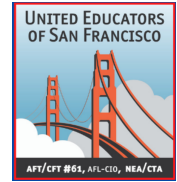


For Immediate Release

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UESF Statement Regarding the California Department of Education Intervention in SFUSD's Budget Decisions

Educators call on District, City, and State to prioritize fully resourced classrooms and schools and keep potential cuts away from students

(San Francisco, CA) On Tuesday, October 5, 2021, the Board of Education meeting documents revealed that the California Department of Education is intervening in SFUSD's budget decisions to address major concerns with projected shortfalls. As we face this budget crisis, San Francisco educators will do everything we can to protect the classroom and the essential services our students deserve.

The news that the California Department of Education has been closely watching SFUSD's fiscal decision-making requires further evaluation and analysis. Because we love our communities and care for our students, UESF is committed to analyzing, explaining and moving towards action with each new development that affects our educators and students.

We are committed to ensuring that the needs of students and educators are met, and the most viable way to do that is through fully-funded community schools. The consequences of the pandemic means that public education is in a position where educator retention should be a high priority. Our families and students require higher levels of safety and educational support. We are seeing this commitment from districts around the state. SFUSD should have a laser-like focus on keeping cuts as far away from classrooms and school sites as possible.

We find it troubling that in one of the wealthiest cities in the world, for decades, management has suggested deficits and cuts that take away valuable resources from our students, classrooms and schools. We are calling on the city and state to work with us to ensure that our students receive more, not less.

The United Educators of San Francisco represents more than 6,500 San Francisco Unified School District employees including teachers, counselors, security aides, psychologists, community relations specialists, instructional aides, nurses, speech pathologists, and therapists.

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