

March 7, 2008

Dear Friends of Mira Mesa High School:

The budget crisis of the State of California has trickled down to our school and our children. As most of you know, our school site has been asked to trim over \$500,000 from our present school budget. This is in addition to over \$900,000 that we have already trimmed from our school budget since 2002. In essence, we have lost over 1/3 of our operating budget in five years, yet Mira Mesa has continued to be a "performing school" according to state standards, and one of the highest performing schools in the San Diego Unified School District. With the present round of cuts, this standard will be very difficult to maintain.

This current funding problem starts with our governor, then with our state representatives, and finally with our local school board. At the end of this letter, I have printed the names of all of the people you can contact to voice your opinion on proposed budget cuts. It is important that you let your voice be heard.

Mira Mesa High School ranks number four in our district, of high performing high schools. Yet, we receive the lowest amount of money per pupil of any of the high schools in the district. You can draw your own conclusions, but the bottom line is that Mira Mesa High School will have a very difficult time maintaining its ranking as a high performing school if our funds continue to be cut. This is a local district issue and I urge you to let Mitz Lee, our local school board representative, know that this is no longer acceptable.

The Mira Mesa High School Foundation was established as a vehicle to raise and accept funds and for Mira Mesa High School and its programs. Please take the time today to check with the HR department where you work and find out if your company: 1) makes donations to schools or 2) matches your donations to the schools your children attend. The MMHS Foundation is a 501 (3) (c) non-profit charitable organization with a federal tax ID number. If your company needs more information, they can contact me at MMHSfoundation@att.net, miramesahighschoolfoundation.org, or (858) 578-4110. You can also make personal donations to MMHS on our website. All funds collected by the Foundation are returned to school programs. If you designate exactly where you want your donation to go, i.e., arts, specific sports teams, music, science, etc., the money will be given directly to those programs.

The Foundation also has our annual Taste of Mira Mesa, a fundraiser, on April 1, 2008, at Gen-Probe in Mira Mesa. (See information on this website). Please join us for a fun evening, and a show of support for our high school. You must pre-register for the event, and you can do so at: miramesahighschoolfoundation.org. Registration is \$20 per person. There are 15 local restaurants will be there with their food, and to date we have collected over \$10,000 in donated items for our silent auction.

The people listed below are the people who are responsible for making the decisions that will determine the future of all of our schools in Mira Mesa. Please contact them and let them know how you feel. Time is of the essence. Write and/or call today.

Sincerely,

Kathy Madsen
MMHS Foundation President

San Diego Unified School District Board, District A - Mitz S. Lee. Vice President Board of Education, San Diego City Schools, 4100 Normal Street, Room 2231, San Diego, CA 92103-2682. Board Office: (619) 725-5550, Home: (858) 537-3432, Office Fax: (619) 297-5624,

Email: mitz@mitzlee.com or board@sandi.net. Web site:
http://www.sandi.net/board/boe_members.htm#lee.

State assembly, 75th District: George Plescia, 9909 Mira Mesa Blvd. Suite 130 San Diego, CA 92131 Phone: (858) 689-6290 Fax: (858) 689-6296, e-mail: Assemblymember.Plescia@assembly.ca.gov; Web site: <http://republican.assembly.ca.gov/members/index.asp?Dist=75&lang=1>; Capitol office: State Capitol, P.O. Box 942849, Sacramento, CA 94249-0075, (916) 319-2075.

State Senate, 39th District: Christine Kehoe, San Diego District Office 2445 5th Ave., Suite 200, San Diego, CA 92101, (619) 645-3133, Fax (619) 645-3144, email: senator.kehoe@sen.ca.gov; Capitol Office: State Capitol, Room 3086, Sacramento, CA 95814, (916) 445-3952, Fax (916) 327-2188, Web site: <http://dist39.casen.govoffice.com/>.

State Senate, 36th District (including northeast Mira Mesa): Dennis Hollingsworth, State Capitol, Room 2048, Sacramento, CA 95814, Phone: (916) 445-9781, Fax: (916) 447-9008, e-mail: senator.hollingsworth@sen.ca.gov, Web site: <http://republican.sen.ca.gov/web/36/>.

Governor: Arnold Schwarzenegger, State Capitol Building Sacramento, 95814, Ph. (916) 445-2841, Fax (916) 445-4633, Local office: 1350 Front St., Suite 6054, Sixth Floor San Diego 92101 Ph. (619) 525-4641; Web site: www.governor.ca.gov.