

Eye On The Board

The Salinas Valley Federation of Teachers
21 West Laurel Drive Suite 61, Salinas, CA 93926-3434

Telephone: 831-442-8234 ~ Fax: 831-442-8563 ~ E-mail: presidents@svft.net ~ www.svft.net

Board Highlights March 10, 2009

Reported by Mariann Klinger

Pink slips and reassignments set for 09–10

Nearly 100 teachers could be directly affected by a decision to send out pink slips and many more are likely to feel its impact by the start of the next school year.

The pink slips don't necessarily mean teachers will lose their jobs, any teacher with a valid credential could be reassigned, according to SVFT Co-president **Peggy Carroll**.

The last word on teacher numbers is likely to come the first week of May, when final budget figures arrive, said Superintendent **Roger Anton**.

In the face of state budget cuts, including dramatic cuts in the ROP and adult school budgets, the board voted 7-0 to send pink slips to 10 counselors, 18 ROP teachers and 42 adult school teachers.

Trustees also voted 5-0 to give notice to 16 temporary counselors and 11 probationary teachers. Trustees James Reaves and Margaret Serna-Bonetti were absent for the latter vote. Later, they voted against a motion to reassign four district directors. The motion passed 5-0.

The decrease in funding will bring about program changes in the ROP and adult school, including closing under-enrolled classes, said Anton.

State funding is being delayed because of cash flow problems, said Chief Business Officer **James Earhart**. Anticipating such a delay, trustees earlier took steps to maintain the

district's cash flow. Along with waiting for state monies, the district is still waiting for the federal stimulus funds. Earhart said the district may get "decent" money for special education, construction projects and Title I programs from the stimulus package.

The state budget doesn't provide for mandated costs or matching funds for deferred maintenance. Nevertheless, Earhart said, the district will be able to go ahead with a Career Tech Center at EAHS and necessary maintenance projects. With modernization and other major construction projects out of the way, the district should be "fine" even without matching funds, he said.

In addition to \$2 million for deferred maintenance, the district does "have adequate reserves," according to Earhart. The district maintains a 3 percent reserve, as required by the state, and an additional 1 percent reserve. The call for an additional 1 percent was put in place by a previous board.