Colorado School Finance Project

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Survey Results: 3 Years of Budget Cuts to Colorado School Districts

At the end of 2011, the Colorado School Finance Project (CSFP) surveyed school districts regarding their district budget reductions over the past three years (2009-10, 2010-11, and 2011-12).

Findings from school districts who responded were:

- 1. Over 70% of districts have reduced their reserves.
- 2. Furlough days (reduction of pay and teaching days) have been implemented in 15% of districts.
- 3. Districts have reduced or not increased compensation in 95% of districts for one or more years.
- 4. The number of districts moving to a 4 day week has increased 15% in the past 10 years.
- 5. Over 85% of districts have increased class size, combined grades or eliminated programs in the past 3 years.
- 6. Staff reductions:
 - a. retirement
 - b. non-renewals
 - c. program reductions
 - d. increased class size
 - e. combined grades

(No percent is available as most districts have used multiple measures for reducing staff.)