

BUDGETBULLETIN NO. 2

01.24.08

The Governor's Budget for 2008-09 includes a proposal to cut public education funding.

To keep our parents and community informed regarding the status of the state budget and its potential impact to our District, we will be issuing regular Budget Bulletins.

In Preparation...

Ocean View is exploring ways to close the potential budget gap proposed by Governor Schwarzenegger for the 2008-09 state budget that includes substantial cutbacks to education. As a community, we value our students educational achievements and our highly skilled staff. To ensure an inclusive and transparent process of evaluating the potential impact of the proposed state budget, Superintendent Rasmussen is forming a Fiscal Planning Team (FPT) consisting of members from both employee associations, OVTA and CSEA, and District administration. Along with the Fiscal Planning Team, weekly **BUDGETBULLETINS** will be sent to all District staff and posted on the District website (www.ovsd.org). As additional information becomes available, it will also be posted online.

Our Guiding Principles Through This Process

No doubt, this is a stressful time. As we move forward, it is important we remain true to our core principles:

- Our quality core program is at the heart of what Ocean View is. We will maintain our core program to ensure high student achievement.
- Our staff is our greatest asset and we will minimize any impact on staff.
- Our decision-making process will be transparent, informative, and inclusive.

Ocean View is subject to fiscal changes and crisis that occur at the state level and this is a statewide crisis to which we must respond by being prepared. We could wait for a final budget to be approved and then scramble to meet constraints put on our budget by any state cutbacks, however, doing so could result in rushed decisions and a substantial impact to our students, programs and staff. Rather than play "wait and see," we are moving quickly to gather the data needed to analyze and establish priorities should the need arise to make significant budget changes.

Now and Later

Currently, we are fiscally solvent. We have just weathered a decline in enrollment without the need for cuts to programs or staff. While the 2008-09 budget is still being debated by our state Legislators, we do know some cutbacks are forthcoming - just not to what degree. The Governor and Legislators are currently in special session with anticipated information for education coming by February 23, 2008.

By using the process of the FPT we will be better prepared to make informed decisions that best support student learning and our District principles.