



# Santa Barbara School Districts

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Date: February 20, 2008  
To: Dr. J. Brian Sarvis, Superintendent  
From: Eric D. Smith, Interim Asst. Supt. of Business Services  
Subject: Approval of Process and Timeline for Implementation of 2008-09 Budget Reductions

Action Item 10 minutes

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## Background

California school districts are facing a State budget crisis of epic proportions. The following articles found in the FCMAT education headlines are representative of the struggles that most school districts are now facing:

- Novato Unified School District to cut \$4 million from \$65 million budget
- Oceanside Unified School District \$8.8 million in cuts
- Carlsbad Unified \$4.5 million in cuts
- Pleasanton Unified School District \$4.5 million in cuts
- Murrieta Valley Unified \$10.6 million in cuts
- San Ramon Valley Unified \$5.5 million from \$200 million budget
- Eureka City Schools to cut \$3.5 million
- Rialto Unified School District's to \$8.5 million for 2008-09
- San Bernardino City Unified School District to cut \$36 million for 2008-09
- Vista Unified to cut \$15 million

## Results

In an effort to address our own budget deficit, the administration has initiated ongoing discussions with stakeholders to identify where expenditures can be curtailed or revenue enhanced. Additionally, we have met with the Santa Barbara County Education Office who informed us of our need to provide them with: 1) a proposal for addressing the fiscal conditions of the Districts (i.e. the Fiscal Recovery Plan); and 2) updated financial projections for fiscal year 2008-09 and 2009-10 that reflect the actions of the Board to implement the Fiscal Recovery Plan.

With this in mind, staff has developed the following timeline for fiscal year 2008-09 budget reductions:

- Notice of release of probationary and temporary staff and approval of reduction of particular kinds of services (March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2008);
- First Reading of Fiscal Recovery Plan (April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2008);
- Second and Final Reading of Fiscal Recovery Plan (April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2008);
- Board approval of Third Interim Financial Report and Updated Multi-Year Projections (May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2008)

## Recommendation

Approve the process and timeline for implementing fiscal year 2008-09 budget reductions.

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