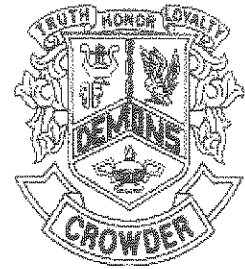


CROWDER PUBLIC SCHOOL



Bond & E. Street

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March 2, 2016

To: Parents and Community

From: Robert Florenzano, Superintendent

Re: Budget Cuts

As you all may have heard on the news, state school budgets were reduced this year by 3% in January with another 3% cut expected by the end of the school year. Right now, with this additional 3% in cuts on the way, the loss of funding for us is expected to be around \$138,000 by the end of the 2015-2016 school year. Next year we are looking at additional cuts ranging from \$162,800 to \$272,690 in funding for Crowder School District. With the State of Oklahoma reporting a revenue failure of \$1.3 billion, next year's school budget does not look good. While we are trying not to over-react, we have to be prepared for a considerable loss of funding.

We are looking at several options to absorb these cuts. Some of these include:

- (1.) Consolidate a bus route.
- (2.) Cut Speech Pathologist to part-time.
- (3.) All administration will be teaching next year as needed to help fill teacher loss in the classroom.
- (4.) Any resignations/changes in staff will be carefully reviewed to determine the need for replacement.
- (5.) Dissolve the Woodshop class.

Total savings from these cuts is around \$115,000. This is nowhere near what the cuts are projected to be during the 2016-2017 school year. We have also looked at a 4-day week but, after weighing all the factors, it would not be in the best interest for the school at this time.

We have to be prepared, as school districts throughout the state are preparing, to take all programs, personnel, technology, supplies, materials, extracurricular activities, and transportation into consideration when making cuts. As always, we are trying to provide the best education for your child. We will strive to make decisions and cuts that have the least impact on your child's core classes and academic instruction.

From 2010 to 2016 the Oklahoma Legislature has reduced state appropriations to the funding formula for Oklahoma schools and classrooms in the amount of \$1,243,657,483.69. If these budget cuts and shortfalls continue, few school districts will be able to address and survive the cuts. We are watching several bills that could impact Public Education Funding. Show your support for education by contacting your State Representative and letting them know your concerns. Encourage him or her to support education. This is a time when we all need to pull together for the betterment of our schools.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call or come by my office.

Robert Florenzano, Crowder Public Schools Superintendent

Office: 918-334-3203