



Office of the Chancellor
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[West Hills College Coalinga](#) [West Hills College Lemoore](#) [North District Center, Firebaugh](#) [Naval Air Station, Lemoore](#)

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

October 22, 2009

President
Mark McKean

Hello everyone,

Vice President
Bill Henry

This update is intended provide information on current efforts to reduce the budget this fiscal year and an attempt to address the rumors that are circulating concerning how we might approach the reductions anticipated to affect our budget.

Clerk
Nina Oxborrow

Steve Cantu

Edna L. Ivans

Jeff Levinson

Jack Minnite

First, the College Presidents and their staffs have addressed the spring schedule which will be significantly reduced. Their actions will allow us to save continuing education dollars this fiscal year. Second, we have continued the freeze on all positions and travel that is not grant funded. Third, we continue to have dialogue with your representatives about the budget cutting preferences you have identified. Those include no more furloughs, reductions in services, reduced contracts, and other cost savings recommendations such as layoffs. In no conversation have we talked about the need to have mass layoffs.

One option that was very helpful to us last fiscal year was the early retirement option. The option saved us more than \$1 million; however, this option will not be available to us again this fiscal year.

ADMINISTRATION

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Frank Gornick

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West Hills College Lemoore
Don Warkentin

Vice Chancellor
of Business Services
Ken Stoppenbrink

We estimate that the reductions in our budget for 2009-2010 will likely match what we did last year. As you recall, last year we did not layoff faculty, classified employees or administrators. This year may be different; however, we are not planning mass layoffs of personnel. Layoffs would be used as an option to close the anticipated budget gap. If we choose the layoff option, it would occur sooner rather than later and will be done based upon the reductions of services and programs the College Presidents recommend. The reason for implementing layoffs sooner rather than later is to allow for "negotiating the effects of the layoff", which is required for the affected staff.

It is my hope that these frequent communication pieces dispel some of the rumors which circulate and tend to cause anxiety among our employees.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Personal regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that appears to read "Frank".

Frank Gornick
Chancellor

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