



ACE Newsletter: April 13, 2023

Spring Update

We hope you all had a recuperative and enjoyable Spring Break!

True to form, there's plenty to talk about. This week it's all about the latest CUSD Spring Update. The district shares a lot of information with us, but frankly, we think there is a lot of information they leave out that is important to understand the full story. We're going to thoroughly investigate some of their key claims, but for today, let's look at one of their biggest points that they repeat frequently: *Does Clovis receive less funding than other school districts?*

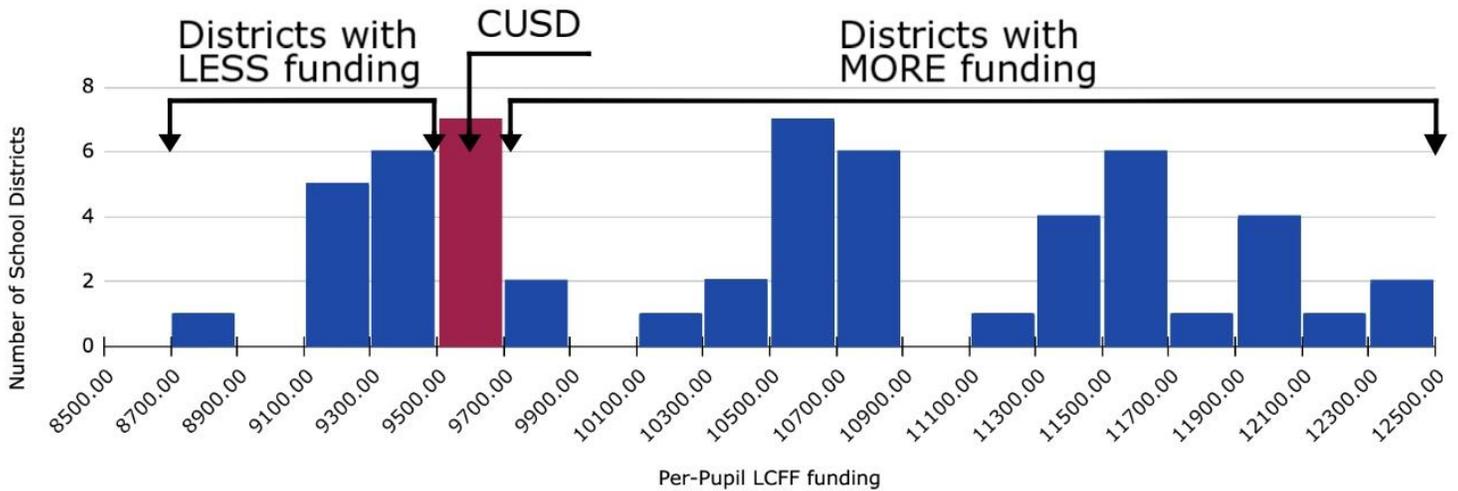
Here's a way you can research this for yourself without needing the CUSD or CTA special tools or datasets. Go to www.ed-data.org and search for Clovis, then compare Clovis to other districts. [Here's a link to a comparison we did.](#)

If we look at all Unified school districts that are large like Clovis (all those with more than 20k students in 2020-21 – the last year all data was available). **Clovis ranks 44th out of those 56 school districts for per-pupil LCFF funding.**

So the answer is, "Yes, Clovis does receive less per-pupil funding than most school districts, **but** not less than *all* school districts."

In fact, twelve large unified districts get less funding per pupil than Clovis does. That means just like Clovis, they get no Concentration funds and many of them get lower Supplemental funds.

LARGE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT PER-PUPIL LCFF FUNDING (2020-2021)



[\(Here is the spreadsheet we used for analyzing this data\)](#)

But certainly, those other school districts that get even less than Clovis per student can't afford to pay competitive salaries, right?

That's what our Administration would have us believe if we were to follow their logic. As we showed with a similar list a few months ago, all but one of these districts somehow manage to pay their employees more than us, even after our raises this year:

DISTRICT NAME	Gen Fund Rev by Object Code - 8010-8099 Rev Limit Sources/LCFF Per Student (District)	22-23 BA+60 Step 10 Teacher Salary*
Fremont Unified (Alameda)	\$9,280	\$103,888.00
Irvine Unified (Orange)	\$9,283	\$100,301.00
Tustin Unified (Orange)	\$9,394	\$98,110.00
Saddleback Valley Unified (Orange)	\$9,495	\$95,584.00
Torrance Unified (Los Angeles)	\$9,384	\$95,217.00
San Ramon Valley Unified (Contra Costa)	\$8,867	\$93,020.00
Murrieta Valley Unified (Riverside)	\$9,339	\$92,125.00
Temecula Valley Unified (Riverside)	\$9,170	\$91,515.00
Folsom-Cordova Unified (Sacramento)	\$9,413	\$88,764.00
Capistrano Unified (Orange)	\$9,190	\$86,493.00
Poway Unified (San Diego)	\$9,132	\$85,821.00

Clovis Unified (Fresno)	\$9,516	\$82,618.00
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Mt. Diablo Unified (Contra Costa)	\$9,400	\$80,845.00
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NOTE: *BA +60 Step 10 is a common point of comparison across salary schedules throughout the state.

