



PRESS RELEASE

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PUSD WILL NOT ISSUE MARCH 15 LAYOFF NOTICES TO TEACHERS AND OTHER CERTIFICATED STAFF FOR 2011-2012 SCHOOL YEAR

The Poway Unified School District (PUSD) will not be issuing the March 15 potential layoff notices to teachers and other certificated staff, including counselors, nurses, and psychologists. Unlike the previous two years, which had seen hundreds of potential layoff notices sent out, this year the District will use savings from previous budget cuts and one-time federal funds to retain all permanent and probationary teachers.

PUSD Board President Penny Ranftle said, "The Board of Education and the district staff have been working to establish a sound budget foundation for tough economic times and can now weather the anticipated budget shortfall for one year."

Poway Unified Superintendent John Collins said, "Because of our collaborative work, we have a short-term solution. We must also work together at the state level for long-term funding solutions for K-12 education. If the Governor's proposed extension for existing taxes is not approved, we realize that PUSD will be facing significant budget reductions in the 2012-13 fiscal year."

Over the last three years, employee union groups and the district have worked together and made tough decisions including furlough days and salary rollbacks. Currently the District managers and administrators, the Poway Federation of Teachers, and the Service Employees International Union have agreements for this year and the 2011-12 year. Because of the shortened school year for students, some reductions in work year may still be needed for some non-teaching employee groups. These would require a forty-five day notice and are not tied to the March 15 layoff notice date for teachers.

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