

To: All ACSA Region XI Superintendents

From: John Snavelly, Ed.D., Region XI Representative to
Superintendency Council

Re: Summary of Meeting of October 23, 2008

Date: October 24, 2008

Hello Superintendents:

As you might guess, most meetings of superintendents in today's climate focus on two major subjects: the election and the economic forecast. This meeting was no exception.

STATE BUDGET

The LAO will release an economic forecast in mid-November; and at this time, it is predicted that it will show a deficit of \$3 billion in the current year.

There is great concern over the posturing by all parties of the need to call a special session of the legislature to discuss the lack of state revenue. It is believed that there is not likely to be a special session called until after December 1, 2008. Obviously, there is insufficient time to call a meeting before the election. The Governor would like to call a session in November to include outgoing members of the legislature. Both the Senate and Assembly are resistant to meeting before new members are elected and sworn in. Most likely, a special session will be conducted after the release of the Governor's 2009-2010 Budget Proposal in mid-January.

ACSA is recommending that the primary message we, in education, should be communicating to our communities is that education already took a \$3 billion cut this year. If, because of this year's funding level, you have made cuts or reductions to your school's programs, we need to continue to remind our parents and public of this fact. Additional cuts are unacceptable.

ELECTION

It is being predicted that the Democrats will pick up one seat in the State Senate and three seats in the Assembly. If this is the case, then, in the Senate, the Democrats would only need one additional Republican vote to have a two-thirds majority. In the Assembly, three additional Democrat seats would mean they only need three additional Republican votes to obtain a two-thirds majority. Not only does this give greater control of the budget to the Democrats but it, also, gives greater likelihood for veto overrides. Stay tuned.