



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
**WASHINGTON SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF**

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Dear WSD Parents,

Governor Gregoire recently issued Executive Order 10-04, which reduced all state agency budgets by 6.3% on October 1st. For the Center on Childhood Deafness (CDHL)/Washington School for the Deaf (WSD), this equals \$552,000 from our current school year budget. In addition, we are required to submit a plan for an additional 3.7% (total 10%) reduction of our proposed budget for the next two years (2011-13).

The CDHL/WSD Board of Trustees met October 1 and approved a reduction plan that was developed by the Leadership Team. Most of the items in the plan will have little visible impact on the day-to-day operation of the school from the standpoint of students and parents at WSD. One key component of the plan, however, is the inclusion of 6 "furlough" days for all staff. This means school will be closed November 22 - 24, 2010, and June 1 - 3, 2011.

Schools in Washington are required to have 180 days of instruction each year. An alternative way to meet this requirement is to provide 1000 hours of instruction. WSD's regular calendar provides well over the required number of hours due to fewer days of in-service and parent conferences than public schools. With the reduction of the 6 furlough days, WSD still meets the requirement for 1000 hours of instruction at all grade levels.

The Administration has met with all staff to share the details of the reduction plan. Social studies teachers in the secondary program are meeting with students to discuss the current economic crisis in the state and the impact it is having on WSD. We are taking advantage of the opportunity to help students gain some important insights on government and on budget management.

Enclosed is a revised school calendar reflecting the changes identified above. -To view the complete 6.3% and 10% budget reduction plans, go to the WSD website at [www.wsd.wa.gov](http://www.wsd.wa.gov) and look under "Board of Trustees," or contact me at 360-418-0402 (voice/relay), 360-334-5448 (VP) or [jane.mulholland@wsd.wa.gov](mailto:jane.mulholland@wsd.wa.gov) and I will send you a copy. I am available to talk with you by phone or in person and I welcome your questions and comments.

These are challenging times for the state and for the citizens in Washington. More reductions may occur as we move through the school year depending on state revenue collections and the outcome of the November election. We are doing our best at WSD to continue to provide the best programs possible for our students within the resources the Legislature gives us. -We treasure the support and advocacy you, as parents, provide for the school.

In partnership with you,

Jane Mulholland  
Superintendent