

## Fiscal Adjustments 2008-09

### **November 25, 2008**

The existing 60-day freeze for all vacant positions was extended to 90 days. Out-of-state travel was also frozen on a system-wide level and all nonessential spending was ceased.

### **\*December 2008 Action**

In December 2008, the Board of Education agreed to return more than \$11 million in state and local funding to the state and county (\$5.47 million required by the state and \$5.7 million requested from the county).

On a percentage basis, most of the cuts were made in Central Services: 1.45 percent in state funds vs. 0.73 percent for schools. Local funding was reduced 2.88 percent for Central Services and 0.49 percent for schools. The purchase of replacement fixed assets and new buses were deferred.

### **February 5, 2009 Action**

The hiring freeze was extended through at least June 30, 2009 with the exception of classroom-based teachers, or positions deemed “mission critical.” For the remainder of the year, only terminating contracts ending in June 30, 2009, can be issued. The Central Services vacancy rate is currently between 6 and 7 %.

### **March 3, 2009 Action**

The Superintendent presented a one-year budget for the Board’s consideration. Despite the fact that 2,400 more students are projected to enroll in the system and three new schools will be opening, the amount requested is essentially the same local funding included in last year’s budget.

State and budget shortfalls predicted at that time forced the announcement that 1,496 employees with terminating contracts might not be renewed and direction was given to principals to hire up to 95 percent of the school-based positions they are being allotted for the upcoming school year.

### **\*March 31, 2009 Action**

The Board of Education voted to approve the 2009-10 budget after reducing the Superintendent’s proposal by more than \$115,000. The budget calls for 62 percent of funding to come from the state; 31 from local sources including the county and 7 percent from the federal government. This decision effectively reduced the per pupil expenditure by \$37.00.

### **April, 2009**

Throughout the month of April, staff worked to identify locally funded encumbrances and outstanding orders that were not mission critical and essential to school system operations. **On May 1**, the directive was given to reverse any such orders and encumbrances. Additionally, no expenditure of local funds for the remainder of the fiscal year is to be made for non-essential items.

### **April 13, 2009 Action**

The Department of Public Instruction issued additional funding restrictions based on a directive issued by the State Budget Director on April 9 which allows for only mandatory obligations being paid for; all purchase orders using state funds to be cancelled as of 4/16/09; all travel using state funds to be ceased; a vacant position freeze; no promotions, relocations or salary adjustments to be made and carry over funds to be severely restricted.

### **\*April 28, 2009 Action**

The Governor issued an Executive Order requiring employees funded through state appropriation to receive a wage reduction equal to 0.5% of annualized wages prior to the end of the fiscal year. In return, the employees will receive 10 hours of flexible furlough time.

### **May 1, 2009 Action**

The Department of Public Instruction notified WCPSS that an additional \$41 million reversion from the State Public School Fund is being required due to the lack of current and anticipated revenues to meet this year's operational expenses throughout state government. DPI's required reversion was increased from \$159 million to \$200 million. The reversion amount for WCPSS is \$3.9 million.

### **\*May 5, 2009 Action**

The WCPSS Board of Education took action to extend the Governor's Executive Order requiring employees funded through state appropriation to receive a wage reduction equal to 0.5% of annualized wages to all employees of WCPSS, regardless of funding source, and including salary and any local supplement.

### **June 4, 2009**

All vacant regular educational teacher assistant positions are frozen and conversions from regular education teacher assistant months will not be allowed. Notification is given that there will likely be no budget for Staff Development for 2009-10. 75% of this funding is normally allotted to schools and 25% to Central Services.

### **June 24, 2009**

All regular education teacher positions supported by average daily membership months of employment at grades 6-12 are frozen effective immediately, all teacher assistant positions are also frozen, no conversions from any teacher assistant months will be

allowed and early and extended employment for the 2009-10 school year is not allowed. No expenditures or commitments can be made for state funds for staff development or textbooks and no conversion of textbook funding will be allowed. Local funds will continue to only be used for essential goods and services and out-of-state travel will not be permitted regardless of funding source. Notification was given that mentor funding and ABC bonuses funded by the state are very unlikely for the 2009-10 school year.

**July 6, 2009**

Vacant positions remain frozen but notification is given by Human Resources that waivers will continue to be considered for mission critical positions. Waiver requests must be submitted to the area superintendents. All requests must be approved by the superintendent. Special education teachers, ESL teachers, K-5 elementary regular education teachers and CTE teachers have been exempted from the freeze.

\* - Indicates action taken by the BOE