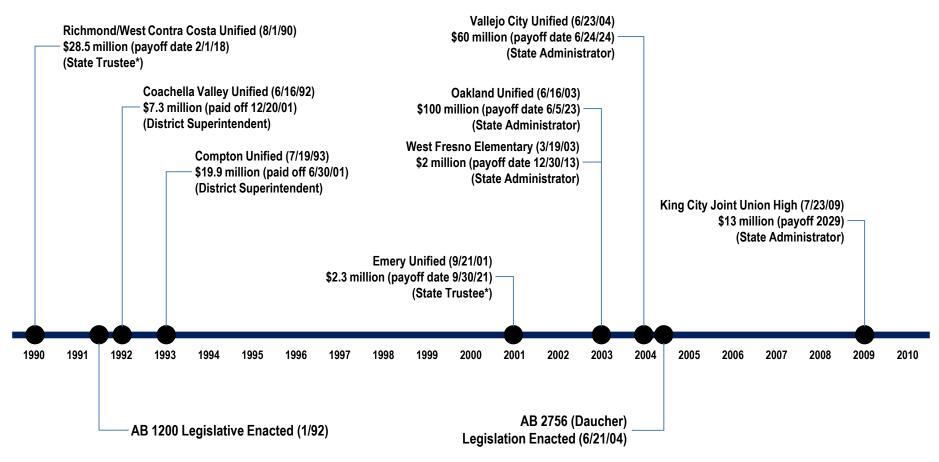
# Qualified & Negative Certification Status: *Understanding these certifications* & how to avoid them

Teri Burns, Sr. Policy Director, Policy and Programs
Jim Thomas, San Joaquin County Office of Education
John Gray, School Services of California

## **Webcast Agenda**

- What the certifications mean
- Your role
- Key questions
- Budget tools
- Best practices
- State takeover process
- Q&A

# California State Loans to School District 1990 to Present

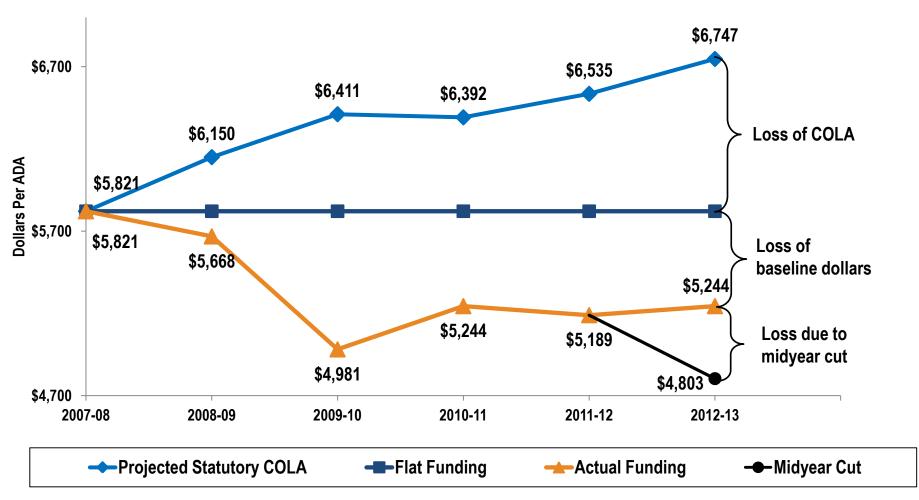




<sup>\*</sup> The state trustee shall serve until the loan is repaid (EC 41320.1)

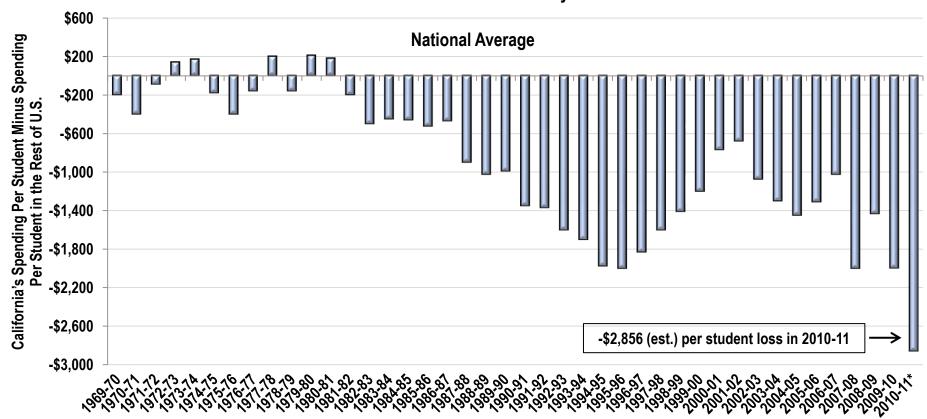
## Funding Per ADA – Actual vs. Statutory Level





