

Budget Crisis

FACT SHEET

Current reality

As the Fresno Unified School District – and others around the state – continues to feel the weight of California’s ongoing dramatic fiscal crisis, the district is bracing for significant and devastating reductions. The best-case scenario is that FUSD will have to cut \$27.3 million over the next two years. The worst-case scenario is that the district will have to cut \$70.9 million. The two budget scenarios hinge on whether the Legislature votes to place a tax extension on the June ballot **and** that California voters approve the extension. The Board of Education will hear recommendations for budget reductions on February 23 and March 9 to prepare for March 15 layoff notices.

What has the district cut to date?

- Reduced the central office by \$14 million
- Offered a retirement incentive this school year that could save \$5 million
- Increased class sizes in K-3 to 24, and in 9th grade English and math to 26
- Eliminated staff development buyback days for teachers
- Implemented a temporary reduction in the work year for all other employees
- Lowered district contributions to the Health Fund and Workers’ Compensation
- Utilized one-time federal economic stimulus funds
- Utilized flexible categorical funds
- Collapsed hundreds of jobs through attrition

Impact to FUSD

If the tax extension passes and \$27.3 million must be cut, options include further reductions to the central office, reductions to supports to schools, and using flexible funds to offset cuts to programs. If the tax extension is not placed on the ballot or does not pass and \$70.9 million must be cut, options include across the board salary reductions, layoffs in all areas, and increasing class sizes.

Key numbers

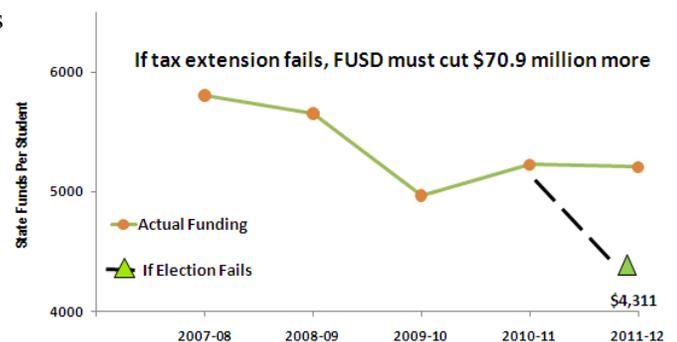
- State has cut \$115 million in resources to Fresno Unified.
- District has addressed \$88 million of the \$115 million.
- Best-case scenario if tax extension passes: \$27.3 million in cuts still needed.
- Worst-case scenario if tax extension fails: \$70.9 million in cuts needed.
- More than 650 positions have been eliminated over the past two years, including more than 400 teachers, more than 60 managers and administrators, and more than 200 classified employees.

More reductions

Given the unprecedented state fiscal crisis, additional position eliminations are required by March 15 per the Education Code. Layoff notices for classified employees are required later this spring.

How to engage

Provide feedback on the district’s web site at www.fresnounified.org



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Fresno Unified School District
 Communications Office
 2309 Tulare Street, Fresno, CA 93721
 (559) 457-3733
www.fresnounified.org
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