We are not saying that we should compare our salaries to these districts. Few of us would consider moving to these districts for work. That's why we always compare our salaries to neighboring districts. **We are just looking into the question of whether lower per-pupil LCFF funding is a valid reason that Clovis has been historically the lowest-paying district in the area.**

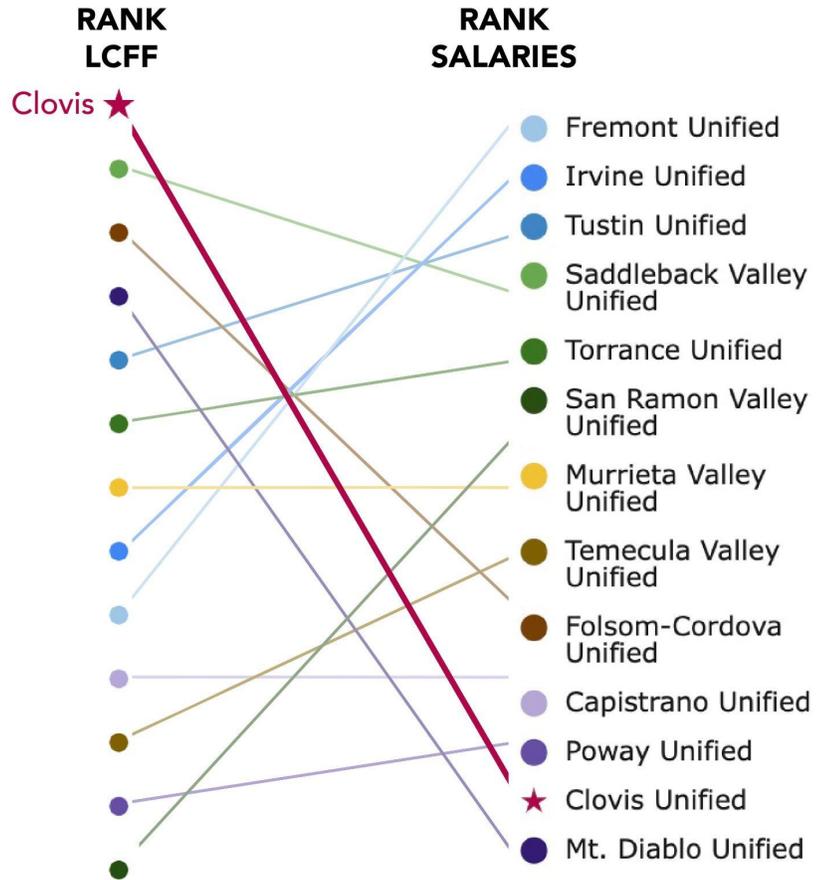
If those districts get less funding, why can they afford higher teacher salaries? Our district has told us that it is the main reason we haven't had competitive salaries, smaller classes, sufficient supplies and materials, fair and equitable stipends, or enough IAs and substitutes. In fact, we can read the answer in the district's Spring Update. The additional funding other districts get through the supplemental and concentration funds are to support their high-needs student populations, specifically English learners, foster children, and those in poverty. These students require additional support, especially when they are living in concentrated high-poverty areas.

However, when Michael Johnston says that we would receive \$146 million if we had the same level of funding as other districts, he doesn't explain how we would address the additional costs associated with the student population those funds are meant to support, including the additional programs, staffing, and facilities that are necessary for these students' higher needs.

Without those higher-need student populations, we can celebrate the relative good fortune of the students in our district and make sure we are putting the resources we do have to create the best learning environment we can without making excuses.

At ACE, we feel that it is time the district stops trying to tell us they are too poor to invest in our educators and our students. Better yet, it's time we stop taking what they say at face value and do the research and learn the facts for ourselves.

Salaries in School Districts With **Less** Per Pupil LCFF Funding Than Clovis





Do you have more questions about Clovis' finances or other topics in the Spring Update? Please reply to this email. We're going to focus our next newsletter on other aspects of the Spring Update so that we're all empowered with knowledge and have the courage to ask questions.

Calendar

April 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
		TAX DAY!	CUSD Board Meeting			
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	Psychs MHSPs Bargaining			Psychs MHSPs Bargaining		

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