

Top 10 Important Public School Funding Facts *Understanding How We Pay for our Children's Education*

- 1) Property tax payments, paid by the owners of homes, multi-unit housing complexes, and businesses, do not cover all of CUSD's funding needs.
The State of California controls the budget for public education.
- 2) CUSD receives an amount per student lower than every neighboring district.
We get approximately \$7,721 per child, well below the state average of \$10,291.
- 3) School districts are service organizations; 86% of CUSD expenses are for people.
CUSD values its employees, and staff hiring and retention is a priority.
- 4) With parent support, CUSD schools do an amazing job despite this lack of funding.
Our students perform in the top tier of schools in California, with 87% meeting or exceeding state standards.
- 5) CUSD is undertaking a comprehensive strategic planning process to align curriculum, instruction, human resources, and facilities to better prepare our students.
This is a collaborative process with educators and community members.
- 6) The 21st Century requires a fresh approach to teaching and learning.
We have a unique and timely opportunity to address structural challenges in an educational system designed for a very different era. We can do more with more!
- 7) CUSD still has a structural deficit that is being addressed with budget cuts.
We want to, at a minimum, maintain the staff and programs we have today.
- 8) Undertaking new initiatives will require even greater resources to be successful.
The current funding gap makes it even harder to fulfill our strategic vision.
- 9) Given the state control, there are only limited ways for CUSD to increase funding.
These include parcel taxes, bond measures, and private fundraising.
- 10) This is why CUSD and the Cupertino Educational Endowment Foundation (CEEFF) have launched CUSD25 to build district-wide fundraising.
We need a team – a coalition of all schools, parents and the larger community!

We're in it Together!