# California's Education Spending Continues to Lag

California's K-12 Spending Per Student Lags Behind That of the Rest of the U.S. More Than at Any Time in 40 Years



\* 2010-11 data estimated

Note: Rest of U.S. excludes the District of Columbia

**Source: National Education Association** 

#### What Governance Teams Can Do

- Put students first in decision-making.
- Prioritize the programs in your district and identify which are most effective.
- Eliminate programs that haven't been working.
- Educate your parents and the public on the greater education funding problem.
- Engage your community in your schools.

# The 4 Questions You Must Ask at Your Next Board Meeting

- How are we working with our County Office of Education to help solve this problem?
- Where are we in the collective bargaining process?
- How will our budget change if the Governor's initiative fails or passes in November?
- What community partners are we engaging to help us through this problem?

#### Resources

- CSBA
- FCMAT (Fiscal Crisis Management Assistance Team)
- County Office of Education
- California Department of Education

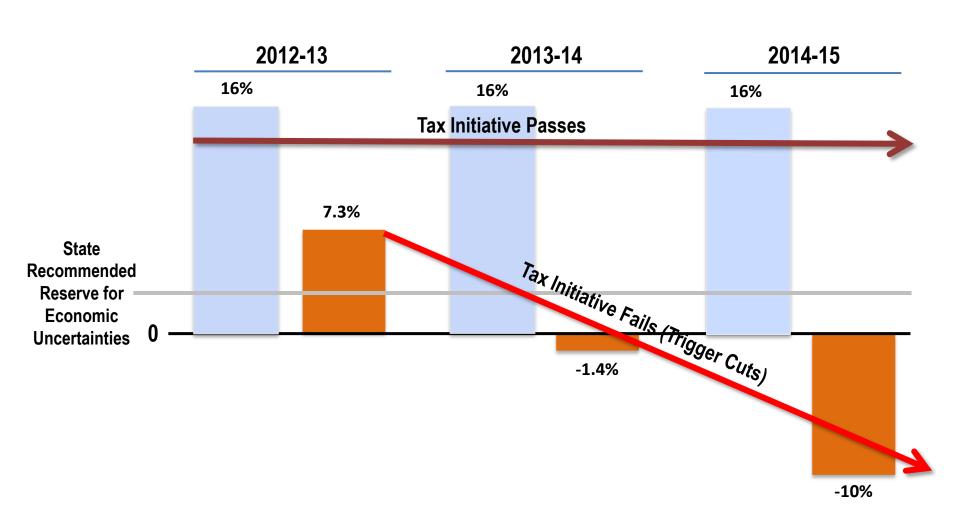
#### **Best Practices**

- Discuss your key values and how you will prioritize cuts?
- Make the cuts now ... don't put them off.
- Engage your employee organizations in the solution. They can represent up to 90% of your budget.
- Educate the public about your budget, what caused the problem and next steps.
- Engage your community.

