



Santa Barbara SCHOOL DISTRICTS

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January 20, 2010

Dear Home School Santa Barbara parent/guardian,

The Santa Barbara School Districts are once again forced to make large budget reductions due to further funding deficits from the state. Unfortunately one of the proposed reductions for the districts is to eliminate Home School Santa Barbara (HSSB).

During the current year, the approximate cost of HSSB is \$200,000. When HSSB was developed, the districts as revenue-limit funded districts, received funding from the state based on student attendance. The more students enrolled, including students from other neighboring districts, the more funding the Santa Barbara School Districts received. With this funding model, the districts could offer a variety of programs and alternative instructional settings such as HSSB.

As the state continues to impose dramatic deficits in funding, the districts no longer will be revenue limit funded districts but are becoming basic aid districts'. This means that the districts' funding comes from property taxes and is a set amount each year. As a result, it is no longer a fiscal advantage to enroll more students that would spread the funding per student out more thinly. In the case of the HSSB district students, our 17 elementary and junior high schools can accommodate them without incurring a cost of additional teachers.

The Santa Barbara School Districts Board of Education will be making budget reduction decisions in February. The first discussion of the budget reductions is scheduled for the February 9, 2010, board meeting.

I realize that this news is not welcomed, and I am sorry that the districts' may no longer be able to provide Home School Santa Barbara.

Sincerely,

Robin Sawaske,
Associate Superintendent for Education

Adams Elementary School Cesar Chavez Charter School Cleveland Elementary School Franklin Elementary School Harding Elementary School	McKinley Elementary School Monroe Elementary School Open Alternative School Peabody Charter School	Roosevelt Elementary School Santa Barbara Charter School Santa Barbara Community Academy Washington Elementary School	Goleta Valley Junior High School La Colina Junior High School La Cumbre Junior High School Santa Barbara Junior High School	Dos Pueblos High School La Cuesta Continuation High School San Marcos High School Santa Barbara High School Home School Santa Barbara
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