

# ITASCA SCHOOL DISTRICT 10

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## EDUCATION FINANCE CONCERNS

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Numerous reports have appeared in newspapers and television over the past several weeks that highlight the deepening economic troubles currently gripping public education in the state of Illinois. The state currently faces an unparalleled \$12.8 billion budget deficit over the next year. Governor Quinn has proposed significant cuts to education and fundamental social services in order to close this gap.

A number of districts have already cut teaching positions and eliminated athletics, music programs and other curricular areas as they face deficits in the millions of dollars. Similar trends are taking place in many school districts across the state.

The Itasca School District 10 Board of Education has taken a very proactive posture going forward into the 2010-2011 school year and beyond. At the January 2010 regular meeting, the Board directed the Administration of Itasca School District 10 to begin making reductions of approximately \$435,000 for 2010-2011 in order to maintain a balanced budget.

With the "perfect storm" of reduced property tax revenues and decreasing state aid projected, it became essential to decrease forecasted expenditures. Some program stipends, general supplies along with technology improvements, early and late bus runs at the middle school, being among the first reductions made. We will be reviewing budgetary areas during the spring and summer for additional areas of consideration before adoption during the fall. As changes to the financial climate occur, we will keep you updated here.

Here are some on-line sources for further reading on the current State of Illinois financial situation:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/03/12/education/12cnceducation.html?ref=education>

<http://www.chicagobusiness.com/cgi-bin/mag/article.pl?articleId=32910>

<http://www.dailyherald.com/story/?id=364121>

<http://www.sj-r.com/education/x1582773210/School-funding-a-huge-crisis-state-school-superintendent-warns>



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