



# WILLOWS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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**DEAR MEMBERS OF THE WILLOWS SCHOOL BOARD AND MEMBERS OF THE WILLOWS COMMUNITY:**

The Management and Confidential employees of the Willows Unified School District understand that our district, like almost every other school district in California, must make adjustments to its budget to reflect the State's budget crisis and the resulting cuts that have been, or will be, imposed on K-12 education.

The Management and Confidential employees of the WUSD have met to explore solutions that will help the District bridge the budget shortfall that faces the District for the 2010-2011 school year.

Education is a people business. That is why approximately 86% of the District's expenditures are devoted to employee salaries and benefits. Unfortunately, this means that in a time of declining revenues, employee salaries and benefits must be cut if we are to balance our budget and retain control of education in the Willows community.

We know that, at a minimum, \$1.3 million must be cut in order to balance our district's budget for the 2010-2011 school year. While we fully understand that more cuts will likely have to be made for next year, it is our belief that the children of Willows and the District will best be served if we do the following at this time:

- work five (5) fewer days in the 2009-2010 school year (current year) with a proportional reduction to the salary schedule.
- freeze step/column movement (salary increases) for the 2010-2011 school year (next school year).

We understand that we are volunteering for these pay cuts. We ask, however, that the Board impose them on us to ensure that we receive a full year of service credit toward retirement from PERS and STRS. We believe that the savings from those furlough days and salary freezes can then be "rolled" into next year and subsequently help reduce the deficit and the amount of cuts that must be made in the 2010-2011 school year.


With the Board's permission, we will work together to schedule the five furlough days. To minimize the impact of this pay loss on our families, we ask that the District take one-sixth of the salary savings from the five-day furlough from our paychecks in the months of January through June 2010.




These are difficult times. A pay cut is never popular. We believe, however, that it is important for all employees to step up and be a part of the solution to our district's current budget situation.

Very truly yours,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Steve Olmos  
Superintendent/Principal

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Janet Perez  
Director of Categorical Programs


  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Betty Skala  
Director of Business Services

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Bob Lillie  
Director of Technology Services


  
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Valerie Taylor  
Director of Transportation/Facilities Operations


  
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Mort Geivett, Principal  
Willows High School

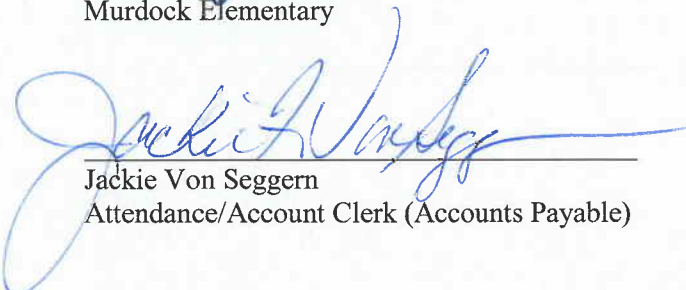
  
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Jerry Smith, Assistant Principal  
Willows High School


  
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Steve Sailsbery, Principal  
Willows Intermediate School

  
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Ron Bazan, Assistant Principal  
Willows Intermediate School

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kathy Parsons, Principal  
Murdock Elementary

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kim Schmies  
Administrative Assistant

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jackie Von Seggern  
Attendance/Account Clerk (Accounts Payable)

  
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Debbie Wallace  
District Bookkeeper/Cafeteria Coordinator