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Superintendent's Bargaining Update No. 6

April 1, 2011

There is no good news to report. The governor has announced that negotiation talks have stopped at the State level and we are in serious danger of facing an additional \$5 billion deficit statewide. Public education will most definitely take another hit. We are at serious risk due to the inability of the state to reach a decision. With this current outlook, the impact on Stockton Unified's budget is bleak. We must now be realistic in that we may possibly lose more than the estimated \$330 per pupil ADA. It is projected to reach an estimated \$850 per pupil ADA.

I have directed staff to continue to meet with the union's leadership teams in an effort to convince them that this is a dire situation. We are in survivor mode, yet still are expected to educate our children.

To date, union leadership has been reluctant to accept our proposals to help the district with the fiscal crisis. Every passing day we do not come to an agreement is another day the risks are greater. Over the past two years, neighboring districts with the help of their unions have already taken difficult steps to address their financial shortfall. This is the first time we are asking our union leaders to help us solve the district's fiscal deficit.

I sincerely wish I had better news for you this week. Unfortunately, it does not appear that anything is going to change from the State and that change has to start with us as a team.