

UTLA BARGAINING

FLASH



April 10, 2008

0% makes zero sense

District officials are using next year's budget shortfall to justify not giving you a raise this year. Here's why their numbers just don't add up:

■ Where did the COLA go?

LAUSD received a 4.53% cost-of-living adjustment from the state for 2007-2008. Where did that money go?

■ How can other school districts give raises?

Other school districts—like nearby Long Beach*, Burbank, Glendale, and Pasadena—are giving employees raises this year to help their income keep pace with inflation. If they can afford it, so can LAUSD.

■ What happened to the \$700 million surplus?

LAUSD reported a year-ending surplus of \$700 million to the state for 2006-2007. Where did that money go?

■ What is LAUSD doing to trim bureaucratic fat?

District officials think it's fine and dandy to hide behind the state fiscal crisis to deny you a hard-earned raise, but what are they doing to balance the budget so it doesn't impact the classroom? LAUSD officials tell UTLA leaders that they want to shield the classroom from cuts. If that's true, how about dedicating the next "LAUSD Special Report" to a detailed accounting of how they are going to do that? The plan must include dismissing high-priced consultants, trimming excess administrative costs, dramatically reducing the local District budgets, and cutting any and all costs that don't directly support our schools and our students.

**In the Tentative Agreement stage.*