



**CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
NEWS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release

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Statement from Superintendent Dwight D. Jones regarding teacher contract arbitration decision

"The District is relieved today that the arbitrator chose our contract proposal because it will help us balance our budget, which has been cut by \$550 million over the past six years. This decision supports the District's priority to put more teachers back into classrooms.

"Over the past few years, our teachers have shown that they can do more with less, raising standardized test scores in almost every grade and every subject level. I am proud of the perseverance they have shown in difficult economic times, and I know they do it because they love our students and want them to succeed.

"At some point, though, less just becomes less. Our state has some difficult funding decisions ahead to support our efforts to increase student achievement in the Clark County School District. We cannot simply continue to cut and ask employees to do more with less.

"We will continue to work with our employee groups through this legislative session to highlight the need for a more balanced and equitable approach to funding public education."

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Background information for editors:

CCSD's final offer:

CCSD's proposal allows for hiring additional teachers at our most impacted schools. The District asked that teachers be brought into alignment with all other bargaining groups that have foregone raises – but only for the remaining half of the school year. To help offset this request, the District also asks that teachers receive an extra \$30 per month by eliminating union-imposed fees on their paychecks due to the Teachers Retiree Health Trust, which maintains high reserves and is currently used by fewer than 200 people.

CCSD called for a halt to the \$360 per year teachers are required to pay into the Teachers Retiree Health Trust putting \$30 per month back into teachers' paychecks. The District also asked to forgo the \$12.76 per month per teacher and the annual fixed payment of \$1.4 million the District currently sends to the fund.

- **SAVINGS: \$4.1 million for CCSD's budget and \$6 million back into teacher paychecks.**
- To save much needed resources that will allow us to hire teachers, CCSD proposed that any teacher who received a raise when the school year started due to automatic increases on their salary scale from working without an updated contract in place revert back to their pay prior to receiving the automatic pay raise for the rest of the school year. This will not impact first-year teachers or veteran teachers who have fully advanced on the pay scale.

This brings CCSD's teachers into alignment with all other bargaining groups who have foregone raises and shared the burden of a failing economy for years.

- **SAVINGS: \$11.5 million**

TOTAL SAVINGS UNDER CCSD 2012-2013 PROPOSAL: \$15.6 million plus an additional \$23 million next year due to teachers roll ups being based off of the previous pay-scale.

Additional Background:

Will class sizes be reduced now that the District proposal was chosen?

District-wide average class size will not be reduced immediately because returning pay to pre-raise levels half way through a school year does not provide enough savings to add a teacher to every school. However, CCSD's proposal supports adding teachers to classrooms in our most impacted areas.

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