

Message from the Superintendent sent to FBISD employees:

From: Jenney, Dr. Timothy
Sent: Friday, February 26, 2010 3:07 PM
To: All E-Mail Users
Subject: Message 3

Dear Colleagues,

A few weeks ago, I indicated our target for rolling out a budget reduction plan was the end of February. It has occurred to me that embedded in this statement would be a perceived expectation of one giant plan, released on the first of March. The truth is that our new budget year will begin on the first of July, and we will continue to work on our plan to develop cost-cutting measures at least until then, and perhaps beyond. However, in relation to a financial timeline, there are some legal requirements which we cannot miss and those are set forth in the Texas Education Code.

For example, one of the first things which must be done is that the Board of Trustees must declare a "Financial Exigency." This means that we have a budget emergency, and we need to identify areas which are subject to downsizing or to reduction. At this moment, we are planning for this consideration to be addressed on the eighth of March. Another statutory date for us to consider is the identification of those with Chapter 21 contracts. Basically, a Chapter 21 contract refers to those who have specialized certification; and the law stipulates that notices of non-renewal must be given by the nineteenth of April, which is 45 days before the last day of instruction.

Obviously, the longer we can wait before taking these actions, the more information we will have about positions that are being vacated by retirements or resignations. So, it is important for me to ask all of you who are considering leaving the district to notify us as early as possible to avoid unnecessary reductions in force. Of course, we will continue to place or to reassign personnel in order to save jobs right up until the beginning of school in August or even after if necessary.

Know that I continue to appreciate the professional manner in which all of you are working in support of our students. Until our next communication, I wish for each of you continued success.

Sincerely,

Tim Jenney