

7-11 Committee
December 2, 2008
5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

The group was welcomed by Superintendent Frank Lynch who then introduced interim Business Services assistant superintendent, Gary Mortimer, who updated the group on what current thought is regarding the financial future of state education in general and the Lompoc Unified School District's in particular;

When all is said and done, the District could face \$6 million in cuts - \$2.5 million just to open the doors for the 2009-2010 school year.

Given the above, the rest of the meeting was spent brainstorming about ways to save money and/or create revenue.

Members asked for a site-by-site breakdown of the actual costs to maintain each site. This will prove to be difficult to supply because individual employee salaries must be taken into consideration.

In general, the yearly cost to maintain:

- (1) an elementary school is approximately \$600K;
- (2) a middle school is approximately \$800K;
- (3) and a high school is approximately \$1.5M.

It was reported that transportation drains our General Fund by about \$800K per year.

Some suggestions from the group:

- (1) do away with transportation and use COLT
- (2) when do we tell the public that we just cannot do this anymore?
- (3) go to a four-day work week - that would have to be negotiated with employee groups
- (4) question: if all certificated employees were off for one day what is the savings?
answer: approximately \$230,000 for one day; management \$80,000 for certificated \$50,000

NOTE: 85% of the district's expenses are salary - hard to cut elsewhere

- (5) Idea - close everything down for one month out of the year - there are complications (summer school, year round, payroll)
- (6) Would money be saved by doing away with year round? - This will be answered at the next meeting
- (7) We can cut electives, but that is inviting charter schools to come in.

- (8) The cost of operating each individual school will be answered at the next meeting.
- (9) Some of our facilities have only 50-60% of the rooms being used
 - (a) lock all unused rooms - save utilities and maintenance

Dr. Lynch noted that a K-6 room analysis will be prepared for the next meeting.

The next meeting of the 7-11 Committee will be Tuesday, December 16, 2008 from 5:00-6:30 p.m.

The group agrees:

This crisis is for real!
We need to be entrepreneurial
Establish relationships with community organizations
Need for charge for facility use
All employee groups will need to take "hits"
Need to consider alternatives within - for example,

- (a) school within a school
- (b) LUSD charter schools

More discussion and options to follow at December 16, 2008 meeting

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Straight