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# Hands-on Approach Helps California Lottery Save Close to a Million Dollars for Public Schools

**SACRAMENTO** – The California Lottery today announces additional savings totaling nearly \$1 million for public schools – the result of innovative solutions inside Lottery operations to maximize revenue for education.

This past fiscal year, Lottery sales helped raise more than \$1.8 billion for public schools. And while Lottery ticket sales traditionally account for the overwhelming percentage of money raised for schools – Lottery employees are, in some cases, literally taking matters into their own hands to help yield additional savings.

For instance, instead of renewing the contract of a vendor that managed the technical aspects of Lottery security (such as surveillance camera maintenance and installation), the Lottery Commission authorized new positions to enable the Lottery to hire its own skilled employees to perform the work, saving the Lottery an estimated \$550,000 per year. There are a number of other examples, and although some may be smaller dollar figures, they all collectively result in that much more money for education. For example:

- The Lottery is saving more than \$100,000 annually, having trained maintenance staff to perform electrical and HVAC work.
- The Lottery's engineering and maintenance staff recently installed security cameras in four elevators at the Lottery's headquarters building in Sacramento, saving an estimated \$6,700 in installation costs that a vendor would have charged.
- The Lottery's Information Technical Services Division is saving an estimated \$110,000 annually through a restructured Microsoft Office 365 subscription.
- The Lottery is also saving tens of thousands of dollars by now utilizing custodial staff for enhanced, ongoing cleaning at Lottery facilities during the COVID-19 pandemic, as opposed to using a more-costly vendor to perform this work.

"I'm incredibly proud of everyone who has stepped up and put forward creative ideas to help the Lottery save such a significant amount of money," said Lottery Director Alva V. Johnson. "This is

indicative of how committed our team is to the Lottery mission, contributing every single dollar and penny we save to public education.”

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The California Lottery’s mission is to provide supplemental funding to California public schools, including kindergarten and grades 1-12, community colleges, the California State University, the University of California, and other California public educational entities. The funds the Lottery transferred to public education totaled more than \$1.8 billion for fiscal year 2020-21, which amounted to a modest percentage of education’s overall budget. However, this funding is largely nondiscretionary, meaning schools can use this for important, yet unfunded instructional programs they would otherwise not afford. During the same period, the Lottery generated almost \$8.4 billion in sales, more than 95% of which went back to the community in the form of prize payments, retailer commissions and bonuses, and contributions to education. The California Lottery urges its customers to play responsibly. Problem gambling resources are available to anyone at 1-800-GAMBLER.

[www.calottery.com](http://www.calottery.com)