

## **TUSD State of the District : DENIAL**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tucson, Arizona – TUSD presented their State of the District on February 22, 2016 and proceeded to bust so-called myths about TUSD. What was truly busted was the much needed Bias Towards Action necessary to turn the District around.

The current majority on the TUSD Board is in a STATE OF DENIAL.

The Arizona Auditor General released the following Fiscal Year 2015 results yesterday:

- Students attending TUSD decreased to 45,970 – a loss of 857 students in one year. During the last five years TUSD has lost 6,706 or 12.7% of its students.
- Actual classroom spending remained flat from FY 2014 at 48.7% and is over 2% less than the 51.0% presented and celebrated at the State of the District. Classroom spending has decreased by almost 10% over the past 5 years.
- Administrative, Plant Operations, and Transportation costs were all designated “Very High” compared to state and peer averages. Five years ago only Administration costs were considered “Very High”.
- Administration costs rose by \$42 to \$897 per student, 40% higher than peer districts on a per student basis. If TUSD Administration operated at peer levels that would create an additional \$11,768,320 for the classroom or \$256 per student. That number would represent a 50% increase in Instructional Support.

The Auditor General’s complete report may be found at [https://www.azauditor.gov/sites/default/files/AZ\\_School\\_District\\_Spending\\_FY2015\\_District\\_Pages.pdf](https://www.azauditor.gov/sites/default/files/AZ_School_District_Spending_FY2015_District_Pages.pdf).

Jim Lovelace of TUSD Kids First states “It is time for our community to fully embrace TUSD and help guide the District to implement the necessary changes to make TUSD an A rated district. It is time for a bias towards action when it comes to addressing TUSD’s issues. ”

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