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PRESS RELEASE  
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## **WCCUSD BOARD APPROVES STAFFING REDUCTIONS WITH EXCEPTIONS, REVIVES BUDGET COMMITTEE FOR FURTHER REVIEW**

RICHMOND— After a lengthy and complex deliberation at tonight's West Contra Costa Unified School District (WCCUSD) Board of Education meeting, board members approved [resolutions to reduce both certificated and classified positions for the 2025-26 school year](#), with key exceptions that may impact the district's ongoing efforts to achieve fiscal solvency.

Following multiple motions and debates, the Board approved the certificated staffing reduction resolution with the exception of 8.0 Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) certificated positions. However, this exception eliminates the district's ability to enforce the fiscal solvency plan approved by the board trustees on February 8, 2025. It will require the district to identify alternative areas for budget reductions to offset the financial impact.

The discussion then shifted to the classified staffing reductions resolution, where, after several rejected motions, the Board ultimately approved the resolution with the condition that the district immediately revive the Budget Committee to thoroughly review potential new reductions.

Interim Superintendent Kim Moses, Ed.D, expressed deep concern about the financial implications of the Board's decision. "As the Interim Superintendent and as a community member deeply invested in improving the outcomes for all students. We value all staff and their dedication to our community, however, the fiscal health of our district has to be prioritized as the foundation for our ability to continue normal district operations. I am concerned about the added fiscal uncertainty we face after last night's board meeting. West Contra Costa Unified is now tasked with identifying reductions to district services totaling approximately \$1.2 million from the unrestricted general fund to fulfill the approved fiscal solvency plan. We are committed to doing everything possible to achieve fiscal solvency and budget stability for our school district."

Board President Leslie Reckler, Trustee Area 5, acknowledged the difficulty of making these decisions while reinforcing the Board's responsibility to the district's financial stability. "School finance is complex, and it is hard to make reductions when many times it involves people that you know. However, as trustees, it is our responsibility to ensure the long-term financial health of our district. The revival of the Budget Committee meetings will provide an opportunity for more

stakeholders to understand the budgeting process and the deep fiscal challenges that the school district faces."

With the district's March 15 deadline to notify staff of preliminary layoffs approaching, WCCUSD will now work to identify alternative reductions and convene the Budget Committee to evaluate financial strategies. Further updates will be provided as the district navigates these critical decisions.

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