



LAO: Revenue to Schools is Better Than Projected

The Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) is estimating that there will be an increase in the Prop 98 guarantees in both the current year and upcoming year. The LAO, located in Sacramento, is a nonpartisan government agency that provides fiscal and policy advice to the California Legislature for 75 years. This is good news to schools. This increase in projected revenues for schools should give the Governor the ability to fully fund the LCFF two years earlier than expected. This not only fully funds schools two years earlier, but helps offset planned increases to retirement costs. Ultimately, the legislature decides what the state budget will look like, but with higher revenues being projected there should be some very good news in January for the upcoming budget.

Update on Factfinding

CUEA and the District are in the process of fulfilling the statutory requirements to conduct a factfinding hearing. The parties have selected the three panel members that will preside over the factfinding hearing. While the hearing has not been scheduled as of yet, it most likely will occur sometime in December. As soon as the date for the hearing has been selected, we will notify our members.

Full-Day Kindergarten proposals from District are Confusing, Counter-Productive and Illegal

In a previous *CUEA Bargaining Update*, we outlined issues that are currently occurring with the District's full-day Kindergarten proposal. To summarize, the District's 12th hour bargaining proposal implements full-day kindergarten and bypasses CUEA's contract provision that allows for a consensus-building process. At the same time the District is also asking elementary principals to

get a "consensus" on a District Restructuring Council (DRC) full-day kindergarten proposal that also includes lower class size for full-day kindergarten of 25 to 1 (lower class size is a mandatory subject of bargaining.) This is very confusing, but it gets worse.

When CUEA found out the details of the DRC proposal being circulated by elementary principals to kindergarten teachers included a mandatory subject of bargaining (lower class size of 25:1), CUEA asked the District to cease and desist from circulating a proposal that bypassed negotiations and put in an immediate demand to bargain. Over a week later, the District's response was that there are no DRC proposals being circulated that violate the terms of the contract (Note: current contractual kindergarten class size ratio is 30.5:1), that they were not bypassing negotiations, and refuse to bargain over the 25:1 ratio contained in the DRC proposals being circulated.

CUEA believes that the District's myriad of proposals undermine CUEA's contractual rights and violates the law. If the District wants to try innovative programs at sites that require a contract waiver, go through the DRC process. If the District wants to change a major provision in CUEA's contract like class size -- bargain it. This end run around the contract and the law does not benefit students, their education, or the relationship between its educators and the District.

