

<p>JURUPA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NEGOTIATIONS BUDGET BRIEF</p>
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*Given the complexity of the state's compromised financial situation, and the mounting challenges that it presents for agencies throughout the state, we realize that everyone in the District is eager to understand the implications budget cuts will have for our programs and our people.*

*The JUSD negotiations team is committed to provide to you a review of the budget/negotiations process following every meeting. Our promise is to offer timely, fact-based information, so that you are fully informed throughout the budget-building and negotiations process.*

Last Year's State Budget Meltdown

Public education budgets were cut \$9.513 billion last year, and as districts throughout the state dealt with these draconian cuts, many school districts balanced their budgets by freezing step and column, comprehensive salary rollbacks, and furlough days. *To be clear, each of these options cuts employee pay, an option that the JUSD negotiating team worked diligently to avoid.*

Over the past two years, JUSD has been cut by \$20.5 million. These came from a long list of programs and service cuts that did not come easily to our district. We realize that as staffs become lean, through the loss of support services, it becomes increasingly difficult for staff to serve students.

Today: Sacramento Just Keeps Cutting

Last year, we were cut to the bone, but we could have held on. Unfortunately, the state's financial picture is not improving, and JUSD now faces an additional \$8 million in cuts to our general fund. This presents the negotiating team with the question we worked so vigilantly to avoid last year: do we examine furlough days?

To be clear—and to be fair to both employee associations—the negotiating team is looking at every possible option that might help us bridge this multi-million dollar gap. But we want to be honest and forthright, so we must tell you that it appears impossible for the District to stay solvent without looking at employee pay. This week, the negotiating team discussed the idea of eight furlough days.

Without question, this is not the action that anyone wants to take. We were prepared to hold on after the \$14 million loss, but the harsh reality is that we must make even deeper cuts.

The negotiations conversations are difficult, but the teams are working collaboratively to solve this problem. Your representatives are asking good questions and helping District staff examine every conceivable option. We appreciate the team's focus, energy and genuine interest in a collaborative solution.

If you have questions, they can be presented to your negotiations team members, who will in turn bring them to our meetings. We are all in this together.