

# The Prospector

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## Tax Crisis Threatens McClatchy Extracurriculars

Brooke Marshall  
Staff Writer

Are you on a sports team, the yearbook, drama, marching band, speech and debate, or cheerleading? Are you in any classes with less than 40 students? Do you have a favorite teacher? Do you need to see your counselor? Then this directly affects you.

The expiration of a current tax in California is approaching. When the tax expires, our taxes will be lowered to what they were a few years ago.

Governor Jerry Brown has proposed to extend these taxes, but the California State Legislature is debating on whether or not to include the tax extension proposal on the ballot.

However, hopes for the extension to appear on the ballot are looking dim and if the taxes are not extended, many severe budget cuts will be imposed in addition to the cuts that have already been enacted.

If these taxes expire, many budget cuts will be directed at the public education system. Our school will suffer directly from this. We will lose 12 teachers, two administrators, and our on-site counselors.

The school board will also eliminate all co-curricular education programs.

These include all athletics as well as drama (the school play and musical,) the yearbook, the marching band, debate, and cheerleading. If a program requires extra pay from the district, it's going to be cut.

Class sizes would go up



With budget cuts, sights like this could soon be rare.

*Photo Courtesy Prospector Archives*

from 35 students to 40. The district this week will be sending out hundreds of layoff notices to teachers and counselors, including those at McClatchy.

Many students, teachers, and parents at our school fear the impending threat of budget cuts.

Teachers are afraid of losing jobs, while students are afraid of losing some of their favorite programs. Student athlete, Charles

Borsos ('12) feels that "It is important for teams to be available for the students..." because "being on a team has led me to make some very good friends, as well as learn to cooperate in order to succeed."

With serious budget cuts to many the programs, which so many students find necessary, our school will have trouble continuing to field sports teams and provide other basic things for students.

In fact, junior class treasurer, Lauren Poon ('12) says that she "cannot imagine sports continuing with such serious budget cuts... sports programs are hard enough to fund as it is."

After talking to a few teachers, I realized how many fear losing their jobs and how their classes will suffer under the budget cuts.

Although many are concerned with the downsides that will be

brought upon by the tax expiration, many are also against the extension.

A teacher that I asked told me that he found the tax extensions to be unfair for those who have to pay it. "Many people who are paying these taxes aren't receiving the benefits of it... in fact, there are plenty of classes in our school with only 20 kids in it, when there should be thirty-five."

Many people agree with this and feel that the tax extension's unfairness is not worth its benefits.

At the school, however, many students are doing their part to stop the budget cuts that they don't want to see happen.

As mentioned earlier, many students wore pink to support the staff at our school.

Another thing that students are doing to help the school out is sending short letters on index cards to the state legislature to argue the importance of the tax extension.

Our school is asking John F. Kennedy High School and West Campus High School to join us in sending these letters.

We also hope for other schools to join in as well to stop the serious budget cuts.

Until the potential expiration, the budgets for the school will continue as they are now.

While some desire the tax extension, others see the potential dangers of it. The debate on the tax extensions will continue, so keep an eye out on the issue and help out your school.

## CKM Students Send A Strong Message To Capitol: Save Our School

Lily Rushing  
Staff Writer

On Wednesday, Members of CKM's Associated Student Body dropped off 500 letters from McClatchy students to the Governor's office in the state capital.

The letters were written in protest to the state cuts to public education. ASB organized the letter writing campaign after learning that sports and other programs like band and drama would be cut if tax extensions would not be approved by voters.

The students were met at the governor's office by the governor's press secretary Evan Linstromm.

At first the students could not get in, but Linstromm recognized Mr. Douglas, and let them into the office to deliver the index cards.

Delaney Wong, class of 2012, said that the index cards were part of the initiative to send "a tangible student voice" to the members of the legislature trying to convince them to vote on putting tax cuts on the ballot so voters can choose where the tax cuts can go.

Students that went included

Jake Murphy and Izzy Gardon.

The index cards were branded with the statement "Support the kids: Extend the tax."

Governor Jerry Brown has stated that he wants the tax extensions to be put on the ballot, and then he won't cut K-12 education.

The special election would be held on June 7, and to get everything together in time for that, they have to get the extensions approved this week.

To even give the tax extensions a chance, two Republicans in the assembly and two in the

senate have to agree to put the taxes on the public ballot. If the public are allowed to approve their own taxes, there is a far higher chance that these slashes to education can be avoided.

Despite ASB's brave efforts, more help is needed to save sports and other programs at McClatchy.

If you want your voice to be heard, write to the so-called "GOP Five"- five Republicans who've said they're open to the tax extensions.

**Senator Tom Barryhill**  
Senator.Barryhill@sen.ca.gov

**Senator Sam Blakeslee**  
Capitol Office: (916) 651-4015

**Senator Anthony Cannella**  
senator.cannella@sen.ca.gov

**Senator Bill Emmerson**  
Capitol Office: (916) 651-4037

**Senator Tom Harman**  
Capitol Office: (916) 651-4035

### OPINION

#### Keep the Kings!

Students speak out: save our Sacramento sports team.

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### FEATURES

#### Local Artist Makes His Mark

We interview semi-famous senior Skyler Brown.

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### SPORTS

#### Roller Derby Slams onto the Scene

The hottest sport this season is on wheels.

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