

CCEA/OCAP Cost Saving Suggestions 2009

I. CURRICULUM/TECHNOLOGY/CALENDAR

1. CURRICULUM

- a. Delay textbook adoptions indefinitely.
- b. Stop purchasing programs and forgetting them (i.e. "Teaching to Your Strengths," "Thinking Maps" binders). The new reading series for the elementary schools cost approx. \$86,000 dollars for each elementary school. We were told we must use it; to box up the old series (that we liked) & remove it from the room. In late October, at our PLC meeting, we were being told by the reading specialist (formally the program specialist) that the district is now backing away from this new series (in use for 2 months) and to use whatever we feel is appropriate as long as we teach 30 minutes of "core" reading.
- c. Stop going from one program to another every time something new comes out, go back to the basics.
- d. Reduce the number of tests.
- e. Stop all staff from using so many Temporary Duty days.
- f. Eliminate all field trips that need transportation.
- g. Use grants to supplement regular school, example: The Miracle II Program in the afternoon, use it to cover basic curriculum and issue grades for it, if a child is failing math then they can take math during Miracle and pass it, it would be curriculum orientated and taught by a teacher certified in that area.
- h. ESE and ELL meetings should be held during planning times, before or after school.
- i. Limit / eliminate magazine and newspaper subscriptions.

2. TECHNOLOGY:

- a. Utilize or surplus unused technology better. There are closets full of unused perfectly good technology and we keep receiving more new stuff.
- b. Don't replace our current computers with any more of the "slim clients" just because they are supposedly more cost effective. There have been a multitude of problems with them and none of our classroom teachers are happy with them.
- c. Technology should be made available to only those teachers that feel they will utilize the equipment daily.
- d. Stop requiring every student to have a laptop available to them (at the new schools).

3. CALENDAR:

- a. Eliminate 1/2 day training days.
- b. Cut back on planning days during the year.
- c. Go to 4 day work weeks.
- d. Do away with Summer School.
- e. Start school after Labor Day and end before Memorial Day.
- f. Increase instructional time each day and reduce the number of days schools are open.

II. PURCHASING/PHYSICAL PLANT

1. PURCHASING:

- a. Warehouse - Instead of each art teacher buying paint from a vendor, the county could buy the paint for the district and we could save by economy of scale.
- b. Check the invoices from the outside purchasing system. I recently bought some classroom supplies at Target. When I asked if they had a tax exempt number for the school district, the cashier said yes. She promptly scanned a bar code from a large binder, asked me to sign and then was about to ring up the next sale. I realized she had not swiped my credit card. She said she thought the district was paying for the items!
- c. Have the Admin. Purchasing Staff and the Administration in a building practice
- d. Require instructional, teacher and department supplies inventories to be developed, maintained, submitted and reviewed prior to schools and departments releasing FY budgets and ordering.
- e. Discontinue the allowance of year round purchasing.
- f. Implement a spending freeze. Recall unspent budget monies before the end of December.
- g. Streamline purchasing vendors. Archive all vendors unused in the past five years.
- h. Create a valid vendor bid list with strict guidelines for purchase requisition requests and require ordering only from that list.
- i. Create consequences for unacceptable purchasing and actually enforce the consequences.
- j. Eliminate vendors who supply the same or similar products.
- k. Discontinue leasing HP Computers.
- l. Streamline and monitor the Maintenance Departments purchasing process
- m. Implement a computerized system for cross checking purchases and payments made on the District Purchasing/Credit Cards.

2. PHYSICAL PLANT:

- a. Remove the 9 portables at Gulf Coast HS that cost money & send the students who are presently being transported 18 miles round trip to GCHS and instead send them 4 miles round trip to GGHS.
- b. Use toilet paper rolls completely (don't throw our partials). If there is an issue, leave an extra roll for the teacher.
- c. Classroom paper towels are much cheaper - means we have to use more - quality was replaced with quantity.
- d. Regulate the AC/Heat in the classrooms.
- e. Reduce the number of outside lights left on over night at the schools.
- f. Use energy wisely in their classroom/building
- g. Make sure busses are filled to capacity.

- h. All teachers need to vacate the buildings by a certain time so power usage can be less.
- i. Have energy efficient contests or recognition among schools. Get students involved through this competition.
- j. Eliminate grassy areas on campus that require watering and mowing.
- k. Change all the light bulbs to energy saving bulbs.
- l. Add solar panels to the roofs of the school.
- m. Make the bus stops fewer with the children consolidating.
- n. Put school lights off earlier at night and later in the morning.
- o. Advertising - using the buses to advertise
- p. Remove portable buildings from schools and re-district to fill the under enrolled schools.
- q. Close under enrolled schools and combine to Kindergarten through 8th grade.

II. PERSONNEL/ADMINISTRATION/OTHER

1. PERSONNEL:

- a. Every district administrator should sub 2 days a month.
- b. Eliminate "Teachers on Special Assignment.
- c. Cut all 250 day employees down to 230 day contracts.
- d. Remove deans from middle schools and elementary schools.
- e. Give ESE assistants in the classrooms the option to also be an aide on the ESE busses.
- f. "Opt days". This entailed teachers having the option to work 1 or 2 days prior to school opening without pay. Then, during the school year, on a Teacher Planning Day, they could take off the 1 or 2 days they worked.
- g. Offer comp hours that can be used on Teacher Duty Days. They are not paid for staff development but these comp hours offer them the opportunity to take off on Teacher Duty Days without it being charged to sick leave or personal leave. Hours do not carry over from year to year but are accrued throughout the school year.
- h. Freeze the wages of all employees who make \$100,000 or more.
- i. Early Retirement Incentive
- j. Have the superintendent take a 100k pay cut. (he'd still make 140k)
- k. Allow all staff to take a voluntary pay decrease.
- l. Reduce the administrator's salaries by the amount of raises they received over the last 2 years.
- m. Make more admin cuts at the district level
- n. Cut Plant Operators' time back, they no longer have to supervise the custodians.
- o. Limit conference Registration to register ONLY at the early registration fee.
- p. Attendance incentive

2. ADMINISTRATION:

- a. Discontinue the printing of paychecks - make direct deposit mandatory.
- b. Survey CCPS staff to see who has options of being covered on another family member's insurance and would be willing to do so if a stipend was offered.
- c. Encourage PTOs that raise money to "treat teachers" to breakfasts etc. to meet with the principal of the school and earmark money for materials or staff that will be or may be needed.
- d. Join with a group of government employees such as the State of Florida or Collier County for Health Insurance.
- e. Grant writing - use more staff to write for Grants including administration at MLK.
- f. School choice - stop it completely unless the parent wants to transport the child.
- g. Re-instate the Production Center.
- h. Sports - use the Boosters/parents/students to work events.
- i. Band - have boosters finance buses for them to attend the ball games.
- j. Do not approve DROP continuance for employees requesting 3rd or more year renewal. Restructure Administrative & other Departments when Exec. Directors/Dept. Heads retire.
- k. Postage – utilize the PONY & students when possible

3. OTHER:

- a. Do away with the TV station we have.
- b. All schools consider participating in General Mills box Tops for Education, Campbell's Labels for school equipment and Nestle Pur Life Water Bottles.
- c. Baby sitting in schools needs to stop unless it can fund itself.
- d. Develop and require all CCPS entities to participate in recycling for dollars.