

BHEA/BHUSD JOINT COMMUNICATION
for the Certificated Bargaining Session on June 1, 2010

The group was given updated budget information. The district has collected approximately \$32,300,000 from basic aid property tax revenues to date. There will be another small collection in June. In July the district will receive its revenue projections for next year. The district is still in a hiring freeze and is only hiring to fill positions that it will be legally required to fill. There is a potential reduction in special education funding from the federal government. There is a Board of Education Budget and Goals Study Session scheduled for this Friday, June 4, from 3:00-5:00 p.m.

The group continued to look at Special Education hours, class sizes and caseload averages. Information from the state is still being gathered. The group agreed that a subcommittee will be formed in the fall to address caseload; workload; staffing; scheduling; class size; SDC/RSP designations; DIS provider caseload sizes; and the alignment of contract language, education code, and BHUSD programmatic offerings.

The group also continued discussions related to the representation of Occupational Therapists. The group discussed areas such as retirement, compensation, and work year. The affected individuals will be consulted, and, if appropriate, further action will be taken over the summer.

Information about certification procedures for Speech and Language Pathologists was provided, as was comparative salary information. This information will be incorporated into future discussions on total compensation.

The group acknowledged that the Board of Education has approved a resolution authorizing the district to begin discussions related to a potential furlough. As the budget picture evolves, further discussion may occur. The district is in the process of completing district initiated transfers and reassignments in an effort to maximize staffing resources and avoid the need to hire additional personnel.

The group came to tentative agreement on the following subjects: Article IV – Hours, Article VIII – Class Size, Article XXI – Term of Agreement, Appendix A – School Calendar, and Appendix K – BHUSD/BHEA Relations (new appendix). The tentative agreement will be shared with BHEA's Executive Board on June 3 and with the Representative Council on June 10, and a ratification vote will follow. Following a successful ratification, the tentative agreement will be brought to the Board of Education on June 22.

The next scheduled negotiations session will be held on September 21, 2010.