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For IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 3, 2023

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CA Lottery Celebrates 38th Anniversary, Announces Record Revenue Raised for Public Education

Lottery Also Surpasses Coveted \$9 Billion Mark in Sales for the First Time Ever

SACRAMENTO – The California Lottery is celebrating almost four decades of raising supplemental money for public schools here in the Golden State, including another record amount of approximately \$2.2 billion this past fiscal year thanks to reaching a first-ever threshold of \$9+ billion in sales.

Fiscal year 2022-23 marks the second straight year the Lottery has raised more than \$2 billion for California public schools, and the 23rd consecutive year it has earned more than \$1 billion for public education, pending completion of the annual financial audit. The new record amount eclipses the previous record total of [\\$2.07 billion](#) generated in fiscal year 2021-22.

The current fiscal year is also off to an incredibly strong start. Through the first two months of this fiscal year, the Lottery has earned an estimated \$400 million for public schools –the strongest start to a fiscal year since the Lottery began selling tickets on October 3, 1985. This feat was accomplished, in part, because of the *Powerball* jackpot sequence that reached the \$1+ billion mark in July, followed by the *Mega Millions* sequence reaching a \$1.6 billion jackpot in August, and the current *Powerball* jackpot, which rolled again last night to a projected \$1.2 billion for tomorrow night.

All told, the Lottery has raised a grand total of approximately \$43.8 billion for public schools since its inception. Raising additional funds for public schools is the sole reason the Lottery exists.

“Raising another record amount of extra money for public education is an exciting accomplishment and a reflection of everyone’s hard work,” said California Lottery Director Alva V. Johnson. “We are constantly reviewing our business operations to maximize our ability to responsibly raise money for schools, making good on the promise made to the people of California nearly forty years ago.”

The \$1.2 billion *Powerball* jackpot projected for tomorrow night has allowed the California Lottery to raise an estimated \$74.5 million for public schools just from sales of this game alone since July 19, when one lucky ticket matched all six numbers to earn a [\\$1.08 billion prize](#).

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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 more than \$2.07 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 \$8.85 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. 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 intended for other purposes can ultimately 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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