

# 3-9-10 SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

Board Videocast (<http://www.rbusd.org/boevideoarchives>):

Minute 34:04 -Teacher Emily Butler comment

Minute 35:29 -Two parent comments on class size

Minute 39:30 -RBTA Comments

## RBTA COMMENTS:

### **GENERAL COMMENT**

**read by Kathy Tillotson, high school teacher and past president of RBTA**

RBTA would like to thank the district for the continuing dialogue regarding the budget; for their continued cooperation in providing documentation of budget pieces. We also want to say on behalf of our 430+ teachers that we feel we provide the finest education in the south bay. What happens inside of every classroom in this district and with every student that walks through a classroom door in terms of the learning process is guided primarily by one person- the teacher in that classroom. We are the frontline, we are the nurturers, the providers, the direct contact staff that make each child or student's learning journey a positive one.

### **COMMENT ON CALENDAR #2**

**read by Amy Santa Cruz, President of RBTA**

In the past few weeks, the leadership of RBTA has gone out to schools to collect teacher input on a number of concerns. One being the school calendar for 2010-2011. Adding a non holiday, non student day in the second week of any school year is felt by the teachers to be unsound academically for the students in our district.

Imagine beginning a new school year, as an elementary student -- expecting to bond with your teacher(s) and as a secondary student expecting to begin new routines and learn new material only to have the routine of school be disrupted by "school-no school-school".

Our students will to go to school one day, be off on holiday the next and then back to school on the third. There is no academic consistency in such a practice for the overwhelming majority of the students. Having school on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday of the second week of school will be too chaotic for both students and families and RBTA feels that not only will ADA will be lost but the academic learning process will be disrupted as well.

Thank you.

### **COMMENT ON PARS #1**

**read by Linda Dillard, high school chemistry, department chair and RBTA Bargaining Team member**

The teachers encourage you to accept the PARS agreement for an early retirement agreement since this is one of the places dollars can be saved and it would save the district at least \$400,000 in the first year.

### **COMMENT ON LOOKING AT OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE SALARIES FOR CUTS #3**

**Read by Donna Pattillo, RBTA representative to Health and Welfare Committee and Bargaining Team member**

RBTA feels that the board should look at other administrative pieces in order to save dollars and equalize cuts among all employees. The superintendent's contract, administrative work year, etc. before going to the classroom to make cuts which directly affect students.

**COMMENT ON USE OF DISTRICT RESERVE #4**

**read by Tim Baumgartner, high school math teacher and RBTA representative to Health and Welfare Committee**

So many of the proposed cuts directly impact the classroom. The state will currently allow our district to go down to a 1% reserve and you have 3.8% **\$2,904,877**. We have stated many times in board meetings that reserves are for hard times and we are there! **Spend down and spend down now!** There is money in the reserve to protect not having any furlough days.