Budget reductions 2010/11

Protecting learning environment and jobs
As a result of California’s budget crisis, the Fresno Unified School District is facing at least $113 million in revenue reductions from the state. The district is targeting $35 million in budget reductions for the next year as part of $68 million in cuts that need to be made over the next three years. The Board of Education remains committed to a balanced, phased-in approach by being prudent with the continued use of reserves, while investing in educational programs and in high-performing employees. The Board has approached these reductions with care and concern, guided by the overarching principles of protecting the teaching and learning environment and protecting jobs. However, because salary and benefits represent 93 percent of the district’s budget, these budget reductions do affect people.

Temporary reduced work year to save jobs
Fresno Unified School District is imposing a temporary reduction in the work year – commonly referred to as “furlough days” – for all employees for the 2010/11 school year to save jobs. Some of the neighboring school districts, including Clovis and Sanger unified school districts, have imposed furlough days. In fact, Clovis Unified has imposed across-the-board salary reductions in addition to the furlough days, amounting to a 3.6% salary reduction.

All employees affected the same
Every employee is being affected the same – each employee will experience a 1.081 percent reduction in pay regardless of the number of days in their work year. However, depending on the number of days in the work year for the employee, each employee will receive a different reduced number of work days.

Full work year restored a priority
The Board of Education’s first priority is to restore the full work year for all employees when the economic situation turns around. This will occur when the state restores the resources owed to Fresno Unified School District. Currently, Fresno Unified is receiving 82 cents per dollar owed.

At-a-Glance
Actions taken past two years and planned for in 2010/11 to minimize impact on employees
- Ongoing reductions of 14% in central administration
  - $7 million in 2008/09
  - $5 million in 2009/10
  - $2 million in 2010/11
- Utilizing reserves
  - $24 million in 2009/10
  - $18 million in 2010/11
- Lowered district contributions to Health and Workers’ Compensation
- Utilized one-time federal economic stimulus funds
- Utilized flexibility categorical funds
- Collapsed hundreds of jobs through attrition (teachers, support positions, administrators)

Impact to employees
- Reduced work year – 1.081 percent reduction in pay (2 to 3 days)
- STRS and PERS service credit will NOT be affected

Non-work days
- Classroom teachers will have 2 less professional development days
- Classified school-days only employees will schedule days with their supervisor
- All other employees will take the days during the winter break

Salary Impact Example
An employee whose annual salary is $30,000 will see a reduction of about $25 in their monthly check.

For more information, contact Human Resources at 457-3500