



ACE Newsletter: Jan 12, 2023

Welcome back and welcome to 2023!

Welcome back, we hope you had a wonderfully rejuvenating vacation! We're rested and ready to get back to work building a strong, inclusive union.

Good News for Schools in the Governor's Budget:

We recently learned that despite a "modest shortfall" in state funding, Governor Newsom is proposing to increase the LCFF (Local Control Funding Formula) for school districts next year by \$4.2 billion or **8.13%**, due largely to the level of inflation that we experienced over the past year.

The LCFF determines the bulk of the money that funds our schools and is unrestricted in how the districts use it.

Last year, the district received over \$412 million from the state through the LCFF, and this year is budgeted to receive over \$466 million, which is about 64% overall revenues in the general fund.

The important things to know here:

- **The overall budget experienced a "modest shortfall"** in tax dollars to fund the budget, but the state is prioritizing the direct education of our students over other costs.
- **There will be an increase in unrestricted, per-pupil funding**, which means that districts like Clovis that are predicting increases in enrollment will likely see a significant increase in LCFF funding.
- **This is a huge, fully-funded COLA increase.** It is the largest since the late 70s. While last year's overall funding increase was larger, that was due to both the COLA and to the augmentation that the state added on top to provide more funding to school districts under local control. This may make it look like this year's budget is small, but in historic terms, it isn't.
- **The COLA does not automatically result in an increase to salaries but can be used for that purpose.** The intent of the LCFF funding is to be under local control so the state doesn't tell us what to do with it. The design is for the district, the community, and the educators to come together to address the local realities.

This is why Clovis Educators need a strong, inclusive, and independent union to lift up our voices and have a say in the long-term solutions we need in Clovis.

Bargaining Update

- The ACE Psychologists and MHSPs have four bargaining dates this month (Friday 1/13, Friday 1/20, Monday 1/23 and Friday 1/27).
- The ACE team is working hard to win a contract that ensures our students get the mental health and special education support that they need and deserve.
- [Clovis students are speaking up](#) about their need for mental health and how the pandemic has only increased the problem and were recently [highlighted in the Fresno Bee!](#)
- The ACE team [shares all proposals publicly](#) so take a look!
- Share your support with the Bargaining Team by taking a selfie in your Spirit Gear and sharing them with words of support.

TRAINING

We've had numerous opportunities to learn about topics such as how a union functions and how to understand school finances. We have a few upcoming training as well, **RSVP by clicking here:** [February 15th Zoom SPED Training on the rights of SPED teachers in advocating for students](#)

Did You Know?

!!! Educators have a statutorily protected right to help parents/guardians of students with IEPs get services and support.

? Want to learn more about your rights?

➔ You're invited to attend:
IEP RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES TRAINING
FEB 15, 4-5 PM, ZOOM



Scan to RSVP

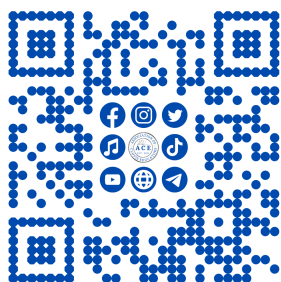
SURVEYS

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. You can also take our surveys on specific topics:

<u>CLASS SIZE SURVEY</u>	<u>SPED SURVEY</u>
<u>FACILITIES SURVEY</u>	<u>COMMUNITY SUPPORT SURVEY</u>

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