

What Others Are Saying About School Districts and SCUSD's Debt Obligations

“School districts will have to pay an additional \$500 million a year (In CALPERS contributions) the California State Teachers’ Retirement System [received a bailout from the Legislature](#) that is costing the state, school districts and teachers billions a year in additional contributions. Even with the \$193 billion in assets, it is only about 69 percent funded for its 868,000 members ... Both pension funds need to be as careful with their money as they’re forcing their members to be.”

- **Sacramento Bee Editorial Board, December 28, 2016**

Read here: <http://www.sacbee.com/opinion/editorials/article123403579.html#storylink=cpy>

“The problem with the current State Budget proposal is that it starts with manipulations of the constitutional minimum funding guarantee for schools that reduce ongoing funding by \$859 million next year and every year thereafter that penalizes every school in California. The second problem is that the flat funded budget doesn’t even contain the resources necessary to cover the State’s new mandatory obligation for school districts to cover PERS and STRS costs. In the best-case scenario for 2017-18, school districts might only have enough new funding to pay for the mandated new spending requirements for STRS and PERS and nothing for student learning, employee salaries, increased district costs and the efforts to close the persistent achievement gap. Our collective efforts in the education community should not be wasted bickering with each other, but should be focused on waging a fight in Sacramento to lift per pupil funding out of the basement. Overall per pupil funding in California is shamefully at the bottom of the States and our leaders need to do something more than maintaining funding at the rock-bottom minimum.”

- **Jack O’Connell, 26th State Superintendent of Public Instruction**

“Since 2007, my office has repeatedly requested a long-term OPEB funding plan (from SCUSD), and we must again voice our concern regarding the lack of measurable and implemented progress towards the funding of the OPEB obligation, which now exceeds \$650 million. The continued lack of urgency to address this obligation only increases the encroachment into the General Fund which cannot be sustained without further eroding educational programs.”

- **Dave Gordon, Superintendent of Sacramento County Office of Education**

Letter dated 9/28/16:

https://www.scoe.net/lcap/Documents/scusd/2017/scusd_lcap_approval.pdf