



ITA/IUSD Negotiations Update ♦ January 2012 ♦

A Joint Communiqué from the ITA and IUSD Bargaining Teams ...

The bargaining teams met on January 12, 2012. We spent most of the day talking about both the 2011/12 State budget and the Governor's proposed 2012/13 budget, health benefits for 2011/12 and 2012/13 and the 2012/13 calendar.

We also talked about the fact that even in this prolonged state of crisis brought about by the economy and the fiscal problems in the State, our students continue to participate in outstanding educational programs. Despite larger classes, reduced resources, and past-furloughs, the ITA bargaining unit members continue to work toward our common goals of quality programs for students, fiscal solvency and sustained employment for all IUSD employees. It is a testament to the professionalism of the ITA bargaining unit that IUSD continues to be one of the most highly regarded districts in California, if not the country.

Budget

- **2011/12**

On December 15, we learned that there will be mid-year cuts to public education this year, but not at the catastrophic level anticipated. The biggest cuts to districts will be in the Home to School Transportation funding. We are waiting for clarification from the State as to how the cuts will be calculated; whether they will cut funding by an average dollar amount across the board or by the amount each district currently receives. Additionally, there will be a cut in funding per ADA, of \$13.00. The best case scenario for IUSD is a cut of approximately \$1 million; the worst case scenario is a cut of approximately \$ 1.5 million.

- **2012/13**

The Governor's proposed budget for 2012/13 is heavily dependent on the passage of the November 2012 ballot initiative which is targeted to temporarily raise taxes on the wealthy and increase the sales tax by ½ cent. The temporary revenues tied to the November ballot initiative are estimated to generate approximately \$7 billion annually. The additional revenues the tax measure would bring into the State budget would not mean extra money for school districts. These measures would keep us at "flat funding" for 2012/2013, with no further cuts to education.

If the November ballot initiative is not supported by the voters, we will be looking at further huge cuts in public education funding and other State programs. Districts will have no choice but to address those cuts through furlough days, cuts to programs, etc.

"Flat funding" is the best case scenario ... and assumes the passage of new taxes. This proposed budget will be subject to much negotiation in the legislature over the next months.

Health Benefits

- **2011/12**

A little good news Based on the current information, and if the trend continues, there will be no deficit in the required reserve for the health benefits budget this year ... or at least a significantly smaller deficit than what was projected. The BMB will continue to monitor the trend and work to address any deficit for 2011/12.

- **2012/13**

We anticipate a \$2 million structural deficit in 2012/13 in which expenses to the plan exceed budget.



What Does This Mean to Us?

Since we remain in a state of uncertainty, we have agreed to defer making any agreements related to salary and benefits, including any discussion of furlough days until we have more information.

2012/13 Calendar

The Board of Education will receive a recommendation for approval for the 2012/13 calendars at their meeting on February 7, 2012. See highlights below:

• Year Round Calendar

Start date for unit members:	July 23, 2012
Start date for students:	July 24, 2012
Fall Recess:	September 24 – October 12, 2012
Thanksgiving break:	November 19 – 23, 2012
Winter break:	December 24, 2012 – January 11, 2013
Spring break:	March 25 – April 12, 2013
Last day of school:	June 20, 2013

• Traditional Calendar

Start date for unit members:	September 4, 2012
Start date for students:	September 5, 2012
Thanksgiving break:	November 19 – 23, 2012
Winter break:	December 24, 2012 - January 4, 2013
Spring break:	April 1 – 5, 2013
Last day of school:	June 20, 2013

What's Next?

- We have set bargaining dates on February 3 & 17, March 1 & 22, April 30, May 14 and June 4. It remains our goal to reach an agreement that will meet our common interests of student achievement, district solvency, and employee well-being while inflicting as little pain as possible on each and every one of us. We will keep you updated as we receive more solid information.
- Due to the turn-over in members of the bargaining teams in the last few years, we have scheduled formal Interest-based Bargaining training on April 18 & 23.

ITA Bargaining Team:

- Anne Caenn, Chair, Venado Middle School
- Sonia Kearney, Deerfield Elementary School
- Lauren Pipp, Bonita Canyon Elementary School
- Alan Simsovic, Northwood High School
- John Valerie, Irvine High School

Additional Team Support:

- Laurie Atkinson, Executive Director, Irvine/Tustin Teachers UniServ/CTA/NEA

District Bargaining Team:

- Eamonn O'Donovan, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
- Susie Kemp, Principal, Canyon View Elementary School
- John Pehrson, Principal, University High School
- Rena Thompson, Director, Human Resources
- Scott Bowman, Principal, Rancho San Joaquin Middle School

Additional Team Support:

- John Fogarty, Assistant Superintendent, Fiscal Services
- Susana Lopez, Director, Fiscal Services
- John Rajcic, Labor Consultant
- Ruth Romero, Confidential Secretary, Human Resources