

Budget Process

October 13, 2009- The Board created a Budget Advisory Committee and asked me to have 13 members on the committee including 6 parents/community members, 6 staff members (2 admin, 2 teachers, 2 classified) and a Board Member. The goal of the committee was to:

- 1) Become experts on the PLESD Budget
- 2) Communicate important information and gather input with all stakeholders
- 3) Develop a recommendation for the Superintendent and Board for the 2010-2011 budget.
- 4) Provide oversight throughout the budget cycle.

November 5, 2009: The Budget Advisory Committee met and developed group norms, reviewed School Board's expectations of the committee, and participated in presentations titled "Overview of the State Budget Process" and "Basic Explanation of the PLESD Budget."

November 17, 2009: The Budget Advisory Committee met and participated in 2 presentations "Overview of Staffing and Programs in PLESD" and "First Interim and Multi-year Projections." Both the parents and the staff also elected members to be part of an in depth review of the budget.

December 1, 2009: A teacher and a community member met with the Business Director and I to go through the budget line by line.

December 1– 9, 2009: The PLESD staff was surveyed to develop a brainstormed list of Revenue and Expenditure ideas.

December 9, 2009: The PLESD Leadership Team brainstormed a list of Revenue and Expenditure ideas.

December 10, 2009: The Budget Advisory Committee brainstormed revenue ideas, expenditure ideas, and then integrated the lists developed by the staff and the administration into the brainstormed list.

January 14, 2010: The Budget Advisory Committee met and reviewed the Governor's Budget Proposal, had a discussion on the information supplied to the committee from the district about each of the Revenue and Expenditure brainstormed ideas and then winnowed down the brainstormed lists.

January 22- February 3rd, 2010: Online surveys were sent out to parents (165 participants) and staff (92 participants) to gather input on the budget committee's list of ideas.

February 1, 2010: A staff forum was held to gather input. (Roughly 50 participants)

February 2, 2010: A parent forum was held to gather input. (Roughly 25 participants)

February 5, 2010 - all input collected from the Parent Survey, Staff Survey, Parent Forum, and Staff Forum was distributed and available on our Web site.

February 11, 2010: Budget Advisory Committee met and took comments from the public, then discussed items that they had questions or wanted to make comments about, and then rated each item on a 5 point scale. The ratings were combined to make a ranked list, the committee worked through the ranked list until they reached the cut of \$497,000, and they unanimously voted to pass the recommendation.

February 18, 2010: Budget Advisory Committee recommendations were presented to the School Board. The School Board took comments from the audience and then discussed each item individually. The Board also gave the superintendent direction on which items they felt needed to stay on or be removed from the final list. The items discussed by the board fell \$88,000 short of the deficit figure of \$497,000.

February 23, 2010: I distributed my Budget Recommendations to the Board, staff, and community. I believe the recommendations align with the budget committee's recommendation, with some changes based upon the discussion at the Board Meeting and discussions with various employees and employee groups since the Budget Advisory Committee meeting.

March 2, 2010: Board meeting to make final decisions.

March 10, 2010: Board meeting to pass final resolutions.