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## P R E S S   R E L E A S E

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# ***CA Lottery Celebrates National Lottery Week as Contributions to Public Education Soar Toward Another Record Year!***

## ***Lottery Week Begins with More Giant Jackpots up for Grabs***

**SACRAMENTO** – The California Lottery is joining other lotteries from throughout the United States and Canada in celebrating the fifth annual National Lottery Week. The week aims to shine a spotlight on how lotteries help communities in important ways. Here in the Golden State, the California Lottery is honored to highlight its contributions for public education.



“Lottery week is an excellent chance for us to continue educating Californians that our record sales and contributions to schools are making a difference in modest but meaningful ways,” said Alva V. Johnson, California Lottery Director. “Our sole mission is to raise additional money for public education, and we’re proud to join other lotteries in showcasing the work we do every day.”

Thanks to the generous support of California players, the California Lottery is sending record amounts of funding that benefit more than 10,000 schools throughout the state. In fact, the Lottery has raised more than \$43 billion for public education since it began selling lottery tickets in 1985.

The California Lottery also prides itself on the security and integrity of its games. All draw games happen under tight security, with an independent auditor and security staff present for each drawing. The California Lottery also has a dedicated security and law enforcement team responsible for vetting claims before winners are officially declared.

Throughout Lottery Week, the California Lottery will be sharing fun facts, winner awareness, mission updates, product spotlights, and more on social media, as well as in e-mail communications to players, and on its [website](https://www.calottery.com).

Further, California public schools have a great chance of benefitting big time this National Lottery week! *Powerball*®, *Mega Millions*® and *SuperLotto Plus*® sales have generated more than \$186 million for public education during this current jackpot sequence alone.

As jackpots rise, the California Lottery would like to remind players that gambling should be fun. Borrowing money to play, spending above a person's budget, or using money set aside for other things can lead to significant problems for players and their families. If a player recognizes that they have a gambling problem or if someone knows of someone who may have a problem, the Lottery recommends calling the California Problem Gambling Help Line at 1-800-GAMBLER.

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*The California Lottery's mission is to provide supplemental funding to California public schools, including kindergarten and grades 1-12, community colleges, the California State University, the University of California, and other California public educational entities. The funds the Lottery transferred to public education totaled approximately \$2 billion for fiscal year 2021-22, which amounted to a modest percentage of education's overall budget. However, this funding is largely discretionary, meaning schools can use this for important, yet unfunded instructional programs they would otherwise not afford. During the same period, the Lottery generated more than \$8.8 billion in sales, more than 95% of which went back to the community in the form of prize payments, retailer commissions and bonuses, and contributions to education.*

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