

Community Workshop Feedback  
October 6, 2009

What does Alameda think about the strategies discussed at this community workshop?

1. Streamlining District Office 6 – Yes

- Transparency is always valuable – Operational efficiency should lead to operational efficiency
- Like streamlining process. I don't think there is much more to cut in personnel.
- It is critical to streamline the district office for cost savings.
- Follow up with what you do based on efficiency consultant input. Don't let the money spent be spent without action. Work orders definitely need automation.
- Seems like logical and appropriate efficiency improvements – thus cost savings.

2. Other Possible Cost Savings (implementing furloughs, reducing instructional days, planning CSR options) 1 – Yes 4 – No

- I am strongly against furlough, it unfairly taxes the frontline employees and “taxes” the parents on the back with extra day care etc. – Same with reducing instructional days. – I see the value of small class size as a parent however if the draconian cuts promised by the state budget I would expect the principal up to 25 students. I also encourage larger class size at 4-5 level.
- Revisit closing small elementary schools. Use the savings to keep CSR. There is a lack of equity to keep Franklin open when you could keep CSR but at fewer sites. Organize the schools as efficiently as possible.
- I believe you need to support teacher prep time, retirement, (not furloughs etc) to maintain/retain quality teachers and in terms of quality education of our young people. – Explore options for Alameda city/county support of Alameda schools (possible city tax) to offset the dollars loss from the base closure in addition to parcel tax.
- Against furloughs altogether. Negotiations with about golden parachutes to reduce salary expenses or giving credit for salary towards retirement while abiding furloughs or increased hours in a day.
- Good suggestions made during discussions. Whatever is necessary given the lack of funding especially: equalized funding for Alameda, create new revenue streams, sell/educate benefits of raising taxes – state and local.