Diversity in the Workforce: Legal Requirements and Best Practices for Screening Committees, Ohlone College, Fremont, Jan 24, 2019

Hiring the Best While Developing Diversity in the Workforce: Legal Requirements and Best Practices for Screening Committees, Contra Costa College, Martinez, Dec 14, 2018

Preventing Harassment, Discrimination and Retaliation in the Academic Setting/Environment, West Valley Mission Community College District, Saratoga, Dec 7, 2018

Hiring the Best While Developing Diversity in the Workforce: Legal Requirements and Best Practices for Screening Committees, Contra Costa College, Martinez, Dec 6, 2018

Hiring the Best While Developing Diversity in the Workforce: Legal Requirements and Best Practices for Screening Committees, Contra Costa College, Pleasant Hill, Dec 5, 2018

Hiring the Best While Developing Diversity in the Workforce: Legal Requirements and Best Practices for Screening Committees, Contra Costa College, Pittsburg, Dec 3, 2018

The Executive Assistants Program, California School Boards Association (CSBA) Annual Education Conference, San Francisco, Nov 30, 2018

Responding to #MeToo Accusations: The Critical Need for Policy Leadership, California Council of School Attorneys (CCSA) Annual Workshop, San Francisco, Nov 29, 2018

Hiring the Best While Developing Diversity in the Workforce: Legal Requirements and Best Practices for Screening Committees, Hartnell College, Salinas, Nov 28, 2018

Hiring the Best While Developing Diversity in the Workforce: Legal Requirements and Best Practices for Screening Committees, Contra Costa College, San Pablo, Nov 26, 2018

Responding to #MeToo Accusations: The Critical Need for Policy Leadership, Community College League of California (CCLC) Annual Convention, Rancho Mirage, Nov 16, 2018

Legal Eagles, Community College League of California (CCLC) Annual Convention, Rancho Mirage, Nov 16, 2018

Hiring the Best While Developing Diversity in the Workforce: Legal Requirements and Best Practices for Screening Committees, Rancho Santiago Community College District, Orange - AM & Santa Ana - PM, Nov 8, 2018

Preventing Harassment, Discrimination and Retaliation in the Private and Independent School Environment, The Wright Institute, Berkeley, Nov 8, 2018

Hiring the Best While Developing Diversity in the Workforce: Legal Requirements and Best Practices for Screening Committees, Chabot-Las Positas Community College District, Dublin, Nov 6,

2018

Preventing Harassment, Discrimination and Retaliation in the Private and Independent School Environment, The Wright Institute, Berkeley, Nov 5, 2018

Town Hall - Legal Eagles, Association of College Human Resource Officers (ACHRO) 2018 Fall Institute, Sacramento, Oct 11, 2018

How to Write it Right: An Advanced Course on Discipline and Performance Documentation, Association of College Human Resource Officers (ACHRO) 2018 Fall Institute, Sacramento, Oct 10, 2018

Driving Diversity for Student Success, Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative & California Community College Chancellor's Office, San Jose, Sep 28, 2018

Hiring the Best While Developing Diversity in the Workforce: Legal Requirements and Best Practices for Screening Committees, Rancho Santiago Community College District, Santa Ana, Sep 27, 2018

Hiring the Best While Developing Diversity in the Workforce: Legal Requirements and Best Practices for Screening Committees, Rancho Santiago Community College District, AM - Santa Ana & PM - Orange, Sep 26, 2018

Driving Diversity for Student Success, Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative & California Community College Chancellor's Office, Fresno, Sep 19, 2018

Driving Diversity for Student Success, Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative & California Community College Chancellor's Office, Riverside, Sep 11, 2018

Meet the Trailblazers, California Counsel of School Attorneys (CCSA) Conference, Santa Ana, Sep 7, 2018

Driving Diversity for Student Success, Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative & California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office, Fresno, Sep 5, 2018

Using Data to Reduce District Liability, Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative & California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office (CCCCO), Fresno, Sep 5, 2018

Using Data to Reduce District Liability, Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative & California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office (CCCCO), Riverside, Sep 5, 2018

Using Data to Reduce District Liability, Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative & California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office (CCCCO), Irvine, Sep 5, 2018

Using Data to Reduce District Liability, Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative & California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office (CCCCO), San Jose, Sep 5, 2018

The Brown Act, San Jose-Evergreen Community College District, San Jose, Aug 28, 2018

Hiring the Best While Developing Diversity in the Workforce: Legal Requirements and Best Practices for Screening Committees, Ohlone College, Fremont, Aug 23, 2018

Faculty Engagement in the Disabled Student Accommodations Process, El Camino College, Torrance, Aug 22, 2018

Human Resources Academy for Community College Districts, Bay Area CCD ERC, Oakland, Jun 14, 2018

Faculty Engagement in the Disabled Student Accommodations Process, El Camino College, Torrance,

May 29, 2018

Promoting Equal Opportunity in Public Contracting, Association of Chief Business Officials (ACBO)
2018 Spring Conference, Santa Rosa, May 21, 2018