

**Fact Check Sheet**  
**Impact of the Governor's Proposed 2008-09**  
**Budget on California's Public Schools**

March 12, 2008

**The Governor's proposed budget for 2008-2009 would represent a cut of \$4.8 billion.**

\$4.8 billion proposed cut = \$4.4 billion in 2008-2009, and \$400 million in midyear cuts from the 2007-2008 budget.

“Schwarzenegger proposed a nearly 10 percent cut to K-12 spending in the fiscal year that starts this July — about \$4.4 billion — as well as \$400 million in cuts that could take effect as soon as this spring.”

– Associated Press, January 10, 2008.

**This cut would equate to the loss of approximately 107,000 teachers**

The \$4.8 billion cut divided by the average beginning teacher salary and benefits package in California of \$45,000  $\approx$  107,000 teachers. *Source: Salary & benefit figures from California Department of Education Report of 2006-07 Teacher Salary and Benefit Data, Form J-90.*

**The loss of 107,000 teachers would lead to a 35% increase in class sizes**

In 2006-07, there were approximately 300,000 full-time equivalent (FTE) teachers teaching 6,286,943 students, or 47.7 teachers per 1,000 students. (*Source: California Department of Education*)

Assuming loss of 107,000 teachers and the same enrollment of 6,286,943, there would be 30.6 teachers per 1,000 students.

This would represent a loss of 17.1 teachers per 1,000 students, or 35.8%.

**A cut of \$4.8 billion would equate to ...**

<b>Figure</b>	<b>Calculation Used</b>
About \$800 per student	\$4.8 billion divided by 6,286,943 students = \$763
About \$24,000 per classroom	\$800 cut per student multiplied by average class size of 30 students = \$24,000)
About \$7.6 million per district (assuming average district enrollment of 10,000)	\$4.8 billion divided by 6,286,943 students = \$763 per student, multiplied by assumed district enrollment of 10,000 students = \$7.63 million