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 SUBJECT: Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Comments – Budget Survey

November 11, 2008

Below are three tables. The first table includes comments written by parent(s)/guardian(s) of elementary school students (Pre-K – Grade 5), the second includes comments written by parent(s)/guardian(s) of secondary students (Grade 6 -12), and the third table includes the comments translated from Spanish. A survey number and comment may be listed more than once if parent(s)/guardian(s) have students in elementary and secondary grades.

Table 1: Comments by Parents of Elementary School Students

Survey Number	Employee Y or N	English Survey	Comments
6	N	E	Decrease funds to the administration. Why do the kids have to pay?
45	N	E	Perhaps instead of eliminating positions several programs could endure an even percentage decrease [ex. 3.5% program reduction across the board] ??
55	N	E	I think that CCSD is doing very good with all the children and teachers - good job!!
74	N	E	We love CCSD. Keep up the great work & good luck!
103	N	E	My 2nd grader already has 20 students in class, this is unacceptable!!
109	N	E	To Whom it May Concern, I am a proud parent of four children and I work very hard to pay for activities for my children. I have a son who is having problems in reading and he has to attend a class twice a week to help him. I also have a daughter who is in beginning band and plays the electric bass guitar, which by the way I paid for because the school wasn't able to provide, and she loves being in the band. I also have my nephew who is in 10th grade and has been in band since the 6th grade, he is in the marching band, jazz band and attends an afterschool program/club twice a week, and wants to play football his junior year. I took the time to write this because I feel that not that many people can afford these programs when there is a fee involved but if a child is interested in something that will help them academically, who are we to say no! I fees need to be paid; I pay them if my children show an interest it gives me the motivation to work harder to make it happen. I understand budget cuts need to be made but it has to be found somewhere else.
137	N	E	District Administration is top heavy. Eliminate excess secretaries, Regional Superintendents, regional assistant superintendants. XXXXXX never returns phone calls, avoids parents during meetings. She needs to be relieved of her position thus saving the District money. She is invaluable to my children's education. CCSD should not be a social welfare program. Money is needed at the school Levels not administration. Excessive Deans at Middle Schools should go as well. Empowerment Schools? Why select a few schools to receive extra funding John Tartan has been underfunded, staffed, and supplied since it has opened. The quality of teachers is very poor. XXXXXXXXX is still teaching even though she has admitted to a hit and run to the class, selectivity invites "chosen" children over to her home for "no parent" parties, and has shown aggressive aggravated behavior toward children & parents. She still has a job. This budget crisis might be a great opportunity to "weed the garden" and relieve some under-serving staff of their steady paychecks. Under-qualified, under worked, should all go.

