

TUCSON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
SAHUARO HIGH SCHOOL
545 NORTH CAMINO SECO
TUCSON, ARIZONA
85710-3098

News Short March 2010

March 11, 2010

Dear Parents and Students:

If you have been following the state of the budget for Arizona, you will know that the message for education is not good. Education could see a \$400-\$500 million reduction. Other cuts include the loss of all day kindergarten, soft capital, and more. Our District is facing a reduction of \$25 million. In addition, things could get worse if the 1% sales tax referendum does not pass in May. So a 10% reduction in resources for all schools is pretty imminent. All school sites have been asked to turn in budgets for a 4, 6, 8, and 10% reduction, with the likelihood of 10% happening.

There have been many conversations with Department Heads in regards to the Student Course Surveys. School Council has discussed the budget and input from other personnel. Comments have been made that central administration should cut. The news is that the central administrative budget was cut 30% for the 2009 school year, and 36% for the 2010 school year. Other ideas that have been discussed throughout the district are schools merging, having schools restructured, and schools developing plans for Choice School programs that align with the Post Unitary Status Plan.

Sahuaro High School will not be immuned to the cuts. The 10% cut or reduction in our human resources and monetary resources will come to approximately \$500,000. We will need to either reduce or eliminate classes, programs, and some personnel. Again, much discussion has taken place amongst staff members, and with School Council regarding the student course survey. Anytime we are dealing with reductions we look at the priorities of the students first, then what programs or courses the majority of the students need for graduation, and then the most requested courses. The process is to prioritize what is the best we can do with the limited budget that we have. If you remember, our school had to reduce its budget by 14% for the 2009-10 school year. This was approximately a \$600,000 reduction. For the 2010-11 school year, it will be approximately another \$500,000. This is a 24% reduction in two years.

The attached draft of reductions have been made based on student course surveys, student pre-registration data, priority based on graduation requirements, and the availability of highly qualified instructors. In addition, other reductions have been made in order to meet the 10% reduction. There will be more information posted to the Sahuaro Website. A committee of staff and parents are working on the Choice School application in order to address other ways for Sahuaro High School to receive Desegregation money. The goals of the plan are outlined in the Post Unitary Plan (PUP). Sahuaro High is meeting many of the goals of the plan. At this point, we believe by developing a Choice Plan, we can continue to attract students and meet their needs with the possibility of receiving Desegregation money to help continue the quality education and academic achievement for all Sahuaro High School students.

Draft of Proposed Budget Cuts at 10% 2010-11 School Year

In order to continue the quality of Sahuaro High School Academics in this scenario the proposed cuts/ reductions to the budget at Sahuaro High School for the 2010-11 school year. This is in addition to the reduction from the 2009-10 budget, which was a 14% reduction.

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|--|------------------------|
| 1 Assistant Principal | \$95,273 |
| 2.0 Teacher FTE from 56.0 to 54.0 | \$111,430 |
| 1.0 counselor | \$55, 715 |
| 1.0 Librarian | \$55,715 |
| All sub money | \$51,815 to 0 |
| Cut Extra Duty Stipend from 3 to 1 (for AD \$4,000) | \$2,686 |
| Cut Loss of planning | \$3,900 to 0 |
| Cut Teaching Supplies | \$17,272 to 0 |
| Cut Capital Library | \$5,014 to 0 |
| Cut Capital General | \$7,800 to 0 |
| Cut Coaching Stipends | \$61,844 to 20,000 (7) |

Programs either reduced or cut

Fine Arts:

| | | |
|---|----|----------|
| Band from 3 sections to 2 sections | .2 | \$9,000 |
| Theater Arts 5 sections to 3 sections | .4 | \$18,000 |
| Orchestra 4 sections to 3 sections | .2 | \$9000 |
| Choir- possible cut of all sections or only two sections | .6 | \$27,000 |

CTE (based on IGA with ADE- maintain funding at FTE 7.4, currently with cuts reduce FTE to 5.8)

| | |
|---|----|
| BMAS - 5 sections to 2 layered sections | .4 |
| BMAS Publications layered 1 section | .2 |
| PC Management 1 section layered | .2 |
| Early Childhood cut 2 sections | |

Other areas with lost FTE

| | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| English .2 | \$9000 |
| Math .4 | \$18,000 |
| Science 1.0 | \$55, 715 |

Total monetary amount \$510,000+

Plan to follow later on addressing areas to be reduced or cut.