

Misinformation vs Facts

Here's the truth behind widespread misinformation.

Misinformation

The Facts

Employee Support During Reductions



Myth 1

The district doesn't care about the people they are laying off and are not providing support.



Fact 1

Employees impacted will receive support through existing processes:

- May have option to be placed in open positions
- Benefits, years of service, and reemployment rights protected when possible
- The district works with labor partners to reduce impacts

SEIU Employment Impacts



Myth 2

Many SEIU employees are losing their jobs.



Fact 2

- 18 SEIU positions are being reduced, all vacancies or retirements
- No current employees lose jobs



Myth 3

SEIU services to students have been reduced.



Fact 3

- Despite enrollment declines, Fresno Unified has 50 more SEIU positions in 2026-27 than 2016, serving 5,000 fewer students
- SEIU Employees hired within the past 5 years received ~ 50% pay increase, from step raises and salary upgrades received by all employees

Central Office Reductions



Myth 4

Cuts are not being made at the central district office.



Fact 4

- There are 850 central office staff, representing 9.3% of total staff (9,100 staff)
- There are 76 planned reductions in central office staff, representing 33% of the total impacted staff (230 staff)

District Reserve & Financial Health



Myth 5

Reserve is over 10% and over \$179 million.



Fact 5

- Actual reserve for economic uncertainties is 5.56% of budget
- 2025-26: \$93.2M
- 2026-27: \$62.0M
- 2027-28: \$44.6M
- Must maintain 5%-10% per Board Policy; without adjustments, reserve declines
- Not making reductions risks state oversight within 2 years

Misinformation

The Facts

Myth 6

District Leadership Reductions

Cuts are not being made at the district office leadership level

Fact 6

Reductions have occurred and continue:

- \$3.5M since 2023-24
- \$9M planned for 2026-27
- Total reduction over 15%
- Leadership reductions prioritized before broader staffing adjustments
- There are a total of 261 district office management positions, representing less than 3% of total staff (9,100)

Myth 7

Laid-off employees can't fill positions left open by retirements.

Fact 7

- Employees can be placed into vacancies from retirements or other openings if qualified

Myth 8

District is adding new positions while laying off staff.

Fact 8

- Roles replace retirees and support essential functions

Myth 9

Management grew 51% in five years.

Fact 9

- Growth includes positions directly supporting students: behavioral specialists, clinical social workers, special education
- Community Schools funding added coordinators for student & family support

Myth 10

Classroom Protection & Cost Reductions

District is not protecting classrooms.

Fact 10

Costs reduced away from school sites by:

- Early retirement incentive saves ~\$56M over 5 years
- District department reductions:
- \$12M reduced in 2024-25
- \$6.7M reduced in 2025-26
- \$14M planned for 2026-27

Myth 11

Preschool Staffing & Enrollment

Staffing cuts reduce quality/supports.

Fact 11

- Enrollment has declined by over 25%
- Remaining preschools fully staffed
- All 3-4-year-olds still have access to Preschool & TK programs

Myth 12

Families will lose access to preschool programs.

Fact 12

- Consolidation uses 2 criteria: Two-classroom sites reduced to one site with low enrollment may close
- Families can still choose any district preschool
- No child turned away, though travel may increase slightly