

Further deep cuts are expected in the Governor's State Budget revision that is due out at the end of this week. Despite the fact that the Governor promised to protect education, K-12 education is expected to take more than \$2 billion in additional cuts; this after already cutting over \$17 billion over the last 2 years.

We need to send a message that is loud and clear to the Governor that he cannot balance the budget on the backs of children.

Please join the San Ramon Valley Council of PTAs and San Ramon Valley Education Association, as we join together to **stand up for children by calling the Governor's office, Wednesday, May 19, 2010 between the hours of 9 am and 4 pm.**

Wherever you are, take just 5 minutes to pick up the phone and dial 916-445-2841; choose which language to continue in, then when prompted press 6 to speak to a representative. They will simply listen to what you have to say and will write down your comments. It is easy and you should not take long at all.

After you have called send a quick email to legislation@srvcouncilpta.org that says "I called" to help us judge the effectiveness of our calling plan. We appreciate your time to help us with this.

Here are some sample messages to pass on to the Governor. Please feel free to leave your own message or use one of ours that you agree with.

"Please do not make further cuts to Education and Children's services; California's education system will soon be unable to provide enough qualified workers to support our economy, without an increase to education funding."

"Governor Schwarzenegger's budget will leave a legacy of damage and destruction for California's public schools. It's time to support measures that will provide stable revenues for education and children's health and human services."

"California's economy cannot survive with an all cuts approach to balancing the budget."

"Please do not make further cuts to Education and Children's services, but rather consider a continuation of the tax increases that we passed last year, at least until increased revenues return."

"I give you my permission, as your constituent, to increase revenues in order to protect education"

Thank you for taking the time to remind the Governor that education needs to once again be a priority in California.

-Amy Johns

Vice President of Legislative Advocacy, San Ramon Valley Council of PTAs

Current information on the impact of California's budget crisis on Education

There is not a simple solution to California's budget crisis, but according to a recent PPIC survey 63% of Californians most want to protect K-12 education from spending cuts. ¹

The Silicon Valley Leadership Group's annual business climate survey, this year drawing responses from 153 top executives at varied employers such as IBM, Wells Fargo, NASA and SunPower, sends an unmistakable message: Fixing schools should be the state's top priority. "Overwhelming support

¹ Public Policy Institute of California

exists for increasing expenditures, primarily for K-12 education, with 67% calling for increased expenditures and only 4 % proposing reductions”²

“Longer term, the K-12 system is central to developing a workforce that can foster innovation and growth. Yet the state's per-student funding is near the lowest in the nation, and proficiency rates are abysmal. Who could blame a CEO for worrying that in 10 years, California won't have enough qualified workers?”³

Visit <http://www.capta.org/sections/advocacy/downloads/nine-million/12-factsheet1.pdf> for more information on our 9 million reasons to speak up.

²CEO Business Climate Survey 2010

³Silicon Valley Mercury News.com