



Educators Are Accountable! Are Legislators?

It's the same old story. The House of Representatives created a budget that restores some cuts to education and passed revenue bills. Now, the senate leadership has vowed to block those vital revenue bills. What the House giveth, the Senate taketh away.

WHO WILL SAVE OUR SCHOOLS?

The answer lies in the New Mexico House of Representatives. They are the ones we must hold accountable. All members of the house are up for re-election this year.

HOPE IS IN THE HOUSE — HERE'S WHY

Unfortunately, the budget already passed by the House has serious cuts to education. Cuts include:

- ?? K-3 Plus
- ?? Pre K
- ?? IDEAL
- ?? Breakfast
- ?? GRADS
- ?? Summer programs
- ?? After school programs
- ?? All funding for mentoring

The good news is that the house did restore 20.5 million dollars for insurance cost increases. Now, the budget is on the senate side.

IF PAST HISTORY IS ANY INDICATOR, WE CAN'T COUNT ON THE SENATE

We cannot count on the state senate to be accountable to the students of New Mexico. By the time you read this, it is more than likely that the senate will have:

- ?? Reinstated the cut of 20.5 million dollars for insurance increases.
- ?? Continued to cut programs.
- ?? Cut the student equalization guarantee that has already been cut twice.
- ?? Cut enough education funding that districts will be forced to cut people and roll back salaries.

With the exception of a very few champions for doing the right thing—the senate will probably education funding and defeat new revenue bills.

WHAT ABOUT THE ADMINISTRATIVE BRANCH OF GOVERNMENT?

The Governor says he WILL NOT support rolling back tax cuts for the wealthy. Lt. Gov. Denish says she WILL NOT support a Gross Receipts Tax increase. So where is the leadership to save our schools?

WHAT DO THE VOTERS SAY?

The plurality of voters (43%) say they would be *less likely* to vote for their state legislator if he/she voted to reduce public school funding rather than raise taxes to help balance the budget.

ALL ROADS LEAD BACK TO THE HOUSE

With the senate and the executive branch of government unresponsive, or at odds with each other, all hope lies with the house and our state representatives. We need to remind them of the job we sent them to Santa Fe to do for our schools.



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THE BUCK STOPS WITH YOUR STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Call 1-505-986-4300 today! Ask to leave a message for your state representative or email him/her now with this message:

1. No more cuts to education. Pass revenue measures instead!
2. We are counting on you to come through for the children of New Mexico and we will hold you accountable.
3. The “buck” for education funding stops in your house!

Visit www.atfunion.org to identify your state representative, if you do not already know who it is.