



In Between...

Moreno Valley Education Association

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The Budget: Where Are We?

The Association and District are working together to provide a uniform message about the budget situation. Representatives from District/site administration, MVEA, and CSEA are preparing a PowerPoint that will be presented to sites/community/parent groups to explain the volatility of the State budget and its impact on MVUSD.

Joint Message from the Superintendent, MVEA, CSEA, AMVMP

"During these tough economic times, State revenues continue to decrease and California has been unable to balance its budget for the past few years. In addition, the State's cash flow problems continue to directly affect the District's financial situation.

Since the District's revenues are dependent upon the State, the District has had to implement \$62 million in expenditure reductions from January 2008 through June 2009. The State is cutting the District's allocation by more than \$8 million for the 2009 -10 school year in addition to already established reductions. In order for the State to address its cash flow issue, it has and will continue to defer State allocations to the District.

The District projects it can meet its financial obligations for this school year, however previous reductions in the areas of maintenance, materials, and personnel for the 2009 -10 school year will need to continue. The District appreciates all employees agreeing to two Furlough Days for the 2009 -10 school year as we endure the fiscal crisis affecting the state of California.

Your input is critical as we plan for the upcoming instructional year. All stakeholders are encouraged to identify ways to reduce expenditures and increase revenues. If you have any suggestions, please send e-mails to the following address: MVUSDbudgetconcerns@mvusd.net."

Seniority Lists Are Out!

Unfortunately, in the last few years, districts have had to ensure seniority lists are accurate in the event of spring lay-offs. Districts' attorneys are advising school entities to start early this year. Moreno Valley is no exception. Lists are now out at the sites. It is **critical** that you find your name on the list and verify the accuracy of your placement **NO MATTER HOW SENIOR YOU ARE!** Now is the time to ask questions, provide data, and establish an accurate list. If you wait until later, the District's attorney in any RIF situation can argue that the District provided all employees an opportunity to verify their data.

A couple of points:

- If you substituted for more than 75% of the year in the year prior to your receiving a contract, that time may count as part of your seniority so long as it was a long term position and there were no breaks in days. You will need documentation.
- If you resigned and came back to the District after a period of time, your seniority begins again even if you returned within 39 months as per law.

The District's distribution of these lists is in no way a determination that there will be spring RIFs. Budgetarily, as of this moment, the District can project out for three years as required by law and all is balanced. All districts should know more in regard to finances after the first of the year when the state does its preliminary budget for 2010-2011.

Please refrain from making up rumors.

QEIA Money To Come but Not at the Expense of the General Fund

When the State budget finally passed in July 2009, **Prop 98** funds were used to pay the \$402 million annual obligation for the Quality Education Investment Act (QEIA) schools in the state. The idea was to backfill money to districts from a Federal fund to make up the difference. Afterwards, it was determined that Federal funds could not be used for this purpose, thus jeopardizing districts' funding because of their QEIA school responsibilities and expenditures. ABx3 56, signed on November 5th by the Governor, has fixed this problem. ABx3 56 repeals the \$402 million revenue limit cut and replaces the QEIA funding mechanism with previously unspent State Prop 98 and categorical funds. In Moreno Valley, we have four QEIA schools: Edgemont Elementary and Badger, Mountain View, and Sunnymead Middle Schools.

Enrollment Going the Right Direction!

Enrollment continues to grow, although at a slower pace than previously. If your class size/case load is over, talk to your principal and then file a grievance. The grievance provides a paper trail for your officers to keep track of class size/case load issues. Remember if the resolution of the overage includes paying hourly for the additional students or adding a 1/6 position, more paperwork is required. The site administration needs to submit a Personnel Action Request (PAR), and you have to sign a form agreeing to teach during your planning period or take the additional students in your class. This paperwork goes from the site to the educational services, business and human resources departments. Sometimes the paperwork gets held up along the way. Keep a copy of all forms you sign so that the Association can track the paperwork if that becomes necessary.

Message to Parents: No Parent Conference Days Due to Budget Cuts

The elementary budget cut days are Thursday and Friday, November 12 and 13. Superintendent Lagrosa has taped a statement for the District phone system informing all elementary parents of this. A copy of the message has been emailed to all elementary principals. Please talk to your principals about including the message in any schoolwide communication which will go home before Veterans' Day or ask that they copy it to go home with the students. The community needs to know that the state's budget situation has affected the District, and that services to parents and students have been cut.

Board Policy Reviewed

During the last eighteen months, Ann Adler and Janet MacMillan have worked with District administrators from all divisions to update Board policies which go to the School Board for adoption. This process is nearing completion. However, the District has asked for a review in particular areas to include members from the sites. Corey Moore and Dick Martin will join Janet MacMillan in considering changes in the intradistrict transfer policies. Student dress code will also be reviewed.

Contact MVEA at MVEAInfo.com or by phone if you have ideas about the intradistrict transfer policy or if you are interested in serving on a committee to consider student dress code.

Happy November Holidays!

May our military be safe and your Thanksgiving be enjoyable.

