



## ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER

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## GOVERNING BOARD

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## SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Jennifer Johnson

There is little doubt that these are difficult economic times in our community, state and nation. With the passage of the most recent state budget adjustments, the Glendale Union High School District is faced with cutting at least \$1.8 million from its current operating and capital budgets. Like many of our neighboring districts in the West Valley, we have diligently worked to continue to provide a quality education to every student while maximizing the use of our resources. The district continues to manage its finances with great care. We have not filled positions, purchased equipment or supplies that were not essential and we have conserved energy at every point possible on a daily basis. We will continue to focus on student achievement, always our top priority. The Glendale Union High School District will continue to earn the trust and respect of our parents, students and community.

As we look to the future, we share the most serious concern of all Arizona school districts related to what the Arizona legislature may propose as cuts to next year's budget. The Glendale Union High School District, like our neighboring West Valley districts, will be faced with massive cuts if current proposals are enacted. These cuts, which could exceed \$13 million for our district, will significantly increase class size, potentially cut programs like band, athletics and the arts and cause the district to reduce its staff, including teachers, thus adding to our community's unemployment challenges.

Quality education is the foundation of a strong democracy. Education is a major economic engine for Arizona. Without a quality public school system, the state will never be able to support the quality, skilled workforce needed to stimulate and sustain our economy. It is very important that citizens communicate with our representatives regarding the legislators' constitutional obligation to adequately provide for the students of our community. Serious consideration should be given to revenue enhancements, not just budget cuts. The Glendale Union High School District, recognized nationally for its wise financial management and its superior student achievement, will continue to use every resource to its maximum benefit for students. We are asking for the community's support in maintaining a quality education for students who will become the leaders tomorrow. It is true that the value of a culture is measured by the priority it places on its children.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jennifer Johnson  
Superintendent  
Glendale Union High School District