



## From the Front

CCA President, Ron Norton Reel

### State Budget Highlights for Education

#### Major Highlights Include

- The State Budget lowers Prop 98 funds in both years.
- In 2008-90 it is \$50.7 Billion.
- In 2009-10 it is \$56.00 Billion. (Year 2009-2010 is not really larger because of the \$3.2 Billion from current deferrals & about \$2 Billion from the loss of Lottery funds.
- Causes a special election on May 19, 2009 regarding five initiatives to complete the funding as approved.
- Tax increase is for two years if Prop 1A is not passed.
- Tax increase is for four years if Prop 1A is passed.

### State Budget Highlights for Community Colleges

- Eliminates COLA to 0% (\$39.8 Million)
- \$3.6 million reduction to capture unspent prior-year funding.
- \$4 million cut to mandate payments.
- \$340 million in apportionment deferred from Jan, Feb, Mar, & April to be repaid in July.
- \$200 million June & July deferral to be repaid in October.

#### 2008-2009

#### 2009-2010

- No COLA
- \$185.4 million augmentation to fund 3% enrollment growth.
- Categorical stays the same with no flexibility to the district.
- No student fee increases.
- No property tax shortfall protection.
- No lowering of costs for any other types of courses.
- Budget maintains funding for the Cal Grant program.

## American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009:

### Impact On California Community Colleges Per LAO:

**State Relief:** Ca. to receive about \$7.8 billion to restore K-12 and higher education funding to 2008 level.

**Pell Grants:** Provides a \$500 increase bringing the maximum for the upcoming year to \$5,350. CA Community College students represent 265,000 or 15% of Pell Grant recipients.

**Tax Credit:** Covers 100% of first \$2,000 higher education tax credit (including tuition, fees, textbooks and materials, computer equipment, and internet expenses) and 25% of the second \$2,000 (Maximum of \$2,500).

## May 19, 2009 Statewide Initiatives:

**Prop 1A: Budget Stabilization Fund:** Requires the state to direct 3% of revenues to a rainy day fund each year. Part of the reserves that will be created will be used to repay the \$9 billion owed to public schools.

**(If Prop 1A fails, there will be no mechanism to restore the funding to K-12 and Community Colleges.)**

**Prop 1B: Protect Education Funding (Prop 98 Restoration):** Starts the process of paying back our schools and community colleges as economic conditions improve.

**Prop 1C: Lottery Modification Act:** Increases the performance and accountability of the state lottery and brings immediate funding to the state without raising taxes. \$5 billion dollars to help this 2009-2010 budget. It takes the amount of this year and places it under the Prop 98 minimum guarantee. More money in future due to cost of living increases.

**Prop 1D: Children's Services Funding:** Temporarily redirects a portion of excess funds from the voter approved tobacco tax to pay for children's health and social services over the next two years. This Prop diverts a portion of this unexpended money to prevent deeper cuts to Children's health care and other human services programs. **(If this Prop fails, there will be a \$600 million hole that will need to be filled.)**

**Prop 1E: Mental Health Funding:** Temporarily redirects a portion of the funds from the Mental Health Services Trust Fund approved by voters in 2004 to fund children's health programs that are at risk of elimination due to budget crisis. **(If Prop 1E fails, a loss of \$227 million will take place.)**

## May 19, 2009 Statewide Initiatives (cont.):

**Prop 1F: Restricts State Officer Salaries:** Prohibits legislators, the governor and other state politicians from getting pay raises whenever our state budget is running a deficit.

**All initiatives 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D, 1E, and 1F must pass to keep the budget that was approved. If any of the initiatives fail, a revised budget will be required!**

## Merger Discussions Update: Joint News Release



The weekend of February 20-22, 2009, exploratory discussions began on unifying the Community College Association (CCA) of the California Teachers Association (CTA) and the Community College council (CCC) of the California Federation of Teachers (CFT).

The parties are deeply concerned about preserving access and maintaining and improving the high quality of education provided in California's Community Colleges, and will be seeking opportunities to work together in close partnership on issues of mutual interest as the talks proceed. A set of general principles that will guide the unification discussions was agreed upon.

The intention of the participants in the conversations is to build upon the strengths of the unions involved and to fully engage local leaders and members of both statewide organizations in discussion of the many issues involved. Additional meetings have been scheduled.



In addition to the officers of CCA and CCC, top elected leaders and key staff of CTA and CFT participated as well as representatives of the two organizations' respective national affiliates, the National Education Association (NEA) and the American Federation of Teachers (AFT).

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## CCA Chapter Representation

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- Butte College EA has two GLS cases pending over potential tenured faculty dismissal and a contract faculty member threatened with non-renewal.
- Collge of Siskiyou FA is having on-going discussions about part-time issues.
- Lake Tahoe Community College FA has decided to stay with CCA/CTA. A visitation by all CCA Officers and Primary Contact Staff was highly successful in addressing chapter concerns.
- Lassen Community College FA participated in a general membership meeting which centered on compliance with the 50% law, and problems of accreditation. Discussion took place regarding the unfair labor practice filed on behalf of the association regarding refusal to bargain on student learning outcomes and evaluation.
- Shasta College FA continues to address issues of workload and grievances. The chapter continues to actively pursue the issue of accommodation for a part-time faculty member.

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