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The  
*Education*  
Coalition

Working together to support and  
improve California's public schools

## THE FACTS ON THE 2005-06 EDUCATION BUDGET

*CLAIM: Governor Schwarzenegger has put our children first in line at the treasury by investing more in education than we ever have before.*

**FACT: This budget is certainly not “terrific” nor is it the “best budget agreement” ever, as the governor claimed.**

This budget fails to mend the governor's broken promises to education, it fails to meet the Constitutional requirements of the voter-approved Proposition 98, and it underfunds our schools by \$3.1 billion at a time when they receive nearly \$1,000 less per pupil than the national average.

*CLAIM: State per pupil spending will increase by \$379 and total per pupil spending will reach an all-time high of \$10,325. (Governor's Office)*

**FACT: This figure is misleading. In fact, the Governor's own Department of Finance lists the funding for Proposition 98 programs at \$7,402 per pupil. (California Department of Finance)**

The \$10,000-plus-per-student figure includes funding that does not go to the classroom:

- \$50 million for the State Library
- \$38 million for the Commission on Teacher Credentialing.

The \$10,000-plus-per-student figure also includes money for education over which the state has no control:

- \$7.6 billion in federal funding
- \$1.5 billion to repay local debt service on locally raised money for building projects
- \$3.8 billion for other local revenues raised by local districts for their own schools, (including everything from booster club bake sales to donations from local businesses.)

The reason why every major state-to-state comparison of school funding does not include such funding sources is because they have nothing to do with a state's effort to support its schools. (Source: Superintendent of Public Instruction, 7/11/05)

Remove these figures and the state contribution to education in per pupil spending is thousands less than the Governor claims.

Education Week ranks California 44<sup>th</sup> in per-pupil funding and according to the National Education Association annual Rankings of the States, California is \$1,000 below the national average.

*CLAIM: True to the Governor's May budget proposal, K-14 education will receive a \$3 billion increase, \$736 million beyond Proposition 98 requirements.*

**FACT: The Governor's claim is misleading because it attempts to rebase Proposition 98 by ignoring the agreement reached with California students and schools in 2004:**

- In 2004-05, Proposition 98 was suspended or reduced by \$2.0 billion, with the promise that the money would be restored.
- The agreement with the Governor also promised that if state revenues increased above the 2004-05 estimates, education would receive its fair share as required by the State Constitution and Proposition 98.

Revenues increased by **\$6.4 billion** over the 2004-05 budget estimates.

- The governor's agreement, state statute (Senate Bill 1101 Chapter 213) and the California Constitution all require an additional \$3.1 billion – \$1.8 billion in funding this past fiscal year (2004-05) and \$1.3 billion in the new budget year (2005-06).

The final budget provides education with zero dollars of this revenue increase. The governor's claim of \$3 billion includes:

- A shift of \$674 million away from school districts to city and county governments to make up for the Vehicle License Fee revenue shortfall. This so-called "increase" in state funding for schools simply replaces this lost property tax revenue and results in NO additional funding for schools.
- The rest of the "increase" comes from \$1.8 billion in cost of living adjustments and enrollment growth, funds that merely allow schools to maintain the status quo.

The California Education Coalition is comprised of organizations representing more than 1.5 million parents, teachers, school board members, school employees, and administrators, including:

**Association of California School Administrators (ACSA)** *representing nearly 15,500 school administrators*  
**California Association of School Business Officials (CASBO)** *representing more than 4,000 school finance and administrative managers*

**California County Superintendents Educational Services Association (CCSESA)** *representing all 58 county superintendents throughout California*

**California Federation of Teachers (AFT-AFL-CIO)** *representing nearly 90,000 education employees*

**California School Boards Association (CSBA)** *representing more than 1,000 K-12 school districts and county offices of education throughout California*

**California School Employees Association (CSEA)** *representing more than 230,000 classified school employees*

**California State PTA** *representing more than one million parents, teachers, and students in California*

**California Teachers Association (CTA)** *representing over 330,000 educators*

**Service Employees International Union (SEIU)** *representing more than 50,000 school employees in California*