



## AEA Bargaining Update

November 2011

How much is enough?

There is a famous story in which a reporter, amazed at the unimaginable and almost unspendable fortune amassed by John D. Rockefeller, asked him, “How much money is enough?” Rockefeller’s famously greedy answer was, “Just a little bit more.”

We have reached the point where we must ask AUSD the same question. When the state gives you money to spend on the education of the students of Antioch, how much should you save for a rainy day? What sort of reserves should a district hold in this time of economic uncertainty? How much money is enough?

It’s a good question.

The California Department of Education recommends that districts of our size should maintain 3% of their yearly expenditures in reserve for economic uncertainty.<sup>1</sup> In Antioch, a 3% REU equals **\$4,331,522**<sup>2</sup>

At the end of the 2010/2011 fiscal year (June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011) the AUSD had amassed **\$23,396,591**<sup>3</sup> beyond the 3% recommended by the Department of Education. And was that enough money? Apparently not, as next year the budget shows *another* \$1.2 million increase.<sup>4</sup> That will be a whopping 20+% reserve! Teachers deserve their fair share of the ending balance.

And to make matters more insulting –  
They have come to the bargaining table asking you for even more.

**Exactly just how much is enough?**<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/fi/ss/> “Criteria and Standards for Reviewing School District’s Budgets”

<sup>2</sup> Antioch Unified School District 2010/2011 Unaudited Actuals Executive Summary, p.8

<sup>3</sup> Antioch Unified School District 2010/2011 Unaudited Actuals , Form 01 p.2

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Questions? Comments? Email your bargaining team – [aeabargainingteam@gmail.com](mailto:aeabargainingteam@gmail.com)