Survey Number	Employee Y or N	English Survey	Comments
166	N	E	I don't understand how to answer 21-25. I do not agree to taking any more money from our schools or increasing class sizes. Our government has already taken too much from our children. Whatever happened to "In the Best Interest of the Child"??? Take the money from all the road construction that has yet to do anything productive!! If I could move out of this State to better my children's education, I would, and I was born here unlike most people.
168	Y	E	Keep # 12 by having students pay for it.
198	N	E	I hope we are all keeping our eye on the ball and educating our children is the main goal!
199	N	E	I think school & after school programs are very important for our kids. Let's give them a hand to help them become better adults...
209	N	E	Cut the 120 Mill-- from state salaries and leave our schools alone! "1st Grader" Guardian & Grandparent Don Tow??
215	N	E	I hope that someday this Nation can return to responsible parenting & teachers dedicated to the Spirit of the Vocation of Educating. I had success in schools of classrooms with 60 students. What happened
219	N	E	I have a 5th grade student at Bonner & he has 36 kids in his class now! It is not a good learning environment.
220	N	E	These are all important! I completely disagree with the proposed cuts and would like the governor to know how disappointed we are with his lack of leadership on education.
229	N	E	All schools should have the same advantages and should be equal. Better screening for new and/or out of state teachers transferring to LV.
242	N	E	Special education is an entitlement. If you cut funding for facilitators it will have to come out of the general fund for the school and decrease the quality of education for all students
252	Y	E	The East region and Superintendents region could be eliminated with their schools being absorbed into the other 4 regions. Class size increase=Low Achievement across the board. Eliminate block scheduling and department chair prep buy outs at the High School level.
253	Y	E	I am a teacher!!
279	N	E	More information of the effectiveness of the program & current funding status would be helpful (i.e. Overfunded vs. shoestring budget)
286	N	E	Strongly Disagree Keep classes as they are
305	N	E	#14 share with schools
308	N	E	Special education needs a lot of attention in my opinion
312	N	E	#25 ELIMINATE ALL
413	Y	E	Students can work @ school to save money. Volunteers can help extracurricular activities.
415	N	E	Children should not be custodians, E.W. Griffith make them clean lunch areas. (not cool) They have 2 custodians for that!! S. Meza
416	Y	E	I have targeted those above that do not directly relate to or affect classroom instruction.
418	N	E	Currently both of my children are in classes that are T1 than 16&19 - so I don't see how T1 class size would help. How about a 4day week - I heard its working in Minnesota.
420	N	E	#21-23 To increase is ridiculous & #24 walking is cruel - I have an Autistic child & it really irritates me when children who have free & reduced meals can get free tutoring. Total B.S. my Autistic child should come first for free tutoring. Instead Club 2 wanted to charge us \$200.00 a week. My husband works at Wal-Mart & I collect Social Security and my son collects SSI. But we still don't meet the criteria. Not fair. It doesn't pay to not be a minority. Although a child with Special needs should take 1st place.

Survey Number	Employee Y or N	English Survey	Comments
611	N	E	Focus should be on the students and resources needed to get them through high school.
612	N	E	#5 Kids pay themselves #21 Do not increase!
614	N	E	#22 Depends on what class. #23 for Jr. High kids We have too many administrative positions in the District as is. Too much money spent on non-teaching positions! I think the District would save an immense amount of money if the majority of parents had to supply their own children with crayons, markers, scissors, etc. This could be done like lunches and go by the families financial needs. i.e.: some schools need it school wide - others do not.
615	N	E	I think the district is way too large. It should be broken into different (smaller) districts.
616	N	E	After reading this I feel so devastated, what message are we sending our children? What will become of our future? I am extremely disappointed in our Priorities as a whole. I pray for our future. Please bring us more info on what we as parents can do to help.
618	Y	E	#14 Can be done by teachers #20 Job can be done by D. C. #23 Increase to what? Some high school classes are in the 40's and 50's already!
620	N	E	Our schools never suffer any cutbacks. If they want to cut back let them cut back their salaries. Even the CCSD offices could cut back on their pay. I know a women fresh out of college 12 years ago & her starting pay was \$34,000 a year. I don't think teachers start out that much. Our children are our future & under any circumstances should we take away from our schools.
621	N	E	Do anything but don't affect basic education
622	Y	E	Eliminate the Curriculum and Professional Development (CPD) and the Maintenance Dept. CCSD needs not to reduce and or eliminate teachers and administrators in schools. Get rid of teachers on special assignment and not make them administrators to circumvent the process of elimination.
623	Y	E	How many millions of dollars were spent on region related administrative budgets instead of region to schools?
625	N	E	Funds should be taken for the multimillion dollar casino & not from our children's education.
626	N	E	Make the Bus system pay for itself. Why don't we have a program where families pay for their kids to ride the buses? We have had to pay for gas/maintenance/our cars to transport our children for years
628	N	E	I strongly believe we should make every effort to keep class sizes small and manageable.
629	N	E	Some programs could be cut back to save but not completely eliminated! Extracurricular activities extremely important.
631	N	E	Let seniors take freshman classes if needed.
632	N	E	I put a lot of thought into each choice that I made. I only support raising class size for 1st 3rd Grade by "1" Student only.
635	N	E	#21/22 Do not feel we should increase class sizes
636	N	E	Explore option of 4 day school week!