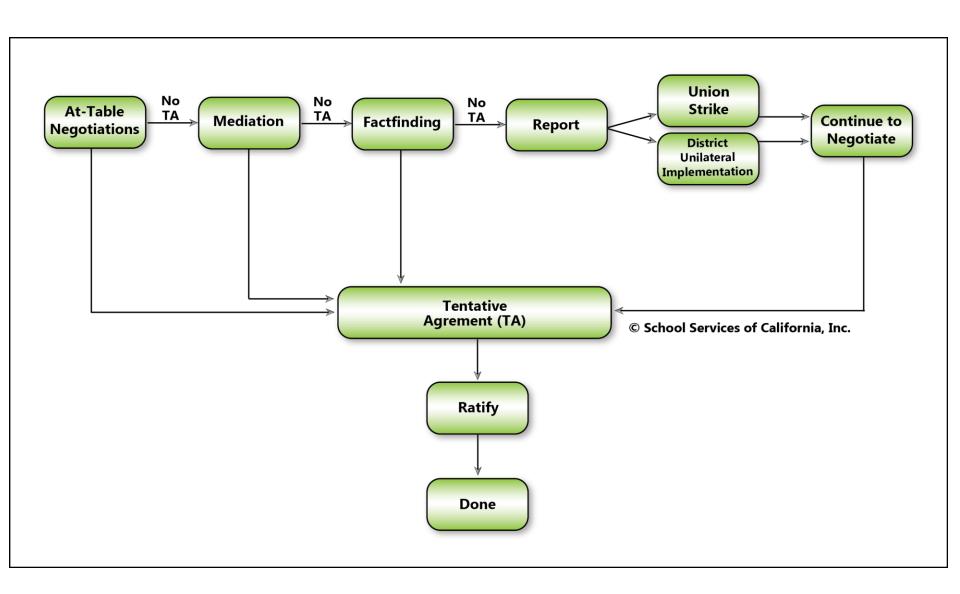
# **Anticipating the Triggers**

- Potential 15-day reduction to school year.
- Allow time for the collective bargaining process.
- Begin the notice of intent to bargain now.
- Impasse process implications and timelines.
- Cash flow considerations.

