



LIVERMORE VALLEY EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION (LVEF)
 P.O. BOX #143
 849 East Stanley Blvd. Livermore, CA 94551

Our public schools have a shortage of adequate funding which has produced significant cuts at all grade levels – kindergarten through high school. Budget cuts affect us all in many ways, from the success of our youth to our property values. **Here is your chance to do something positive, to contribute. LVEF, the Livermore Valley Educational Foundation is currently raising funds to support the 2004-05 school year. Our community can, and has, made the difference for our schools and our children.**

LAST YEAR LVEF collected over \$350,000 through individual and business donations. Funds went directly to support district programs including: Elementary Class Size Reduction, Computer Techs, High School Counselors, and Music.

DOLLAR-A-DAY - Many of these donations were made through the **Dollar-A-Day** program where contributors were encouraged to donate \$1 for every school day (\$180) or \$1 for every calendar year (\$365). Donations of any amount were – and are - greatly appreciated!

Since LVEF's inception in 1991 the foundation has donated over \$1.6 MILLION directly to support Livermore Public School programs. All Board members donate their time and efforts. Over 99% of funds raised go DIRECTLY to educational programs.

LVEF's GOALS FOR THE CURRENT FUNDRAISING CYCLE: Goals are developed through donation form input and dialogue with parents, teachers and the school board. The priorities identified for the 2004-05 school year include:

LVEF ELEMENTARY GOALS: \$1,344,000
 Class Size Reduction: The school district is retaining 1st grade at a 20:1 teacher to student ratio. LVEF's goal is to work with the district to retain smaller class programs (20:1) for grades K, 2 and 3 (up to \$1,023,000). Without donations class size ratios for K, 2, and 3 will go up to 30:1).
 5th Grade Laboratory Science: \$360,000 (3-year commitment)
 4th Grade Instrumental Music: \$60,000

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| <p><u>LVEF MIDDLE SCHOOL GOALS: \$460,000</u> Lost Sections/Classes \$220,000 Computer Technicians (\$30K per site) \$120,000 Library Technicians (\$30K per site) \$120,000</p> | <p><u>LVEF HIGH SCHOOL GOALS: \$590,000</u> Lost Sections/Classes: \$430,000 Crisis Counselors: \$60,000 Sports: \$100,000</p> |
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LVEF DONATION FORM

Name _____

Tax Deductible Gift \$ _____

Name of School (s) _____

Please direct my gift to the following levels:
 _____ Elementary School Level
 _____ Middle School Level
 _____ High School Level
 _____ Area of Greatest Need

Donations must be received by May 1, 2004 to be included in next school year's budget.
For donations over \$180 you will receive a Dollar -A-Day license plate holder. Redeem at your school site
Return to your school or mail to: LVEF P.O. Box #143, 849 East Stanley Blvd, Livermore, CA 94551



In addition to financial contributions, how can you help?

Support one or all three of the ***Livermore Community Education Alliance*** organizations:

- **LVEF: DONATIONS ARE NEEDED BY MAY 1, 2004** to affect major items in the 2004-05 school year. Join our meetings (visit www.lvef.org for dates/location) and volunteer your time. LVEF currently needs project organizers for various fundraising events and activities.
- **“YES! For Livermore Schools” Parcel Tax Initiative** which if passed, would provide revenues beginning in the 2005-06 school year. (Contact p.rambo@comcast.net for information.)
- **LLEG:** LLEG is seeking fair funding for schools through legislative reform (www.lleg.org)

Learn about the current budget issues affecting Livermore Schools. Turn your awareness into action. www.livermoreschools.com is the School District's official web site.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

If I donate and the goal is not met, what will happen to the funds? Your donation will be used for other programs in the category you have chosen. For instance if a donation was made at the Elementary School Level and goals for the first priority were not met, the money would then be used for the next Elementary priority provided there were enough funds.

I already donated to my PTA/PTO, won't that help? All donations are helpful! Donations to your PTA/ PTO provide programs and supplies for your specific school, such as library tech hours. A school's PTA/PTO is not legally able to hire teachers; this must be done by the school district. Programs such as class size reduction legally must be offered district-wide. LVEF collects funds from the community for these district-wide programs.

Is my donation tax deductible? Yes, LVEF is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization; tax ID #94-3136289. Many businesses donate to local non-profit organizations. Check with your employer to see if they will match your donation. You may need to provide your employer with LVEF's tax ID.

Why aren't different districts cutting as many programs as we are? Livermore schools receive lower base revenue than most school districts in California. The highest per-student base revenue is \$8,300. The California average is \$4,800. Livermore receives just \$4,635 per student. Pleasanton and Dublin receive \$700 and \$1,000 more per student than Livermore. The Livermore Legislative Education Group (LLEG) is dedicated to seeking fair funding for all schools. Learn more by visiting their web site at www.lleg.org.

What other sources of funding are possible? *Community is what makes the difference!* YES! For Livermore Schools is working on a Parcel Tax election to begin receiving funding for the 2005-06 school year. A parcel tax is a flat yearly fee on each residential and commercial property in the city. It is not based on property value; all parcels are assessed at the same rate. This tax would provide a steady, stable source of funding for our schools. For more information and to volunteer please contact Philomena Rambo at p.rambo@comcast.net.

Once teachers receive their pink slips is it too late? No, it's not too late! The district is required by law to notify all teachers of possible layoffs by March 15th. All donations are needed by May 1st to be included in next school year's budget. By May 15th teachers must be served with final lay off notices.

How is Class Size affected at the High School Level? Increasing teacher to student ratios from 28:1 to 30:1 means losing teachers and the sections they would have taught. Without any fundraising, each high school will lose 21 – 23 sections next year. This would mean that lower enrolled programs, such as AP and specialty classes could be eliminated, and class sizes throughout the high schools would rise to an average of 32 students per class. High schools are also losing an additional 50% of their already reduced athletic program. Each high school will lose \$50,000.

Can the district sell property to help with programs such as Class Size Reduction? Facilities category funds can be used for facilities only. The funds gained from selling a property can only be used for facilities and not the General Fund. The General Fund is the account which pays salaries and benefits as well as providing programs. The General Fund is the account that has funding shortfalls.

www.lvef.org Visit our website to learn more and check on our progress.