School fine for administrators

A $26,000 fine has been levied against the Berkeley Unified School District by the California Department of Education for having too many administrators.

The figure is up sharply from last year’s $12,000 fine for the same charge.

However, Superintendent Laval Wilson’s staff is seeking a “waiver” of the fine, arguing that the district is forced to designate new administrators when it accepts federal or state grants for special programs.

On the district’s payroll are at least 15 administrators who are required by federal or state directives, according to Business Services Director Bill Thomas.

If levied, the $26,000 fine would penalize the district for having too many administrators.

Actually Berkeley schools have 13 excess administrators but there is an automatic “hardship” waiver covering three administrators.

The waiver application covering 13 staff members is being sent to Richard Seiszler, director of the Bureau of Apportionments, California Department of Education, Sacramento.

Thomas said the 13 excess staff members is based upon the state formula allowing eight administrators per 100 teachers.

Actually, Berkeley schools have 81 administrators and 858 teachers.

The eight staff per 100
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