



# PRESS RELEASE

15250 Avenue of Science ■ San Diego ■ California 92128-3406  
Phone (858) 521-2707 ■ FAX (858) 485-1075

**For Immediate Release**

Date March 8, 2011

**Contact:**

Sharon Raffer,  
Director of Communications

## **School Board Approves Eight Day Reduction to Some Non-Teaching Positions**

The Poway Unified School District Board of Education unanimously approved an eight-day reduction to the 2011-2012 work year for 1,250 non-teaching employees at their regular meeting Monday evening, March 7.

PUSD Board of Education President Penny Ranftle said, "The Board of Education takes very seriously its responsibility to maintain the fiscal solvency of this district both in the short term and in the long term. We just saw the budget projections presented which makes this so very clear. One of the hardest decisions this Board ever made was to reduce the student learning year by five days to help balance the budget. But we made that decision, which has a direct negative impact on student learning, in order to reduce salary expenditures, and keep this district afloat financially."

The affected employees hold office, clerical, technical and instructional aide positions in the district, and are represented by the Poway School Employees Association (PSEA). All other employee groups have already taken the eight-day reduction in work year and salary concessions for the current school year and next year.

Superintendent John Collins said, "This is based upon needing to make decisions to address the very challenging fiscal crisis facing the district and the state. This is not a one-year problem, but a fiscal crisis that will face our district for several years to come."

"No employees will lose their jobs as a result of this action," said Superintendent John Collins. "Although only a 45-day notice is required, we are taking this action now to give these employees greater notice of the reduction for next year."

Board President Penny Ranftle said, "It is now March, and during a year when students will have fewer instructional days, we have been paying PSEA employees to come to work or be on paid vacation when there were no students present. We believe the Board must take steps to correct this situation."

The proposed reduction is budgeted to save the district general fund \$982,000 in the 2011-2012 school year. Because the affected employees work varying numbers of

months and days, the eight-day reduction will result in salary reductions ranging from 3.1% to 3.7%. All other employees have agreed to 4.3% salary reductions for the current school year and next school year.

###