Survey Number	Employee Y or N	English Survey	Comments
639	N	E	<p>The school could save money by not sending notices/newsletters home on colored paper (which is expensive). Better yet it could be posted on the school website 1/3 those without a computer could request a paper form. Also, all the papers coming home from school - why not have large recycle bins in the school parking lot so parents can drop-off the sheets for recycle funds. People will need to be aware of the recycle program - keep parents informed of such programs. I believe people want to help but we need to know how & what is going on. There may be other items that can be recycled for funds as well (tin, plastics, yellow pages, milk containers, H2O bottles & etc.)</p> <p>Student Council could run a contest between classes or schools to come up with money saving ideas. Young people always come up with really unique ideas when motivated. NOTE: Funds from recycle programs would need to be accounted for and the PTA or Student Council could submit a quarterly report and also inform the parents of the funds accumulated & what the funds were allocated for. Lobby for the ability to hold lotteries so funds could also be raised for our schools. I realize this has been a challenge in the past with the casinos having so much power against such lotteries, but maybe someone knows another way to approach this. Maybe parents could sign a petition?</p>
640	N	E	They shouldn't be taking money from the schools in the first place they should be giving instead.
705	N	S	We must focus on those students who crave education first, then the students that need incentives to continue in school regardless of the circumstances.

Table 2: Comments by Parents of Secondary School Students

Survey Number	Employee Y or N	English Survey	Comments
12	N	E	Should cut the most at the administrative CCSD level and break up CCSD into smaller more effective School Districts.
17	N	E	When faced with fiscal restraints, administration must make the tough decisions and implement necessary cuts wisely.
55	N	E	I think that CCSD is doing very good with all the children and teachers - good job!!
66	N	E	What about reducing waste in the maintenance & facilities departments? Cox ES had an expensive & time consuming landscape rehaul that resulted in the grass field looking worse than before the rehaul. What a waste of money! Just one example.
74	N	E	We love CCSD. Keep up the great work & good luck!
85	N	E	#21-increase by 2 #22-decrease by 2 #23-decrease by 5
86	Y	E	Questions 21 - 25 wording has changed from the first part of the survey so because of that your results may not be accurate.
103	N	E	My 2nd grader already has 20 students in class, this is unacceptable!!

Survey Number	Employee Y or N	English Survey	Comments
109	N	E	To Whom it May Concern, I am a proud parent of four children and I work very hard to pay for activities for my children. I have a son who is having problems in reading and he has to attend a class twice a week to help him. I also have a daughter who is in beginning band and plays the electric bass guitar, which by the way I paid for because the school wasn't able to provide, and she loves being in the band. I also have my nephew who is in 10th grade and has been in band since the 6th grade, he is in the marching band, jazz band and attends an afterschool program/club twice a week, and wants to play football his junior year. I took the time to write this because I feel that not that many people can afford these programs when there is a fee involved but if a child is interested in something that will help them academically, who are we to say no! I fees need to be paid; I pay them if my children show an interest it gives me the motivation to work harder to make it happen. I understand budget cuts need to be made but it has to be found somewhere else.
126	N	E	Who is the CSN tuition for?
129	N	E	Education is very important so the government should prioritize providing the best education that students can get and that would benefit the majority.
137	N	E	District Administration is top heavy. Eliminate excess secretaries, Regional Superintendents, regional assistant superintendants. XXXXXX never returns phone calls, avoids parents during meetings. She needs to be relieved of her position thus saving the District money. She is invaluable to my children's education. CCSD should not be a social welfare program. Money is needed at the school Levels not administration. Excessive Deans at Middle Schools should go as well. Empowerment Schools? Why select a few schools to receive extra funding John Tartan has been underfunded, staffed, and supplied since it has opened. The quality of teachers is very poor. XXXXXXXXXX is still teaching even though she has admitted to a hit and run to the class, selectivity invites "chosen" children over to her home for "no parent" parties, and has shown aggressive aggravated behavior toward children & parents. She still has a job. This budget crisis might be a great opportunity to "weed the garden" and relieve some under-serving staff of their steady paychecks. Under-qualified, under worked, should all go.
144	N	E	REMOVE STAFF DEVELOPMENT NOT IMPORTANT LET THEM SELF FUND #7 unreasonable gift
166	N	E	I don't understand how to answer 21-25. I do not agree to taking any more money from our schools or increasing class sizes. Our government has already taken too much from our children. Whatever happened to "In the Best Interest of the Child"??? Take the money from all the road construction that has yet to do anything productive!! If I could move out of this State to better my children's education, I would, and I was born here unlike most people.
168	Y	E	Keep # 12 by having students pay for it.
198	N	E	I hope we are all keeping our eye on the ball and educating our children is the main goal!
199	N	E	I think school & after school programs are very important for our kids. Lets give them a hand to help them become better adults...
272	N	E	Disagree to increase class sizes- Survey unclear whether increasing or decreasing class size- Please keep music and the Arts in school. Very Important!
279	N	E	More information of the effectiveness of the program & current funding status would be helpful (i.e. Overfunded vs. shoestring budget)
304	N	E	*9, 13, 14, 20- *This is too much for teachers they are going to be more busy less time on classroom!
305	N	E	#14 share with schools

