

# \$2,600,000



What does this amount refer to? It is the amount of money that Pleasanton Unified School District, PUSD, has lost due to all absences in the 2008/2009 school year.

Now let us first be absolutely clear, when your child is sick they are to stay home and recuperate. The following message in no way advocates sending sick children to school.



*The information included here is brought to you by the PUSD Budget Advisory Committee*

## **Missing School.**

When a student misses school for any reason the student misses valuable instruction time. Missing instruction time can then impact how successful a student is in his/her classes.

## **What are elective absences and ADA?**

An elective absence is an absence incurred by the district due to a student not attending school as a result of extended weekends, family trips or other reasons. The state pays the district based on "Average Daily Attendance" or ADA. If your elementary student is in school for any part of the day their attendance is counted. If your middle or high school student attends one class period a day their attendance is counted.

## **What is Contracted/Independent Study?**

If your child is going to be out of school for 5 days or more there is the option of contracted/independent study. This entails agreement between your teacher/s and principal with the advance notice of 2 weeks. The student will receive class assignments that must be completed and turned in upon their return to the school. The days a student is under this program will be counted as attendance. If your child is going to be out of school for 1, 2, 3, or 4 days the district will not be paid.

## **How much does an elective absence cost the District?**

The cost for one elective absence is \$51.54.

## **Reimbursement to District.**

Many districts have already implemented plans by which they encourage parents to reimburse the district for the amount of money that is lost due to their child's elective absence. We are implementing the same plan at PUSD. It must be understood that this is an entirely voluntary program. The district will not bill you for an elective absence. To that end please make checks payable to PUSD, and send it to school or mail it to; PUSD, 4665 Bernal Avenue, Pleasanton, CA 94566.



The Budget Advisory Committee's goal is to educate families as to the importance of attendance and to urge them to, further, think twice about taking elective absences. Fewer elective absences equal more money for our district and more opportunities for our children.

