

Dear Representative Mike McLane:

Today I met with my Administrative Team. We went through the process of developing a proposed budget based on \$8.0 B for K-12. This process requires us to make cuts approaching \$4 million. As a Point of Reference, we budget for a teacher at \$80,000/year (Salary and Benefits). The amount of reductions we made today is equivalent to 50 of those positions! Needless to say this was a difficult task.

While the Cut List has not been finalized, some of the losses will include:

- Teaching Positions K-12 (some in Special Education)
- Administrative positions
- Maintenance Projects (will have to be deferred as best case scenario)
- Gilchrist Track (scheduled to be replaced Summer 2017—very much in disrepair and a safety concern—and very important to the community)
- Spend down of District Reserves
- Reduction of Elementary Arts Program with Community Partners
- Technology Cuts (firewall and computer labs due for replacement)
- Reductions made to our district Alternative Programs (grades 7-12)
- Cut the district Youth Attendance Team (a partnership with KC Juvenile Dept)

The Losses to our district will be significant and are especially disappointing in this age with higher expectations, a good economy, and work that our schools have put in to show significant growth in academic achievement and graduation. Also, our district has been vigilant in addressing needed maintenance and investing in energy savings. This progress has been lost because K-12 education is not the priority it was even a decade ago. It is frustrating that school districts are being held hostage in order to increase revenue in the state budget battle.

I write to you today because you cared when our Board and I visited earlier this year. At that meeting you indicated to myself and the KCSD Board members in attendance that you would support an \$8.4B K-12 Budget. I am urging you to reject a \$7.8-\$8.0 B budget.

Sincerely,

Greg Thede
Superintendent, Klamath County SD
541-851-8766