

Budget - FAQs
January 22, 2009



- 1. How much is the District's budget shortfall?**
 - a. For 2008-09 the estimated impact to OUSD is \$8.6 million.
 - b. For 2009-10 the estimated impact is \$10.2 million.

- 2. Can the District continue to fund its payroll?**
 - a. The District anticipates being able to meet payroll and pay vendors without needing to borrow from an outside source until September 2009.

- 3. Will there be a roll-back in salaries for all personnel? If so, how much and when will it take effect?**
 - a. That has not been determined at this time.
 - b. Salaries are negotiable. Nothing will take effect prior to July 1, 2009.

- 4. Will there be classified layoffs? If so, when?**
 - a. That has not been determined at this time.
 - b. Classified layoffs require 45 days notice, after Board approval.

- 5. Will there be certificated layoffs? If so, when?**
 - a. That has not been determined at this time.
 - b. Certificated layoffs require notices by March 15, 2009, after Board approval.

- 6. Will there be leadership layoffs? If so, when?**
 - a. That has not been determined at this time.

- 7. Will another retirement incentive package be offered to District employees?**
 - a. No.

- 8. What effect do the retiree lifetime benefits have on the District's budget?**
 - a. The estimated amount for 2009-10 = \$7,436,862
 - b. The District's total budget is \$251,196,525

- 9. Is it true that the District is closing small schools?**
 - a. A study is underway to determine the cost savings for consolidating smaller schools. No decisions have been made.

- 10. What will be the timeline should schools be closed?**
 - a. No sooner than the start of the 2009-10 school year.

- 11. What becomes of the staff and teachers at the closed schools?**
 - a. There are variables to be considered. Seniority is determined by union contract.

- 12. What will become of the school sites should they be closed?**
 - a. Unknown at this time.

13. Is the District going to one student calendar? If so, when will this take effect?

- a. A study is underway to determine the cost savings. No decisions have been made.
- b. No sooner than the start of the 2009-10 school year.

14. Will class size reduction be eliminated at all grade levels?

- a. No decision has been made.

15. Will the school year be cut by five days?

- a. The Governor has proposed reducing the school year by five days. At this point, this is only a proposal and is subject to negotiation.

16. Will summer school be eliminated?

- a. The cost impact is being studied.

17. Will the District eliminate GATE magnet schools?

- a. The cost impact is being studied.

18. Can the money generated from the sale of surplus properties be used to offset general fund expenditures?

- a. No, funds from the sale of surplus properties must be used for facilities purposes and cannot be used for general fund expenses.

19. Will modernization and construction projects come to a halt during the state budget crisis?

- a. Projects under construction will not be stopped; however, future modernizations are projected to slow down due to a lack of State matching fund availability.

20. In addition to eliminating District cell phones for personnel, what other cost saving measures have been implemented?

- a. Eliminated out-of-state travel
- b. Restricted conference attendance
- c. Limited categorical expenditures
- d. Reduced use of substitutes
- e. Implemented hiring and spending freeze

21. How will the Superintendent weigh recommended suggestions in making decisions?

- a. All suggestions will be carefully considered by the Superintendent and the Superintendent's Cabinet in the budget reduction plan preparation.

22. How can parents help?

- a. Make sure that students attend school every day.
- b. Check school and District websites for updates.