

Contact:

Cynthia Harvey, SVEF

cynthia@sveffoundation.org

(408) 790-9475

Forum: State Budget in Crisis

*SVEF to host panel discussion on what the state budget crisis will mean for education
Zoom, Wed. June 10*

SAN JOSE, Calif. - Silicon Valley Education Foundation is convening a virtual forum on June 10 to discuss how California's proposed dramatic budget cuts will affect K-12 education in the state. Expert panelists from both the state and local level will gather on Zoom to shed light on what the budget will mean for students, families, and educators. The public is invited to attend online.

Faced with a projected \$54.3 billion deficit, Governor Newsom proposed a budget that strips school spending to its legal minimum, a reduction of \$15 billion from current levels. Senate Democrats rejected this plan, and the Assembly is currently trying to come to an agreement before the fiscal year ends June 30. Representatives of education groups have already voiced concern that it will be impossible to reopen schools with COVID protections in place with the proposed cuts.

The event will take place on Zoom. Panelists are Dr. Wesley Smith, Executive Director of the Association of California School Administrators; Dennis Meyers, Assistant Executive Director of the California School Boards Association; E. Toby Boyd, President of the California Teachers' Association; County Superintendent of Schools Dr. Mary Ann Dewan; and superintendents Jose Manzo and Dr. Robert Bravo. The discussion will be moderated by Dr. Lisa Andrew, President & CEO of Silicon Valley Education Foundation.

"The panelists include individuals from the state level and our community. They will discuss how education dollars will be spent in this COVID era—especially with the uncertainty of opening schools up again in the fall," says Denise Williams, Chief Program Officer of Silicon Valley Education Foundation. "This forum is for teachers, administrators, interested parents and the greater community. The conversation will focus on how distance learning will be impacted and how this budget crisis exposes the pre-existing conditions of inequality."

The forum is open to the public and will be held on Wed. June 10 from 10:30 AM-12 PM on Zoom at <https://bit.ly/SVEFBudget2020>.

Members of the media are welcome to attend. Please contact Cynthia Harvey at cynthia@sveffoundation.org with any questions for the panel.

About SVEF

Silicon Valley Education Foundation (SVEF) is the largest educational nonprofit in Silicon Valley. We are guided by the belief that all students are capable of pursuing higher education and boosting their future economic mobility regardless of their background. SVEF has an established legacy of providing proven STEM programs and being profoundly committed to empowering students to graduate high school career and college ready. For more information, visit svef.com.