

March 3, 2010

Dear Moreland Community:

We are facing the most difficult economic times that public education in California has ever experienced. While public education comprises approximately 40% of the state budget, thus far it has been inflicted with about 60% of the state's cuts. The economy of the state has not turned around and forecasts point to a continuing decline.

For the past two years, the district has explored and implemented ways of increasing revenues and conserving expenses. Auxiliary Programs, child care and preschool have supported the school community with resources while providing the district with additional revenues. Solar panels have been added to three of our schools, generating approximately \$250,000 a year in cost savings. In addition, the district previously has made reductions away from the classroom: management positions, and clerical and maintenance/operations support. Now we are facing reductions of programs and services that will begin to impact classrooms. The lists of reductions for 2008-09, 2009-10, and those for 2010-11 are posted on the district's website. Some items on the proposed list for 2010-11 must be negotiated with the certificated and classified labor groups: the Moreland Teachers Association and Moreland's California School Employees Association. The district is currently in negotiations with these two labor groups.

Realizing that further funding cuts will come from the state, the district is seeking ideas for how to make further reductions. Please submit any ideas you would like to share to sfaser@moreland.org. On the subject line, please mark "Ideas for Reductions." The District will collect information until March 12th. A list will be formed, on which we eliminate duplication and combine-related ideas. This information will be used to make decisions about future reductions.

Thank you for continuing to support Moreland schools and our efforts to sustain the best school programs possible in these challenging times.

Sincerely,

Glen Ishiwata
Superintendent