



Cupertino Union School District

NEWS RELEASE

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INTERVIEWS AVAILABLE WITH DISTRICT STAFF AND PARENTS

Cupertino Union School District Employees Vote for Five Furlough Days

\$2.5 million in salary savings will help minimize employee layoffs and lessen the impact of budget cuts on district programs

MAY 7, 2010 – All district employee groups have agreed to a temporary work year reduction of five days for the 2010-2011 school year. The five days represent \$2.5 million in salary savings, which will help minimize the severity of employee layoffs and lessen the impact of budget cuts on the district's education programs. This furlough agreement only applies for next year.

The \$2.5 million in salary savings realized from every employee taking five furlough days are being used to restore the jobs of five middle school counselors (\$400,000), custodial services (\$700,000), library-media clerk hours at the elementary and middle school sites (\$400,000), and a portion of the Class Size Reduction (CSR) Program (\$1 million).

"The district and its employee associations have been discussing possible solutions for our budget deficit for the past six months," said Superintendent Phil Quon. "I want to thank the leadership of the Cupertino Education Association (CEA), the California School Employees Association, Cupertino Chapter 13 (CSEA), the Service Employees International Union Local 521 (SEIU) and the Cupertino Elementary School Administrators Association (CESAA) for their time, hard work, and dedication working through a truly collaborative process."

"The collaboration of all the unions and the district was monumental, as is this budget crisis. It shows what can be accomplished when we work together," said Dave Villafana, CEA President. "The teachers have overwhelmingly decided to save jobs as five furlough days will cost each teacher 2.67% of their salary. Even with increases in employee health coverage costs this school year and next, teachers are willing to make these sacrifices to ensure that their colleagues are employed."

"It was encouraging and refreshing that all employee organizations and the district worked together to accomplish a common goal," said Sheila Routh, CSEA President. Our members were very concerned with the effects of the budgets cuts on the library and other support services available to our students, as a result they came out in records numbers and overwhelmingly approved the furlough days."

“Given the budget challenges the district has faced over the past few years, I am impressed that all of the unions and the district have been able to work together to accomplish this agreement,” said Pat King, SEIU President.

The \$1 million furlough savings being applied to the restoration of the CSR program is in addition to the \$1.65 million that is reported being raised by the ***“Their Future is Now!”*** campaign. As a result, the parent fundraising effort would need approximately \$350,000 more by May 15th to fully restore 20:1 class size in grades 1, 2, and 3, and reinstate the teachers noticed for potential layoff as a result of the elimination of the CSR program. More information is available at www.CEEFcared.org.

“The community as a whole has united around the budget crisis to help protect the quality of education in our district. We thank the district employee organizations for their generous support in joining the Cupertino Educational Endowment Foundation (CEEF), CUSD Board of Trustees, Superintendent Phil Quon, and the parent community to attain our common goal,” said Scott Plautz, CEEF Immediate Past President and CEEF Chair for ***“Their Future is Now!”***

“On behalf of the parent community we thank every district employee for their personal sacrifice in voting for the temporary work year reduction,” said Linda Sell, a parent and member of the ***“Their Future is Now!”*** Steering Committee.

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About Cupertino Union School District

The Cupertino Union School District performs in the top 2% of school districts in California. It is the largest elementary school district in Santa Clara County and serves over 18,000 students in a richly diverse community representing 46 different languages that includes the city of Cupertino and portions of San Jose, Santa Clara, Sunnyvale, Saratoga, and Los Altos.