

PARENTS..... We need your help!

As you know, the budget in California is dismal. In the past two years, Torrance Unified School District has been forced to cut 35 million. For the 2010/2011 & 2011/2012 budget alone, TUSD will be forced to cut an additional 27.6 million. This is equal to approximately 287 teaching positions lost to our students over four years.

THIS HAS GOT TO STOP!!!

What can you do to help?

- **Support your PTA and the Torrance Unified School District- SAVE OUR SCHOOLS campaign.** Please consider making the choice to donate to your child's education. Why not make the commitment to eat out one less time per month, skip getting coffee once a week, forgo one extra outfit, or skip wine with dinner once a week in order to make a difference to our students? \$1 dollar a day or donate the amount for which you feel comfortable.
- **Buy a wristband to show your support!** Most school site offices have them available for purchase, if yours doesn't, send an email to tusd.sos@gmail.com to get one. They are only \$5.00 and all profits go to the SOS Save Our Schools campaign.
- **Buy a SOS Support Our Schools T-shirt.** If your school doesn't have them, contact Denise Mandel at tusd.sos@gmail.com. They are \$10.00 and come in sizes S-XXL.
- **Write a letter or send an email** to our Legislation letting them know that this budget is not ok. We have included some samples that you can use. It's best to cut and paste to make the letters or emails more personal.
- **Make your vote count.** There is an election in June. Find out what the candidates plan to do to fix the budget/education funding problem. Don't accept pat answers and don't let them off the hook. Remember that your vote does count!

Continue to advocate for education. There is strength in numbers so everyone's action counts.

You may get a response to your emails requesting that you use their website for expressing your opinion. If you aren't their constituent, don't bother, as their website will not accept your submittal if your zip code isn't covered in their district. However, they will receive these emails and it is our understanding that they are all read. You will also receive many responses to your emails indicating that legislators only respond to their constituents. No problem. We don't need a response; we need them to stop voting for cuts to education.

Thanks for working to make a difference!

Sample Wording for Emails & Letters

Subject line: Education cuts went too deep - let my children, JT and Kate, make a difference to CA! (replace "JT and Kate" with your child(ren) names)

Body of the email:

**** Cut and paste this section into your own email. ****

Cuts to Education Undermine California's Future Work Force

Public education creates California's human infrastructure. Skills required of our future work force are not those of the 1990s. Our students need to be able to think, research, organize, analyze, innovate, create, solve problems and handle enormous quantities of data. Cuts to education has already compromised the necessary training for California's successful future. Imagine our state's future budget problems if our students cannot fill the work force demands of California's industries! The decisions you make now with respect to education will have far-reaching consequences.

**Your Cuts from July 2009 Already Went Too Deep!
Stop Cuts to Education!
Give Us Full Flexibility!
We Need A Fighting Chance to Succeed!**

Let my children, JT and Kate, (change to your child(ren) names) make a difference to California!

Legislators are MUCH more likely to read personalized letter and emails. We suggest that you include a personalized section after the text above. Explain your students' future career aspirations or what you envision they will become. Then you can comment on the importance to California of your student's aspirations and also on the educational foundation required for your student to achieve their goal. Your story will show them a specific example of why funding education now, helps California's future. It doesn't have to take much time. Even a few sentences will help. I showed my email to my kids – they beamed with pride. It was fun writing about what I think they will do with their lives and how they will make a difference. It was good for them to see what preparation I think they need to reach their aspirations.

**** Your identification info – they ignore emails with incomplete id info ****

Name

Address including zip code

Phone number

Fix the Course We Are On

Today's School Children ARE California's Future

California Needs You

To Save Public Schools from Devastation

Create a California state budget that is:

- **On-time** – give school districts time to plan.
- **Reliable** – no more mid-year cuts.
- **Stable** – no more cuts to education.
- **Funding the basics** – restore Revenue Limit funding.
- **Bottom Line In Torrance:**

\$5,066.00-amount received from state per student per year

\$1,071.00-amount used for mandated Special Education expenses

\$ 3, 995.00-amount available to pay for general education

Torrance Unified School District cannot operate on only

\$3,995 per student!

***No More Finger-pointing, Excuses or Delays.
Be a Hero and Be Part of the Solution – Now***

Name

Address

Email

**** Email address groupings – you'll be cutting and pasting into three emails ****

California State Senate Education Committee:

Senator.Romero@senate.ca.gov
Senator.Alquist@senate.ca.gov
Senator.Liu@senate.ca.gov
Senator.Price@senate.ca.gov
Senator.Wyland@senate.ca.gov

Senator.Huff@senate.ca.gov,
Senator.Hancock@senate.ca.gov,
Senator.Maldonado@senate.ca.gov,
Senator.Simitian@senate.ca.gov,

California State Assembly Education Committee:

Assemblymember.Brownley@assembly.ca.gov
Assemblymember.Nestande@assembly.ca.gov
Assemblymember.Ammiano@assembly.ca.gov
Assemblymember.Arambula@assembly.ca.gov
Assemblymember.Buchanan@assembly.ca.gov
Assemblymember.Carter@assembly.ca.gov
Assemblymember.Eng@assembly.ca.gov
Assemblymember.Garrick@assembly.ca.gov
Assemblymember.Miller@assembly.ca.gov
Assemblymember.Solorio@assembly.ca.gov
Assemblymember.Torlakson@assembly.ca.gov

Other Important Decision-Makers:

Senator.Oropeza@senate.ca.gov
Assemblymember.Lieu@assembly.ca.gov
Glen.Thomas@ose.ca.gov
superintendent@cde.ca.gov
Assemblymember.Chesbro@assembly.ca.gov
Assemblymember.Fuller@assembly.ca.gov
Assemblymember.Swanson@assembly.ca.gov
Senator.Wright@senate.ca.gov
Senator.Steinberg@senate.ca.gov
Senator.Hollingsworth@senate.ca.gov
Assemblymember.Bass@assembly.ca.gov
Assemblymember.Blakeslee@assembly.ca.gov