

California collected about \$1.4 billion less than it projected it would in December. To help avoid hundreds of millions in cuts next fiscal year, LAUSD may look at a parcel tax, while other stories look at districts in the Torrance area and San Bernardino and their fears about looming state cuts. Meanwhile, an Education Week column by two representatives from conservative foundations is claiming U.S. teachers are overpaid...

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THE

HEAR AND NOW: Quotes From The Clips

"At this point, after having sustained budget reductions year after year after year, we're getting to the point where it's going to be difficult not to impact programs."

--- **Janet Redella**, Redondo Beach Unified's chief business official, on looming state cuts making it hard for her district to protect programs anymore (see story # 2).

"I see kids in tears (from stress). I feel like there would be a sigh of relief."

--- Peer resource adviser **Adee Horn**, who supports a cap on the number of AP courses that students can take at high-achieving Lowell High School in San Francisco (# 12).

"Despite lower operating costs, the online companies in some states collect nearly as much money as brick-and-mortar charter schools. In Pennsylvania, for example, the per-student cost for online charter schools was about \$10,000."

--- **New York Times** editorial calling for better monitoring of U.S. online charter companies (# 8).

[1/ California controller says December revenues missed mark](#)

(Sacramento Bee © 01/11/2012)

SACRAMENTO -- California missed its December revenue target by \$1.4 billion due to weak income tax totals, closing the first half of the fiscal year down \$2.5 billion compared to the budget enacted in June, according to state Controller John Chiang. That gap isn't a huge surprise, given that the June budget was overly optimistic. Gov. Jerry Brown said last month that the state budget would fall...

[2/ State budget worst-case scenario could batter school districts such as Torrance](#)

(Torrance Daily Breeze © 01/11/2012)

TORRANCE -- Nobody wants to gamble when the best-case scenario means you break even and the worst-case scenario means you lose millions. But that's essentially what Gov. Jerry Brown's tax-increase proposal means for school districts in the South Bay and beyond. Then again, California's lasting economic slump may leave little choice. Unveiled last week, Brown's proposal calls for reducing already b...

[3/ San Bernardino school trustees brace for big cuts](#)

(Riverside Press-Enterprise © 01/11/2012)

SAN BERNARDINO -- San Bernardino City Unified School District trustees on Tuesday were advised to prepare to make significant cuts to the district's 2012-13 budget based on the proposal that Gov. Jerry Brown released last week. Brown's plan calls for an estimated \$4.8 billion to be cut from education if voters reject a November ballot measure that would increase income tax on the wealthy and sal...

[4/ L.A. officials weigh local school parcel tax on top of state measure](#)

(Los Angeles Times © 01/11/2012)

LOS ANGELES -- Los Angeles schools Supt. John Deasy on Tuesday outlined what he termed a “risky” strategy to balance next year’s budget that would include asking local voters to approve a parcel tax and voters statewide to favor a separate tax increase. Barring the success of both measures, the district faces hundreds of millions of dollars in cuts -- the latest installment of a multi-year budget crisis that ha...

[5/ Officials call for plan to increase L.A. Unified enrollment](#)

(Los Angeles Times © 01/11/2012)

The Los Angeles Board of Education on Tuesday directed staff to develop a plan to increase district enrollment by at least 5%. The nation’s second-largest school system has shrunk rapidly in recent years because of declining birth rates, population shifts and an exodus of students to nearly 200 independently managed charter schools. The plan may include an expansion of successful and popular magn...

[6/ John Fensterwald: Brown's Prop. 98 contortion -- shifting debt expense to Prop. 98 would be a cut to schools](#)

(The Educated Guess Blog © 01/11/2012)

Governors and legislatures have shifted programs and revenues in and out of Proposition 98 – based on policy and expediency – ever since the school funding law was created two decades ago. But what Gov. Jerry Brown is proposing in the event voters reject his tax increase in November is unprecedented in terms of impact on K-12 schools and community colleges – and brazenness. If the 5-year, \$6.9 bi...

[7/ Editorial: W. Sac charter school needs to be watched](#)

(Sacramento Bee © 01/11/2012)

Schools with a connection to a college or university have a long history in the United States, providing a place where research and new teaching techniques can be tried, tweaked, assessed and passed on to others. So it was with much fanfare that the Washington Unified School District in West Sacramento partnered with the University of California, Davis, a major research university, and Sacramento...

[8/ Editorial: Troubled Online Charter Schools](#)

(New York Times (State Version) © 01/11/2012)

Charter schools, which receive public money but are subject to fewer state regulations, are operating in 40 states. A growing body of research shows that charter schools generally perform no better than traditional schools and are often worse as measured by student test data. This is particularly true of online charter schools, which educate more than 200,000 full-time students and are spreading q...

[9/ Linda Vista conference to focus on school tech -- San Diego Unified was only local district to gain federal Internet grant](#)

(San Diego Union-Tribune © 01/11/2012)

SAN DIEGO -- Netbooks are replacing textbooks, online lectures are taking the place of the teacher at the blackboard and learning is extending far beyond campus and after the last bell has rung. Such “learning on the go” has become a reality at many schools thanks to technology tools and off-campus Internet connections and will be the subject of a two-day conference in San Diego this week that wil...

[10/ Pension overhaul backers need campaign cash, bash Kamala Harris](#)

(Sacramento Bee © 01/11/2012)

The effort to place a public pension overhaul before California voters this November has moved into a new and challenging phase. Backers have reported contributions from but a handful of donors, and on Tuesday bashed Attorney General Kamala Harris for what they said was a "grossly misleading" official description of their measures. The Sacramento-based California Pension Reform reported raising ...

[11/ Oakland community honors memory of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.](#)

(San Jose Mercury News © 01/11/2012)

More than 1,000 people are expected to honor the memory of slain civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. during the 14th annual "Make the Dream Real" celebration, organized by Attitudinal Healing Connection. The free event, which will be Monday at McClymonds High School, will focus on making sure each child receives a quality education. With the anger and discontent of Occupy Wall Street sti...

[12/ Stressful AP courses -- a push for a cap](#)

(San Francisco Chronicle © 01/09/2012)

SAN FRANCISCO -- At some of the Bay Area's most competitive public and private high schools, teachers and counselors have started pushing for a cap on the number of Advanced Placement courses a student can take. In Marin County, teachers at Tamalpais High School circulated a petition last year urging the school to restrict AP classes to juniors and seniors. The effort didn't change policy but...

[13/ Heritage Foundation commentary claims teachers are overpaid](#)

(Education Week © 01/11/2012)

It is a view as ubiquitous as it is simplistic: To improve public education, pay teachers more—a lot more. Union officials, education reformers, scholars, laypeople, and politicians of all stripes endorse this principle in one form or another. However, as we determined in a study released Nov. 1, 2011, by the Heritage Foundation, "Assessing the Compensation of Public-School Teachers," the average...

[14/ Chicago update: Zion-Benton teachers head back to school after strike](#)

(Chicago Tribune © 01/11/2012)

CHICAGO -- Even as Zion-Benton Township High School reopens today after a four-day labor dispute, experts say the number of strikes may be declining because of the poor economy and a new state law that makes it tougher for teachers to call for walkouts. "That speaks to the fact that people are realists. Teachers are realists, and these are tough economic times," said Dave Comerford, spokesman for th...
