

2010-11 Trends of District-Reported Budget Cut Trends

- 1) Staff:
 - a) Reduced administrators, teachers, paraprofessionals, maintenance, bus drivers, coaches, etc. Reductions via attrition and/or staff reduction.
 - b) Froze salaries (often for the 2nd or 3rd year), cut administrator pay, no adjustment for cost of living
 - c) Furlough days (school closed – students do not attend, staff does not come to work, no one is paid).
- 2) Classroom Impact:
 - a) Increases in class size.
 - b) Types of programs cut/reduced include: Foreign Language, Art, Language Arts, Math, Business Education, Consumer Health, Music, technology, Agriculture, Gifted and Talented, International Baccalaureate, Athletics, Alternative Programs, Special Education (SPED), Career and Technical Education, Reading Support, Math Support, Instructional Coaches, AVID program, Social Workers, Media Specialist, cut High School sports, alternative high school diploma program. Added student fees to participate.
 - c) Some districts increased the number of classes taught by teachers at high school.
- 3) District Wide Cuts, Freezes, Increases (fee to participate)
 - a) Transportation: fewer bus runs, students walk farther, eliminate mid-day Kindergarten bus.
 - b) Decreased school budgets, reduced/eliminated teacher and principal professional development programs, reduced administration and board budgets, athletic programs.
 - c) Freeze technology, textbook purchases, defer maintenance: cuts to technology (instruction, training & equipment), cuts to instructional supplies, reduce utility usage, cuts to capital reserve budgets, no textbook replacement, phase out Boys and Girls Club subsidies.
 - d) Increase fees or cut activity, technology, transportation, summer school: Charge for bus service, increase or added athletic fees, increase activity fees, eliminate or reduce summer school, charge technology fees, increase lunch cost.
- 4) Services Outsourced: food service, bus service, VNet classes. May consider outsourcing services for 2011-12.
- 5) Reduce Facilities/Closed Schools: Some closed/combined schools.
- 6) Reserves Used to Balance Budget: Almost half reported using reserves (one-time money) to balance the 2010-11 budget.
- 7) School Calendar Changes: Most districts did not decrease the school day or year. Some districts changed to a four-day week.
- 8) Budget Cuts by the reporting districts: \$187,226,058. Over 67% of K-12 students are in the reporting districts.

Source: As reported by Districts to the Colorado School Finance Project, May-September 2010. September 7, 2010 report.