

RESOLUTION NO. 32:07-08

**RESOLUTION OF THE SADDLEBACK VALLEY
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REJECTING THE GOVERNOR'S PROPOSED
ACROSS-THE-BOARD BUDGET CUTS**

WHEREAS, the Saddleback Valley Unified School District Board of Education hereby rejects the Governor's proposed across-the-board budget cuts and adopts the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, the state budget proposed by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger is a giant step backward for our students that would create chaos in our public schools with cuts of historic proportion that would derail the progress and threaten the education of millions of California students; and

WHEREAS, on average school district funds will be cut by \$7.76 million to \$15 million per district; and

WHEREAS, against great odds, California's educators have witnessed how our students and schools, despite being constantly asked to do more with less, have been making progress, with overall reading scores up 25 percent and math scores increasing 17 percent in the last four years; and

WHEREAS, *Education Week* now ranks California 46th in the nation in per-pupil spending, at nearly \$1,900 below the national per-student average, while the state also has some of the largest class sizes in the country and ranks dead last in the number of counselors, school nurses and librarians per student; and

WHEREAS, California's educators, school board members, administrators, superintendents, school employees and others are outraged that in the self-proclaimed "year of education," the Governor's proposed budget would slash \$4.8 billion from our public schools over the next 18 months – including devastating midyear cuts of \$400 million – and would decimate the state's minimum school funding law, Proposition 98, which voters approved in 1988 and reaffirmed their support for in 2005; and

WHEREAS, slashing the monumental sum of \$4.8 billion from California schools is the equivalent of laying off more than 107,000 teachers or 137,000 education support professionals; or gutting per-student funding by more than \$800; or cutting more than \$24,000 per classroom statewide; or increasing class sizes statewide by as much as 35 percent; and