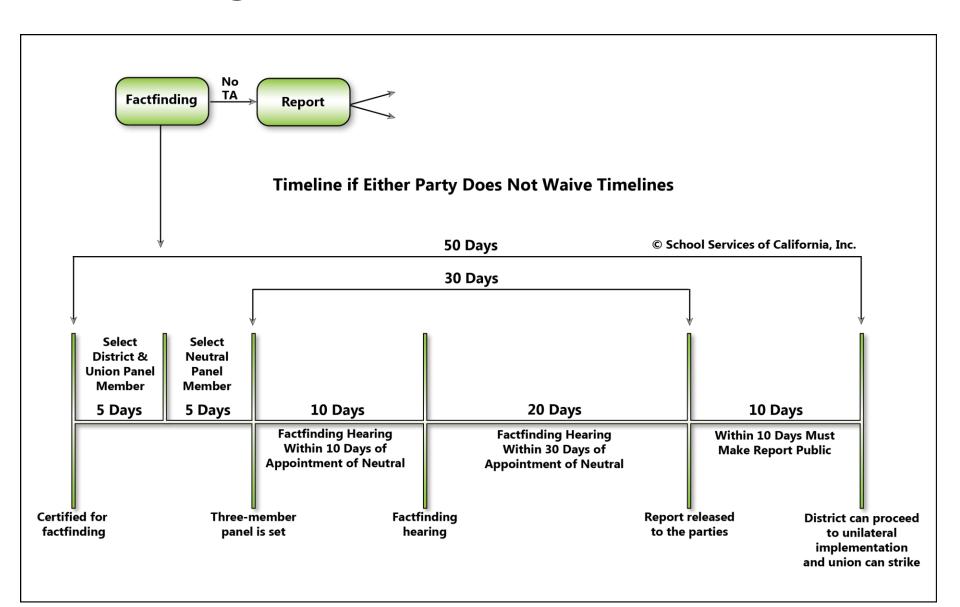
# **Ending Fund Balance Example**



# **Negotiations Process**



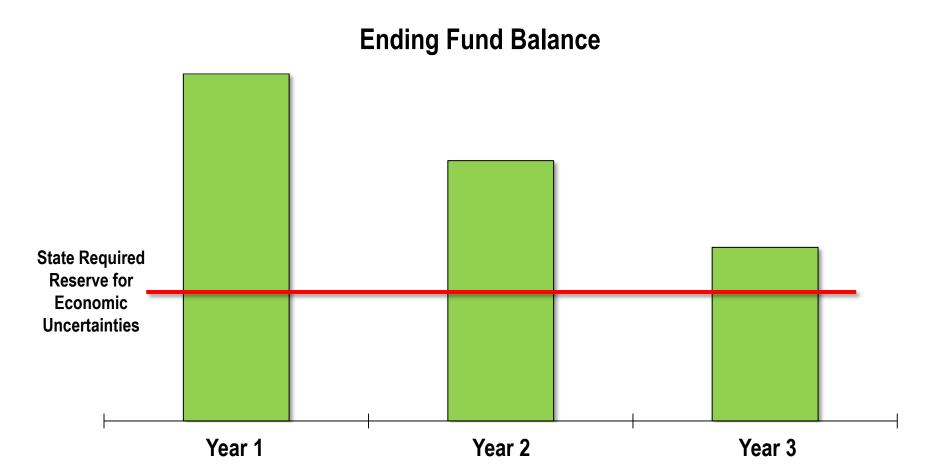
## **Negotiations Process Timelines**



#### The State Takeover Process

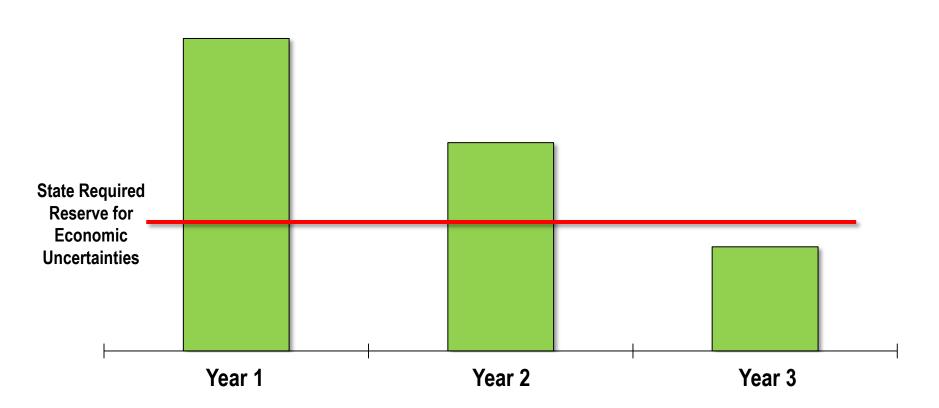
- 1. District submits its budget with its status.
- Positive
- Qualified
- Negative

#### **Positive Certification**

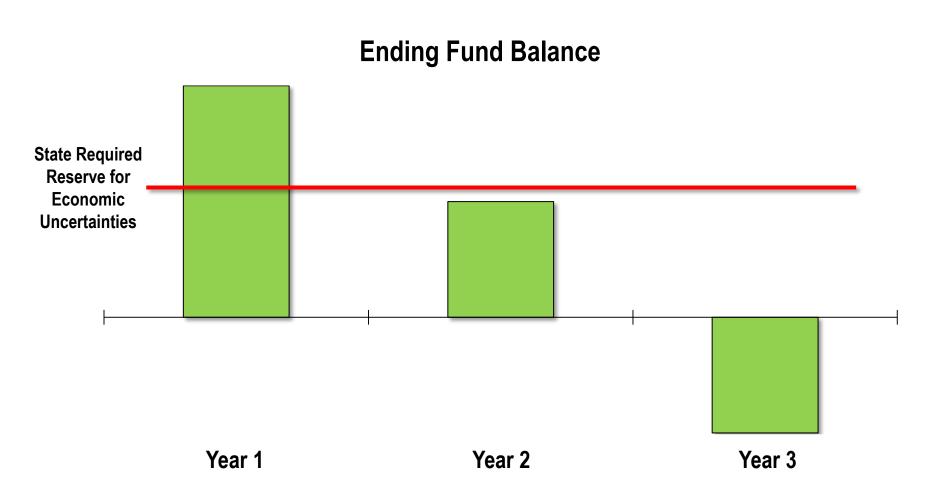


#### **Qualified Certification**

#### **Ending Fund Balance**



# **Negative Certification**



#### **The State Takeover Process**

- 2. County Office reviews budget and certifies status.
- County Office intervenes to help you balance your budget, including authority to stay and rescind purchases.
- 4. District seeks loans from inside and outside sources to maintain cash flow to support current operations.
- 5. Seek a State Loan from the Legislature.

#### The State Takeover Process

- 6. Accept State Loan and State Administrator!
- 7. Administrator runs the district at your full expense.
- 8. Administrator makes cuts in staff, programs and services.
- Budget migrates to positive status. District receives an appointed Trustee with stay & rescind power until the loan is fully paid off.

## **About Emergency State Loans**

- Option of last resort
- Requires legislation (7 loans in 20 years)
- Financed through the CA Infrastructure & Economic Development Bank (I-Bank)
- High-interest loan, pre-payment penalty, interest fees on full amount not on line of credit

# **About Emergency State Loans**

- Administrator takes <u>full control</u> of district/trustee then appointed for remainder of loan term with <u>stay & rescind power</u>
- The superintendent is fired by statue. The board becomes advisory and loses all compensation and benefits

#### **Conclusion**

- Take action.
- Accept that you'll have to make painful cuts and that the community may not approve of.
- Stay tuned for more resources and webcasts from CSBA.