



Calaveras Unified School District

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To All CUSD Parents and Guardians,

In 2009, a temporary increase in state taxes (primarily sales and income taxes) was implemented. This temporary tax increase is set to expire in July of this year. A component of the 2011/2012 budget proposed by Governor Jerry Brown is a ballot measure that would extend the taxes that are currently in place. It is important that, should the proposed tax extensions be defeated by the voters, you are aware of the potential impact on Calaveras Unified School District (CUSD).

If the tax extensions do not become a reality, either by the inability of the legislature to place the measure on the ballot or through defeat in the June election, CUSD would lose \$349 per student. This would result in a loss of 1.14 million dollars and we would need to make budget cuts to offset that amount. The impact of this would be significant in that we would be forced to look at reducing the number of teachers we have (increasing class sizes to an average of 30 students in all grade levels), reducing through negotiations the number of days we operate (reducing the number of days students attend school) as well as other cuts and/or reductions to programs such as athletics and music.

Given that we do not know whether the tax extensions will be approved, the direction given to schools is to build the budget for the 2011/2012 school year based upon the \$349 per student cut, which means drafting a budget that reflects a reduction in teaching staff. Staffing allocations will be based on budget as well as enrollment (both of which are declining). However, knowing we have to craft contingency plans now, the following actions will be taken...and areas where the potential impact will be felt are listed as well.

- Issuing layoff notices to 10 certificated staff---and reducing our staff by a total of 8 teachers.
- Sites where teachers are receiving layoff notices---Jenny Lind Elementary (6), Valley Springs Elementary (2), Calaveras High School (2)
- Overall, after remaining staff are transferred to other sites based upon preliminary enrollment projections, the following sites will possibly lose the following number of teaching positions---Jenny Lind Elementary (3), Valley Springs Elementary (2), San Andreas Elementary (1) and Alternative Education (1-2)

Clearly, our community and state are dealing with monumental economic challenges that continue to hurt us in many areas. I just wanted you to be aware of the potential impact this particular aspect of the Governor's proposed budget would have on the staff and students of Calaveras Unified School District. Any assistance in advocating against further cuts to education is greatly appreciated and valuable to the cause of protecting our programs for our kids.

Sincerely,

Mark Campbell
Superintendent