

# MDUSD MONDAY (THURSDAY) MEMO

A Weekly Update of District Activities and Education-related Issues  
from the Superintendent's Office, Mt. Diablo Unified School District

Week of March 2, 2009

## March 1-7: Week of the School Administrator

*"Leaders must be tough enough to fight, tender enough to cry, human enough to make mistakes, humble enough to admit them, strong enough to absorb the pain, and resilient enough to bounce back and keep on moving."*

--

Jesse Jackson, civil rights activist

### Reminder: Change the Clock

**Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday, March 8 at 2 a.m. Remember to set your clocks *AHEAD*.**

### Facing "worst funding crisis," Board cuts an additional \$8.4 million

At one meeting, held last Tuesday night, March 3, the Board of Education approved \$8,385,068 in budget cuts, more than double the nearly 7 million dollars in cuts it had approved between December 16, 2008, and February 24, 2009.

The latest action was made necessary when the Governor signed the state budget in February. Under this new budget the District will receive \$182,090,499 in state Revenue Limit funding, which is 7 million less than it was scheduled to receive under the state budget the Governor signed last September. And that budget had already reduced spending to K-12 public education, requiring the 7 million dollars in reductions the Board had completed on February 24.

This total of 15 million dollars is IN ADDITION to the 14 million dollars in cuts to this year's budget that the Board approved last spring. The impact of 30 million dollars in budget reductions in the course of one year extends to every area of MDUSD and is felt by every employee. The programs and positions approved for reduction last Tuesday night show how widespread the impact is.

Approved as a group by a single 5-0-0 vote:

Item #	Item	Fiscal Impact
3	Reduce one (1) Mechanical Service Technician	\$81,201
4	Eliminate all 16 remaining Custodial Supervisor positions. Replace with 6 Area Managers and 11 AM Custodians	\$178,468
11	Suspend Elementary Vice Principal staffing formula AR 4113.11 for 2009-10. Eliminate the 3 remaining	\$309,802

	Elementary Vice Principals.	
11(c)	Amend middle school staffing formula under AR 4113.11 and provide vice principals at middle schools with 800 students. Results in the elimination of four middle school vice principals.	\$401,834
12(a)	Suspend high school vice principal staffing. Schools with enrollment under 1,600 would lose a VP. They are Concord (1,534), Northgate (1,530), and Ygnacio Valley (1,387).	\$331,507
17	Reduce 3 PM Custodians	\$168,246
26(b)	Reduce 4th grade instrumental music. (6.4 FTE)	\$340,039
36(a)	Reduce total General Fund contribution for high school athletics (presently \$721,400). Program is also supplemented by gate receipts, donations and fundraisers.	\$721,400
37	Parent volunteers to pay for fingerprinting. District presently pays this expense.	\$70,000
56	Eliminate 3 Groundskeeper positions and through re-centralization, reassign Groundskeepers/Gardeners from the sites to the Central Landscape Department.	\$179,159
64	Eliminate Resource Specialist by 5.0 FTE because of class size maximum.	\$272,143
65	Reduce five 0.75 FTE special education classroom assistants.	\$188,937
65(a)	Reduce three 0.75 FTE Special Education Classroom Assistants	\$113,362
75a1	Eliminate Supervisor of Technology and Customer Service	\$112,905
75a3	Shift funding for Director of Alternative Education to categorical programs	\$142,464
96	Eliminate Intermediate Account Clerk in Fiscal Services	\$46,193
97	Eliminate Legal Services Auditor and Investigator Budget	\$12,000
98	Increase Self Insurance Retention	\$38,000
99	Eliminate 4 Site Technicians	\$275,051
100	Eliminate Account Clerk in Transportation	\$59,798
102	Reduce Superintendent Office budget	\$20,000
103	Reduce Administrative Post Retirement Contracts	\$19,760
104	Reduce Teacher Post Retirement Contracts	\$10,000
105	Eliminate 5 Campus Supervisor Positions	\$163,773
107	Transfer PE Incentive Grant Revenue to Unrestricted General Fund	\$594,833
108	Transfer District's Discretionary Block Grant revenue to Unrestricted General Fund	\$373,970
109	Transfer District's Art & Music Block Grant revenue to Unrestricted General Fund	\$247,212
111	Eliminate 1 Electronic Technician	\$82,491
112	Eliminate 1 Full Inclusion Teacher	\$46,941
113	Certificated Staff Performance Incentive Bonus	\$1,293
116	Career Tech Ed Equipment/Supplies	\$34,007
117	Alternative Credentialing	\$700
118	School/Law Partnership	\$10
119	Gifted And Talented Education (GATE summer program)	\$12,000

