



## **California Federation of Teachers**

American Federation of Teachers, AFL-CIO

**Cuesta College Classified Employees United (CCCUE)**

**Cuesta College Federation of Teachers (CCFT)**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:     Wednesday, July 22, 2009**

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### **Cuesta College Faculty and Staff Protest Layoffs**

San Luis Obispo, CA - Cuesta College Classified Employees United (CCCUE) set up chairs outside the Cuesta Community College board meeting on Wednesday afternoon to protest the number of faculty and staff to be eliminated. The chairs represent real people - some of the chairs had pictures of employees and some a silhouette only - and a description of how their work is essential to students' education at the college. The faculty union, Cuesta College Federation of Teachers (CCFT), supported the protest action, noting that part-time faculty members will be laid off and students will lose many classes that are needed to complete their degrees or courses of study.

The presidents of both unions addressed the Board members regarding the budget and the layoffs. Both unions stated that there has been inadequate planning and leadership by the college and state legislators in addressing the budget crisis. The District is relying most heavily on layoffs of permanent classified employees and non-assignment of part-time faculty through reduction of class offerings in the fall. The education leaders told the board members that the reductions would greatly reduce the college's ability to serve students.

The educators noted that students depend upon the faculty and staff to provide the essential elements of their education. Those elements include not only the teaching of the actual classes, but the library and bookstore, public safety, cleaning of classrooms, mail delivery and other essential operations. Without staff to provide these services, students will be paying higher fees but receiving lower quality education.

*For more information please visit [www.cft.org](http://www.cft.org).*

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