

March 4, 2015

Good morning Southern Arizona Legislators:

Once again I must implore you to step in and do what's right for Arizona children. Reports are that unprecedented budget cuts to both K-12 education and JTEDs throughout the state, as well as universities and community colleges will be made in the next few days.

We are being told that the cuts will be at least \$7 million to JTED satellite programs, cutting the current 1.25 ADM for CTE/JTED satellites (those programs in every high school) to 1.0, to be apportioned 0.75 to the member district and 0.25 to the JTED. That will END participation in JTEDs, since NO SCHOOL DISTRICT can absorb an additional 0.25 cut to their budgets. No students will be allowed to participate in CTE/JTED satellite programs. We are also being told that K-12 will also be cut another \$23 million. So those districts that are members of a JTED will receive BOTH a cut to their M&O budgets as well as a cut to the JTED budgets.

The authorizing legislation for JTEDs is quite clear. Formation of a JTED will create an additional 0.25 funding for CTE/JTED classes because of the higher costs associated with these classes, resulting in 1.0 ADM for the member district AND 0.25 ADM for the JTED. Taxpayers were well aware that their vote to create a JTED would result in an ADDITIONAL 0.25 for their children's participation in Career and Technical Education. Now the legislature is attempting to circumvent the people's vote to reduce funding their school districts which will result in the death of Career & Technical Education programs. This cut has been a goal of ATRA for several years and it should not be allowed to happen!

PLEASE – read the reports. Read Harvard University's "Pathway to Prosperity." Read the Morrison Institute's report on Career and Technical Education. CTE/JTED programs ARE job creation. CTE/JTED programs ARE economic development.

Please stop the decimation of K-12 education and stop the decimation of CTE/JTED programs, both satellite and central campus programs! Your vote on this issue matters to the future of every child in Arizona.

Alan L. Storm, Ph.D.
Superintendent/CEO

We deliver premier career and technical education in partnership with business, industry and community stakeholders.