Summer School – An Education Denied

As summer school starts what do we find?

- Fewer classes, more competition to get into a class and packed classes
- Less staff
- Few, if any, counselors
- Fewer days that the college is open
- And already most of the fall classes are full

All this means fewer opportunities to get an education.
The community colleges have been cut to the bone through the budget cuts.

And what is being done about this?

In Sacramento the politicians are discussing how to cut even more from CalWORKs, Child Care, the community colleges and the entire educational system of California in the coming year. The legislature is discussing raising community college fees to $40 per unit.

The Same Is Happening To All Sectors Of Education.

At the CSUs and UCs

Fees keep rising – CSU tuition is going up another five percent this fall to $5000. The UCs cost close to $14,000 a year – just to get in the door! Both systems have cut the number of students they are accepting and the number of classes they are offering. This means more UC and CSU students trying to go to the community college for classes and fewer places for community college students to transfer to.

Kindergarten through High School

Teachers and staff are being laid off and summer programs have been canceled. Schools are being closed, and music, art and other programs are being eliminated. Children and young people are being crammed into packed classrooms with less and less support.

It isn't just the schools that are under attack. State workers, transportation workers at BART, MUNI and AC Transit are losing their jobs and benefits. At the same time we are losing vitally needed transportation opportunities. Social and health care services are also being cut including services to the disabled, the homebound and seniors. Day care opportunities for children and medical services are being eliminated or scaled back just when we all need them the most.

The whole working class population of the area is being attacked. Businesses are laying off workers or trying to force them to take cuts in wages and benefits. And it is clear – those who own and run the large corporations in the state are protected by those they have put in office. Both Democrats and Republicans slash education and basic services but won't tax the corporations and the wealthy in our state - the ninth largest economy in the world.

We cannot accept this. We have to fight back. Some of us began this fight last year culminating in the massive day of protest on March 4th all across the state. Many of us in the community colleges organized at our schools and also participated in the planning and the rally in San Francisco that brought over 12,000 students, teachers, workers and parents to the Civic Center Plaza. But one day of protest is obviously not enough. If you are fed up and ready to do something about these cutbacks – join us.

Check out the *www.againstcuts.org* website and email us at: mail@againstcuts.org