

CYPRESS SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Cypress, California 90630

BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE

February 18, 2009

3:30 p.m.

Education Center Room A

A meeting of the Budget Advisory Committee convened at 3:30 p.m., February 18, 2009. Persons in attendance are listed below:

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| District Administration:                 | Sheri Loewenstein, Superintendent<br>Carrie Delgado, Chief Business Officer   |
| Board of Trustees:                       | Valeri Peters Wagner<br>Ellen Friedmann   |
| Principal/Management<br>Representatives: | Denine Kelly<br>Robert Daley  |
| District Employees:                      | Elizabeth Dunagan, ACT<br>Marsha Ahn, ACT<br>Gordon Hild, ACT<br>Donna Wittenberg, CSEA<br>Pam Leshner, CSEA<br>Jane Beier, CSEA<br>Joan Brister, Confidentials |
| Parent Representatives:                  | Carol Pugrad, Luther Parent<br>Allison Ferrier, Cawthon Parent<br>Michelle Overton, PTA Council President   |

Superintendent Loewenstein called the meeting to order and welcomed the members. She told committee members that the purpose of this meeting was to provide an update on the status of the state budget, although it had not yet been passed. She called the meeting to review the proposed budget and how it could affect the District.

As a review, she went over the budget reductions recommended for 2008/09, when the District needed to identify \$1.6 million in cuts based on the governor's January 2008 proposal. However, the District only had to cut \$845,000 that year when the budget was finally approved, which included reduction of a quarter of night custodians, elimination of the General Fund contribution to site program coordinators, and savings on retirements. Additionally, two music teacher positions were reduced, which had previously been supported by the Cypress Education Foundation; a special

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education coordinator position was eliminated and instead, a .5 special education TOSA was funded; and non-essential categorical expenditures were frozen, which allowed schools to fund site program coordinators with no General Fund support for 2008/09. She noted that for this year and the foreseeable future, we cannot count on much savings from retirements.

The Superintendent noted that as of February 17, 2009, the state budget proposal would result in \$1.2 million in cuts to the District for 2009/10. When adopted it is hoped the budget may allow flexibility in how some state categorical funds may be spent. These funds include School Improvement Funds, Instructional Materials Fund (textbooks), Arts, Music & PE Block Grants, GATE, Instructional Materials portion of lottery (10%), Peer Assistance & Review Funds, and K-3 Class Size Reduction (20:1). Dr. Snell has been meeting with teachers from year one through year four, to let them know they may receive lay off notices for 2009/10. She has also met with classified staff affected by lay off as a result of school closure. The worse case scenario would be lay offs through year four. We are hoping to be able to keep some type of class size reduction, with more flexibility to go over 20 students in a class. There is heavy lobbying against this type of flexibility.

Because of our continuing enrollment decline and in anticipation of further budget cuts over the next few years, the Master Facilities Plan Committee will be meeting again on March 25, 2009, to consider closing another school. This group will include a principal, teacher, classified person, and parent from each of the schools plus representation from CSEA and ACT. They will look at general information concerning school closure and from that determine two to four schools to study.

The Superintendent noted that Measure M funding will not be affected and these funds cannot be used for General Fund cuts.

Possible budget considerations for reductions in 2009/10 include:

- Eliminate or reduce class size reduction program
- Eliminate the rest of the pull-out music program (two teachers)
- Identify classified reductions as needed for school closure
- Study option of another school closure, effective June 2010

The Board will take action on the Reduction in Force (RIF) Resolution for certificated staff and on classified lay-offs as a result of school closure, at the March 10, 2009 Board meeting. Formal lay-off notices will be issued May 12, 2009, if needed. The Cypress School District must adopt a budget in June, whether or not the state has passed its budget.

Once the state budget is approved, the Superintendent will communicate news about how it will affect the Cypress School District.

/jb