Governor Newsom’s state budget proposal continues to make significant investments in our schools and colleges

San Jose, CA – California School Employees Association President Ben Valdepeña issued the following statement commending Gov. Gavin Newsom’s proposed state budget for 2020-21:

“The annual budget is a statement of California values. Gov. Newsom continues to demonstrate his commitment to public education and has proposed a budget that focuses support on California’s students and educators.

In his January budget release, Governor Newsom proposes $84 billion for our schools and colleges under the Proposition 98 minimum guarantee. Much like last year, this amount will be another record funding level for education. His proposal includes a 2.29% cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) as well as additional funding for key programs, including more funding for special education, and for professional development.

Additionally, $60 million is set aside for school nutrition with another $10 million for professional development for food service workers. Providing a well-balanced quality school meal is a critical step in ensuring that our students are healthy and ready to learn. We want to thank the Governor for his recognition of the great contributions of our food service workers. An investment in training for food service workers will allow them to deliver healthy, freshly prepared school meals made from California-grown food for our students. We look forward to working with the Governor and the Legislature to ensure that this program is adopted in the final budget.

The Governor should be commended for his continued commitment to our schools and colleges. These investments will ensure that our schools are ready to provide the academic and support services that all children need to succeed. CSEA and our 250,000 classified school employees stand ready to work with the Governor and Legislature to craft a meaningful budget for our students and all educators.”
About the California School Employees Association

Founded in 1927 by a small group of Oakland custodians focused on securing retirement benefits, the California School Employees Association is now the largest classified school employee union in the United States. The member-run organization represents nearly 250,000 school support staff who perform a wide range of essential work, including security, food services, and paraeducator services in kindergarten through 12th grade, Community Colleges, and County Offices of Education.

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