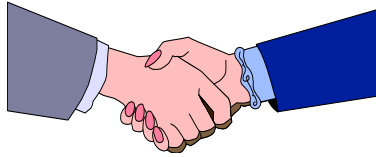


## GARDEN GROVE EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

# NEGOTIATIONS UPDATE



September 18, 2006

The California State Budget was adopted and signed by the Governor before July 1<sup>st</sup> this year, making it one of the few recent budgets that have been finalized "on time". It calls for a 5.92% cost of living (COLA) increase to the Base Revenue Limit/ADA for K-12 Education and all State Categorical Programs.

In addition, the Proposition 98 lawsuit filed by CTA and its Education Coalition partners over two years ago was settled. The State has agreed to repay \$2 billion in funding deficits from the 2004-05 and 2005-06 school years in this year's budget. The remaining \$3 billion in deficits from prior years will be paid in annual installments commencing in 2007-08 at the rate of \$450 million a year for six years. The settlement assures that the education funding mandates of the Proposition 98 legislation are protected and will continue.

The budget also allocates \$533.5 million statewide to be used for instructional materials, classroom and lab supplies, PE equipment, school and library materials, education technology, deferred maintenance, and professional development. Each school site will receive \$84 per student. School Site Councils will decide how the special funds are to be utilized.

The GGEA and GGUSD negotiating teams have met two times since the adoption of the budget - on August 21 and September 15. Topics discussed on August 21<sup>st</sup> include the State budget, half-day substitutes, preschool salaries, work-load issues, stipends, staffing ratios, summer school, combos, SWIM, job shares, Special Education stipends, grade level changes, Program Improvement schools, and School Site Councils. The major topic of concern on September 15<sup>th</sup> was the State budget. The teams met with Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, Sue McCann, and Fiscal Operations Director, Nancy Medford. The Association Team asked individual questions regarding the effect of the State budget adoption on the District's finances. Other topics discussed include the implementation of collaboration, transfer posting dates, staffing ratios, and a flexible schedule at Intermediate schools to allow for an elective class for those students taking two hour blocks of English or Math.

The teams will meet again on September 28 at the GGEA Office. GGEA's team members are Armon Akerboom, Chris Francis, Lucy Farmer, Noelle Dickenson, Heidi Brown and Judy Harrison. The District's team is Joli Armitage, Barb Batson, and Margaret Feliciani.