Survey Number	Employee Y or N	English Survey	Comments
308	N	E	Special education needs a lot of attention in my opinion
312	N	E	#25 ELIMINATE ALL
417	N	E	Please really consider in leaving blocking schedules and athletic programs. It is very important to both teachers and students especially in high school.
419	N	E	3. Excellent! 14. Reduce by required 9 million - Setting up the survey & considering options to "keep" is "interesting"....I really hope you mean reduce that areas overall budget, not necessarily eliminate something altogether!
420	N	E	#21-23 To increase is ridiculous & #24 walking is cruel - I have an Autistic child & it really irritates me when children who have free & reduced meals can get free tutoring. Total B.S. my Autistic child should come first for free tutoring. Instead Club 2 wanted to charge us \$200.00 a week. My husband works at Wal-Mart & I collect Social Security and my son collects SSI. But we still don't meet the criteria. Not fair. It doesn't pay to not be a minority. Although a child with Special needs should take 1st place.
611	N	E	Focus should be on the students and resources needed to get them through high school.
612	N	E	#5 Kids pay themselves #21 Do not increase!
613	N	E	I believe that extra-curricular programs, sports, and college preparation is essential to student achievement. It provides extra challenges yet rewarding benefits - PLEASE KEEP THEM!
614	N	E	#22 Depends on what class. #23 for Jr. High kids We have too many administrative positions in the District as is. Too much money spent on non-teaching positions! I think the District would save an immense amount of money if the majority of parents had to supply their own children with crayons, markers, scissors, etc. This could be done like lunches and go by the families financial needs. i.e.: some schools need it school wide - others do not.
615	N	E	I think the district is way too large. It should be broken into different (smaller) districts.
617	N	E	We need sports and we need to keep the best interests of our children on the front burner. Extra-curricular programs provide a positive outlet for our children. The children are the future - they deserve the best Education possible.
618	Y	E	#14 Can be done by teachers #20 Job can be done by D. C. #23 Increase to what? Some high school classes are in the 40's and 50's already!
619	N	E	A suggestion to cut costs for maintenance/Grounds keeping Library Services, etc - offer incentives for students participation or community volunteering - or use for student disciplinary - Before & after school
620	N	E	Our schools never suffer any cutbacks. If they want to cut back let them cut back their salaries. Even the CCSD offices could cut back on their pay. I know a women fresh out of college 12 years ago & her starting pay was \$34,000 a year. I don't think teachers start out that much. Our children are our future & under any circumstances should we take away from our schools.
621	N	E	Do anything but don't affect basic education
622	Y	E	Eliminate the Curriculum and Professional Development (CPD) and the Maintenance Dept. CCSD needs not to reduce and or eliminate teachers and administrators in schools. Get rid of teachers on special assignment and not make them administrators to circumvent the process of elimination.
623	Y	E	How many millions of dollars were spent on region related administrative budgets instead of region to schools?

