

LONG BEACH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

SERVING LONG BEACH, LAKEWOOD, SIGNAL HILL AND
AVALON

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
1515 HUGHES WAY
LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA 90810-1839
(562) 997-8242 • FAX (562) 997-8280

June 22, 2009

Dear Fellow Employees,

The State of California continues to face an unprecedented fiscal crisis. The state is projecting a \$24 billion budget deficit, and public school officials statewide remain uncertain how much funding school districts will receive in the coming year.

LBUSD receives most of its funding from the state. The state so far this year has proposed \$169 million in cuts to our school district for the three-year period starting with the recently completed 2008-09 school year and continuing through 2010-11. These are severe cuts, considering that our school district's operating budget is about \$750 million.

In light of the budget crisis, our Board of Education on June 16 adopted a resolution to preserve its ability to reduce employee compensation for 2009-10. The resolution did not reduce employee compensation in any way. Be assured that our school district will explore all other options before considering any proposal to reduce your hard-earned compensation. However, our board received legal advice that adopting such a resolution before July 1 would be prudent, to allow for the *possibility* of reduced compensation next fiscal year. Many California school districts have adopted similar resolutions this year to keep their budget options open.

While the LBUSD resolution applies to all represented and non-represented employees, again, the resolution simply alerts employees to the possibility of reduced compensation next year. We do not yet know for certain whether reduced compensation will actually happen. For represented employees, any change in compensation would, of course, remain contingent upon formal negotiations between union and school district bargaining teams. These negotiations are, as always, subject to applicable state collective bargaining requirements.

Most of you recently received an e-mail from me explaining why the Board of Education was considering the compensation resolution. Now that the board has adopted the resolution, the law requires that all employees receive this formal notice.

The state budget situation continues to change from week to week, but whatever happens, our school district will maintain its long and proud tradition of providing the best education possible for our students. I regret the necessity of this notice, and I deeply appreciate your dedication and patience as we work together to weather these difficult times.

Sincerely,



Christopher J. Steinhauser
Superintendent of Schools