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News Release

For Immediate Release

March 2, 2010
#09/10-176

LOS ANGELES BOARD OF EDUCATION APPROVES LAYOFFS

SUPPORTS SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS TO HELP CLOSE \$640 MILLION DEFICIT

LOS ANGELES— Faced with an impending deadline, the Los Angeles Board of Education reluctantly voted today during a special meeting to authorize the distribution of more than 5,196 layoff notices to teachers, administrators, counselors, school psychologists, librarians and school nurses.

Seeking to avert massive layoffs, Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) staff has been in negotiations with United Teachers Los Angeles (UTLA) and the Associated Administrators of Los Angeles (AALA) to seek concessions that would help cushion the impact of the looming budget deficit. However, the State Education Code requires permanent certificated employees to receive Reductions-in-Force (RIFs) notices by March 15 that would be effective at the start of the next school year.

“It pains me to see such a large number of our employees receive notices, but we do not have any other choice because we are now faced with a \$640 million deficit for the 2010-11 school year as a result of the governor’s most recent budget announcement,” said LAUSD Superintendent Ramon C. Cortines. “The cuts I am recommending are not good for our students, our employees or our schools. These budget cuts are not good for education and certainly not good for our students.”

Specifically, notices based on seniority will be sent to:

Employee Groups	Notices (Based on \$470 M, 2010-11 deficit)	Additional notices (Based on additional \$140-\$170 M, deficit from Jan. '10)	
Certificated Management Employees	2,370		
Non-perm/perm Elementary Teachers	1,393	538 (includes grades 4,5,6 class size increases)	
Non-perm K-12 Music Teachers		30	
Non-perm Secondary Teachers		291	
Permanent Support Services Personnel (counselors, psychologists, nurses, librarians)	362		
Non-Perm Support Services Personnel (counselors, psychologists, nurses, librarians)	212		
TOTAL NOTICES	4,337	859	5,196

- 1,868 permanent elementary teachers, who have generally been in the classroom three years or longer
- 63 non-permanent elementary teachers, 30 non-permanent K-12 music teachers and 291 non-permanent secondary teachers
- 362 permanent support services personnel including counselors, school nurses, school psychologists and psychiatric social workers, and 212 non-permanent employees in this category including 49 librarians. Counselor ratios will increase to 1,000 students to one counselor in middle schools.
- 2,370 administrators, primarily school-based, such as principals and assistant principals. While these employees will lose management positions, most have return rights to teaching positions.

The layoffs are a result of larger class sizes—which means fewer teachers. The proposed increases in the student to teacher ratio for 2010-2011 are:

- **Five more students in grades K-3 for a maximum of 29 children per teacher**
- **Two more students in grades 4-5 for a maximum of 33 per class**
- **Two more students in grades 6-8 for a maximum of 37 per instructor**

This growth in the number of students per teacher is above increases for 2009-2010 that allow as many as 34 students per teacher in grades 9-10 and 43 in grades 11-12.

“I am hopeful that the decisions made today are temporary,” Superintendent Cortines said. “If, however, we receive additional shared solutions from the sacrifices of all District employees, as well as additional revenue from other sources, LAUSD will rescind layoff notices, restore smaller class sizes and return essential resources and services to our schools.”

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