Survey Number	Employee Y or N	English Survey	Comments
624	N	E	School Bus constantly late and nothing is being done about it!!!
625	N	E	Funds should be taken for the multimillion dollar casino & not from our children's education.
626	N	E	Make the Bus system pay for itself. Why don't we have a program where families pay for their kids to ride the buses? We have had to pay for gas/maintenance/our cars to transport our children for years
627		E	I support reducing top end administrative positions. People who do not directly work w/children!
628	N	E	I strongly believe we should make every effort to keep class sizes small and manageable.
629	N	E	Some programs could be cut back to save but not completely eliminated! Extracurricular activities extremely important.
630	N	E	I have had 3 children go through CCSD from Kindergarten. Accountability of all staff & faculty is key to student success. The atmosphere of the entire school is set by the principal High involvement, support & accountability at the principal level creates a better learning environment for students and attracts & Keeps good teachers. Teachers earning the right to teach AP courses should be held accountable by requiring 75% of students to achieve a 3 or better on the AP exam. All the students taking AP classes are college bound and all have the ability to achieve a minimum score of 3. If AP teachers are held accountable to these standards (much like student athletes required keeping a minimum GPA), it would result in higher achievement across AP students. Teachers failing to reach this 75% of 3 or better should lose the privilege of teaching AP students.
631	N	E	Let seniors take freshman classes if needed
633	N	E	Education is the LAST place a State should make budget cuts; its not surprising that the US is behind other countries in this regard!
634	Y	E	I have watch 5 maintenance people watch 1 maintenance person dig a hole. They are always watching TV in our lounge. We need them but we can definitely raise productivity.
637		E	Keep Quality Gifted Ed. Most important
638	N	E	#6 Custodial - students should clean school grounds as a positive or negative reinforcement. #9 make sure teachers are comfortable don't assume! #12 have website that are self paced. #15 same as custodial #6 students should help to keep school clean #21-23 this contradicts the school districts pleas for more teachers! And how has it been proven that "increasing class by 1 student has <u>minimal</u> impact?" XXXX XXXXXX AAA-BBBB
640	N	E	They shouldn't be taking money from the schools in the first place they should be giving instead.

Table 3: Comments by Parents of Elementary & Secondary School Students Translated from Spanish

Survey Number	Employee Y or N	Spanish Survey	Translated Comments
52	N	S	I am in total disagreement with the decision to reduce funds for schools since, as it is, our state is the worse at the academic level. The education that is imparted in our schools is awful and this decision will only make things worse. If there is anything parents can do to improve this situation, please let us know. I am sure that if all parents contribute to support each other we will make a great difference. Please, members of the school district, before you make a decision regarding everything, I ask that you to stop and take time to think about our children and their future. I know this is not your fault, but if we can do something to improve all of this, you can count on my support and that of the other parents.

Survey Number	Employee Y or N	Spanish Survey	Translated Comments
353	N	S	I would not like for them to reduce anything, but what can we do now?
355	N	S	I am opposed to the budget reductions for the education of our children who are the future of our country. Why affect our teachers when they are like second parents to our children? Why not try to stop the senseless war in the Middle East that is wasting millions of dollars each day and costing so many lives?
356		S	Use the money from the programs to teach the kids because the professors don't teach anything here. Ok.
706	N	S	#25 I disagree. #21 - 24 I also disagree.
707	N	S	My son does sports and this program and that program helps them a lot.
708		S	I believe the reduction in educational costs is very bad since school is the foundation of each child's education and I think that the president should support education and not reduce costs in this area.
709	N	S	Parents can help with our children at home by studying with them. It's hard to find time, but if we all help we can get ahead. God bless you.
710	N	S	In order to keep schools clean you could call for volunteers from students' families several days a month per student in the evenings. Thank you.
711	N	S	I've always admired this country for having the best sport athletes and this begins in schools. I believe this should be kept up. I agree with increasing in (1) the number of students in class. I have a child in 3rd grade and they have up to 21 children per classroom. They will take away 1?