



### **Budget Update**

State Budget Workshop – On January 17, the State held a Budget Workshop for community colleges. A few highlights of the Governor’s proposed budget, include:

- .86% COLA
- 3% enrollment growth/restoration
- \$200 million system-wide augmentation for continued expansion of Student Success and Support Programs
- \$235.6 million in budget-year funding to pay down deferrals, combined with \$356.8 million in one-time funds for this purpose, would completely eliminate the system’s inter-year deferrals.

This is the first official step in the budget cycle which will continue through the summer.

### **Finance/HR/Payroll Demonstrations**

The first vendor demonstrations for the new Finance/HR/Payroll systems were held the week of January 6-10. Members of the Finance/HR/Payroll Steering Committee and Evaluation Teams attended the detailed demonstrations. This project, identified in the Technology Plan, has a goal of significantly improving processing and accessibility of information through integrated administrative systems.

### **Districtwide Facilities Update**

- Work continuing on the Space Standards to finalize phase 1
- Starting work on phase 2 of the standards which includes specifications
- Supplemental EIR’s for both campus are ongoing. A public hearing for each EIR was held last month and there were no comments from the public
- Selection for architects for the following projects are pending interviews to be scheduled for later this month:
  - Grossmont College Performing Arts Center and Fine Arts complex
  - Cuyamaca College Student Services Buildings
  - District Services, Chancellor, Governing Board, and Community Center
- We are nearing completion of the facilities renovation for the District Facilities and Gafcon teams. This includes moving the Foundation for Grossmont & Cuyamaca Colleges (FG&CC) to a new location which helps build smoother transitions between the Auxiliary Organization and FG&CC.

### **PEAR – Transition of Part-Time Retirement Plan to County 3121 Plan**

Employees not eligible for PERS or STRS (usually part-time workforce) participate in a Social Security alternative Pension Eligible Alternative Retirement Plan (PEAR) that allows them to have a specific account set aside for their retirement funds. The District has provided the PEAR Plan since 2001.

As of December 31, 2013, the District began the transfer of assets from the previous self-directed PEAR Plan to the San Diego County Office of Education 3121 Plan. This will provide improved services to members, reduce costs to the Plan funds, and remove the risk of market fluctuations which have reduced balances in prior years.

## **District Audits**

This docket includes five audits, each one with an unqualified opinion and no findings or recommendations. This is a reflection of many people across the District paying attention to details, following regulations, and assisting with documentation and questions during the auditor's review.

## **District Holiday Luncheon**



The annual **District Holiday Luncheon** was held on December 12. As they do each year, the District Warehouse staff turned the warehouse into a festive winter wonderland. Great fun and food were had by all, including a surprise visit from Santa!

## **Welcome to District Services**



Welcome to **Paul Wassmer** who joined the Purchasing & Contracts Office as the new Contracts Specialist on January 6. Paul has over 25 years of experience in the Purchasing and Contracts field and most recently worked for the Naval Medical Center.

Stop by the Purchasing & Contracts office and say hi to Paul!