	2009)	
120	Digital High School Educational Technology	\$42
121	Instructional Materials	\$2,395
122	School Improvement Program	\$89
123	Tenth Grade Counseling	\$5,749
125	Teacher Recruitment and Student Support	\$20,148
126	Reduction to District Deferred Maintenance Contribution	\$600,000

Discussed and acted upon as individual items. Vote was 5-0-0 unless noted.

16a	Eliminate <del>10 middle school librarians</del> \$655,074 in funding for secondary (middle and high school) librarians. Staff to determine how the remaining funds would be allocated at all 16 secondary schools. (4-1-0; Mayo, no)	\$655,074
19	Eliminate 3 Instructional Media Assist I positions at elementary schools (4-1-0; Mayo, no)	<del>\$203,346</del> \$150,000
73	Personnel Coordinator (4-1-0; Mayo, no)	\$79,178
82	Eliminate 2 Psychologists (4-1-0; Mayo, no)	\$210,876
101	Eliminate Warehouse Truck Driver	\$71,948
110	Reduce Nonpublic School budget (1600) by \$400,000	\$400,000
114	Arts, Music, and Physical Education Supplies and Equipment Carryover	\$313,201
115	School and Library Improvement	\$140,000
124	Instructional and Library Materials/EdTech	\$33,522

Through action taken in February, the Board has placed a **parcel tax initiative** on the May 19 state special election ballot. If approved by the voters, the \$99 per parcel would provide the District with approximately \$7 million a year in local revenue that would not be affected by fluctuations in state funding. Information is available on the News Room page of the District website, [www.mdusd.org](http://www.mdusd.org).

## Student and Staff Success Stories

### Adult Education Secretary is "Excellent"

Dee Jones, secretary in the Adult Education Parent Education/Adults with Disabilities program, has been selected by Contra Costa Chapter of California Council for Adult Education (CCAЕ) as *Support Person of Excellence*. Dee will be honored at the CCAЕ Bay Section Conference on Saturday, March 7, at Loma Vista Adult Center.

### Student Musicians Make Melodies in March

March is designated nationally as "Music in Our Schools Month." The District's instrumental music teachers invite the public to attend one of the many band and orchestra festivals that are held in each high school attendance area. The calendar is follows:

Clayton Valley HS Area Band Festival I	Monday, March 9
Clayton Valley HS Area Band Festival II	Tuesday, March 10
Ygnacio Valley HS Area Band Festival	Wednesday, March 11
Ygnacio Valley HS Area Orchestra Festival	Thursday, March 12

Concord HS Area Band Festival	Monday, March 16
College Park HS Area Band Festival I	Wednesday, March 18
College Park HS Area Band Festival II	Thursday, March 19
College Park Area Orchestra Festival	Monday, March 23
Northgate HS Area Band Festival	Tuesday, March 24
Northgate HS Area Orchestra Festival	Thursday, March 26
Concord and Clayton Valley Combined Orchestra Festival, at Concord High	Monday, March 30
Mt. Diablo HS Area Band Festival	Tuesday March 31

The festivals are held in the high school gymnasiums and start at 7:30 p.m. They provide an excellent overview of the District's instrumental music program, from the beginners through the middle schools, to the most advanced high school bands and orchestras.

***In others' words. . . letting the musicians speak for themselves***

*"Music can change the world."--Ludwig Van Beethoven*

*"We need magic, and bliss, and power, myth, and celebration and religion in our lives, and music is a good way to encapsulate a lot of it."--Jerry Garcia*

*"We all do "do, re, mi," but you have to find the other notes yourself."--Louis Armstrong*

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