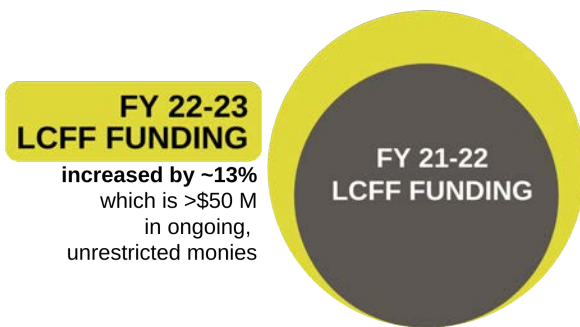


## ACE Newsletter: Oct 6, 2022

# Revisiting the Budget

The ACE School Finance Research Committee recently hosted a training on school finance. This was an opportunity for educators to learn how funding is allocated to support positive educational outcomes for students – and how educators within unionized school districts participate as equal partners in determining how money is ultimately spent in the interest of student success. **If you're interested in attending one of these training sessions in the future, reach out to us at [ace@cloviseducators.org](mailto:ace@cloviseducators.org).**

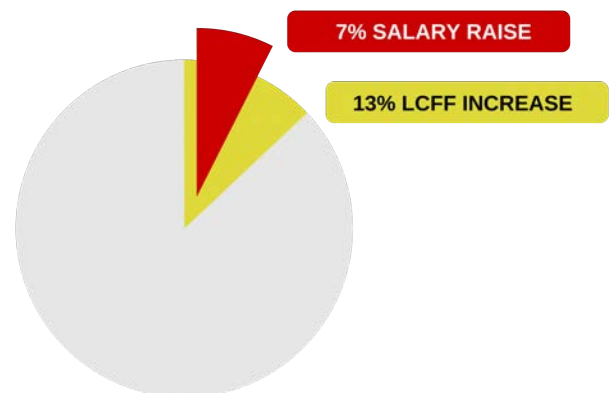
Here are some of the takeaways from the recent training and research:



We know that the largest source of funding for our district is called the LCFF, or Local Control Funding Formula, making up between 60-75% of our district's revenues each year.

**This year, we've learned that the state provided us with the largest increase (both in percent and in pure dollars) in the history of the LCFF. It was approximately 13% more than last year. For Clovis, that was an increase of more than \$50 million in ongoing, unrestricted monies.** That doesn't even include the other funding sources, which also saw unprecedented increases in ongoing and one-time funding.

This means that the 7% increase we received this year actually results in a smaller portion of the district's resources going to educator salaries. In other words, the piece of the pie – the one needed to attract and retain the excellent staff we know our students deserve – got proportionately smaller this year.



While we know that our school budgets always fall short of the incredible need, we also know that the story we hear often exaggerates the shortfall. Last year the district admin told us that the revenues weren't enough and that they would need to spend reserves.



**In the latest report, it showed that they actually added money to the reserves again: a \$2.7 million surplus went into reserves.** We also noticed that the district has changed the way they calculate the reserves to show a lower reserve level with the same total dollar amount.

These resources should be put to immediate use addressing the staffing shortages we're experiencing in classrooms across the district as well as repairing or replacing the broken and unsafe facilities around the district to improve our students' learning environment.

We also believe that the only way for the voice of professional educators to have a real and lasting part of these important decisions is to build a capable, inclusive, and independent union through ACE.

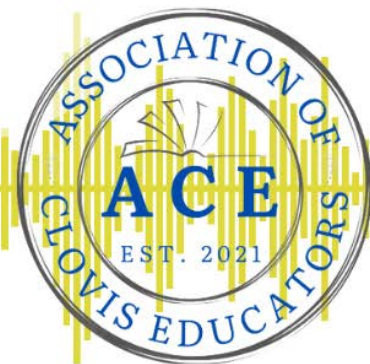
## ACE Podcast

[Listen to this week's ACE podcast!](#)

# THE ACE PODCAST

### **THIS WEEK: "RATS & SPIDERS AND TEACHING IN CLOVIS, OH MY!"**

Barbie Savage from Clovis West High School discusses her love of teaching, her journey to Clovis Unified, **and a harrowing story about her facilities that is part of why she believes that ACE is the answer.**



# From OC Meeting

ACE leaders got together this week to talk about the important work needed to get ACE across the finish line. We'd love to have you join us! Talk to your site rep, or reach out to us at [ace@cloviseducators.org](mailto:ace@cloviseducators.org)



## What's On Your Mind About...

A core value of ACE is to empower the voices of educators, parents, students, and the community. Only by building consensus around the issues can we work towards solutions.

If you have any questions or ideas, reach out to us at [ace@cloviseducators.org](mailto:ace@cloviseducators.org). You can also take our surveys on specific topics:

- [SPED SURVEY](#)
- [FACILITIES SURVEY](#) (such as air conditioning, equipment)
- [COMMUNITY SUPPORT SURVEY](#) - send this to friends and family in Clovis.

## Important Upcoming Dates

# OCT-NOV 2022

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
OCT	3 ACE Psychs MHSPs Bargaining	4	5 CUSD Board Meeting	6	7
	10 Columbus Day Indigenous Peoples' Day	11	12	13	14
	17 ACE Psychs MHSPs Bargaining	18	19 CUSD Board Meeting	20	21
	24	25	26	27	28
NOV	31	1	2	3	4
	7 ACE Psychs MHSPs Bargaining	8	9	10	11

## Contact Us

[ace@cloviseducators.org](mailto:ace@cloviseducators.org)  
[Get involved](#)

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