



# Ukiah Unified School District

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## Negotiation Update January 2010

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The following are the topics that were discussed during the District and UTA negotiation meeting on January 11, 2010.

Prior to the session UTA indicated that they were still in the process of polling their membership and would consider the session as information and would not be responding to topics today.

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### **REPORTS**

#### ***Budget***

Information from the proposed Governor's budget was presented. District indicated that it was getting assistance from School Services of California regarding the district budget. Currently the District deficit for 2010-11 is projected at a minimum of 3 million dollars and is likely to go up.

#### ***Enrollment / ADA***

Information of the current District ADA figures was presented. The numbers indicate an overall decline in enrollment of 198 students which represents a potential loss of revenue for next year of approximately 1 million dollars.

#### ***School Closure***

Information was provided on the recommendation to close two schools and the transfer of students. It was noted that this item will be taken to the Board in February for action. The District has already undertaken significant planning to implement the closure should the Board take such action. The District has been meeting with the staff at each site and has meetings scheduled for parents. It was

reported that anticipated savings would be approximately \$200,000 per school.

### **ITEMS**

#### ***Work Year and 2010-11 Calendar***

A draft of the 2010-11 calendar was presented by the District to UTA. The calendar raises two issues –days of instruction and the total work year for staff. With regard to the start date for instruction, the District is proposing to roll the calendar from this year over and start school on August 16. This would allow the first semester to end by the winter break period. The District presented information regarding the discussions that the teams had had on this issue two years ago. The District expressed the need to get this resolved so that parents and the community could be involved.

The District also indicated that the calendar raised the issue of the length of the work year. The state legislature has approved a five day reduction in the number of required school days (175 days versus current 180 days). The current salary schedule has 186 days which includes 6 non-student work days. Given the new laws, this means that up to 11 days could be negotiated for furloughs. The District made

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no proposal on the number of work days to be potentially reduced next year but indicated that it would be a topic for future meetings.

### ***Transfer Article***

The District indicated that in the meetings with staff regarding the possible closure of two sites that the biggest issue raised by staff was how the transfers would be handled. The District provided a copy of the Transfer article to the negotiating teams and identified that *Section 10.7 – Diminished Enrollment Transfers* would apply to the change in staffing due to the school closures unless changes or additions were negotiated. The District asked the Association to review this article and to raise any questions that they may have and possible changes to the contract on this issue as soon as possible. The District expressed the interest of having a clear process for the transfer of staff from closed schools.

### ***Evaluations***

The District distributed copies of the current contract language and evaluation procedures. The District noted that our current evaluation process meets the requirements outlined in the new “Race to the Top” legislation. The contract requires criteria for evaluation “which shall include educational goals for the students and that progress towards the achievement of these criteria shall be one of the major considerations for evaluation of the Unit Member.”

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### ***Health Benefits***

The District indicated that for a variety of reasons two health vendors, California Valued Trust (CVT) and Self Insured Schools of California (SISC), will be presenting information to the Health Committee and the bargaining units regarding their health plans. The District indicated that other districts in the county are exploring health benefit alternatives.

### ***Salary***

A salary proposal will be presented at the January 29, 2010 negotiation meeting and most likely will incorporate a mixture of concepts depending on the budget.

### ***Miscellaneous***

The parties agreed to several negotiation dates. UTA indicated that they would be sunshining their proposals at the February 9 meeting of the Board and that they would be prepared to respond to issues at the January 29 negotiation session since they will have completed their survey process.