



Greater Albany Public School District 8J
718 Seventh Avenue SW
Albany, Oregon 97321-2399
Maria Delapoer, Superintendent

Budget Committee Meeting

November 5, 2012

7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Board Chair Sandi Gordon called the November 5, 2012, Budget Committee Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present were:

| | |
|----------------|-------------------------|
| Sandi Gordon | Board Chair |
| Frank Bricker | Board Vice-Chair |
| Jerry Boehme | Budget Committee Member |
| Doug Marteeny | Budget Committee Member |
| Chris Norman | Budget Committee Member |
| Micah Smith | Budget Committee Member |
| Will Summers | Budget Committee Member |
| Lyle Utt | Budget Committee Member |
| Jennifer Ward | Budget Committee Member |
| | |
| Maria Delapoer | Superintendent |
| Russell Allen | Director of Business |
| Ashley Netzel | Controller |

Assistant Superintendent Frank Caropelo and Director of Human Resources Randy Lary made previous arrangements to be absent from the meeting. A list of others present at the meeting is attached to the original minutes.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. Gordon led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

BUDGET COMMITTEE OPERATIONAL TASKS

1. Seat new Budget Committee Members.

Ms. Gordon began by welcoming Jennifer Ward to the Budget Committee and suggested that she ask a lot of questions.

2. Election of Budget Committee Chair.

Ms. Gordon then asked for nominations for Budget Committee Chair. Mr. Marteeny nominated Will Summers for Budget Committee Chair. Ms. Gordon asked if there were any other nominations. There were none. She then asked for a vote of the Committee. **NOMINATION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.** Mr. Summers took over as Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

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3. Approval of Budget Committee minutes for May 16, 2012.

Mr. Summers asked if everyone had an opportunity to review the minutes from the May 16, 2012 Budget Committee Meeting. He then asked if there were any amendments, questions or concerns. There were none. Mr. Summers then asked for a motion to accept the minutes. Budget Committee Member Micah Smith made a motion to accept the May 16, 2012 Budget Committee Minutes as presented. Ms. Gordon commented that she was not at the last meeting and therefore would abstain from the vote. Ms. Ward also abstained as she was new to the Committee. Mr. Summers verified that there was still a quorum without their votes. He then asked for discussion. There was none. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

4. Revise Budget Calendar – if necessary.

Mr. Summers then referred to the Budget Calendar. He asked Mr. Allen if it was set farther back in the year than normal. Mr. Allen responded that it is the third or fourth year now that the first Budget Committee Meeting in the spring has been near the beginning of May because it buys more time, especially in years the legislature meets. Mr. Allen referred to the highlighted date of January 7 and stated that the Superintendent suggested changing the date since it was the first day back after winter break and might not be the best timing, but it was up to the committee. Mr. Smith asked if there was anything that needed a decision regarding the budget at the meeting in January.

Mr. Allen responded that there was nothing to make a decision on. He shared that in the past there had been a couple of meetings in the fall which were used to establish goals for the Superintendent to observe while putting together the budget. As of last year, this district has moved away from goal setting because the goals of the Board and of the Budget Committee are now encompassed in the District Accountability Plan. This meeting scheduled in the fall is basically to bring everyone up to speed on the direction of the district. Mr. Allen added that the January meeting or a meeting early in the spring is set so there can be more discussions about priorities and to get a bigger picture about the budget before the budget is put together. Discussion ensued.

Ms. Gordon asked if charter schools are also required to have Achievement Compacts. Ms. Delapoe commented that charter schools have fewer requirements than public schools but she would find out. Mr. Summers asked if she would forward that information to the whole committee.

Mr. Allen stated that he was not sure what the agenda would be if a Budget Committee Meeting was held before January 28th, however, with the Board discussing the Achievement Compacts on January 28th, a meeting after that would have information on how they interact with the budget. Mr. Utt suggested meeting on January 30, so the information would be fresh in their minds. Mr. Summers asked for comments. Mr. Allen added that this date would still leave time for more Budget Committee meetings if desired. Mr. Norman made a motion to move the January 7 meeting to January 30. Mr. Marteeny seconded the motion. Mr. Summers asked for discussion. There was none. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Allen then took a moment and went through the contents of the packet for the Committee.

5. Establish Meeting Beginning and Ending Times if necessary.

Mr. Summers explained that in the past the meeting began at 7:00 p.m. and ended at 9:00 p.m. He also stated that if there was discussion in process just before 9:00 p.m. the meeting could be extended in 15 minute increments with a vote of the Committee for each extension. He asked if this was an acceptable process to everyone. Everyone was in agreement.

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BUDGET COMMITTEE DISCUSSIONS

1. GAPS Financial Update

Mr. Allen began by introducing Ashley Netzel, the District's new Controller. He shared that Nancy Hall took a job with the Woodburn School District and we were lucky to get Ashley from the Beaverton School District. She has been with us for about a month.

Mr. Allen then presented a power point presentation on a Financial Forecast Update to the Committee. A copy is attached to the original minutes. The first several slides covered information provided by the Confederation of School Administrators (COSA) depicting the decline in State funding for education over the last several years and its impact on school districts. He then discussed projected modest state general fund revenue growth (provided by the Oregon Office of Economic Analysis), PERS historical and announced 7/1/13 rates, and continued projected downturn in GAPS enrollment (albeit less pronounced than previous projections). Discussion ensued.

Mr. Allen then discussed the higher than expected 2011-12 Ending Fund Balance, why it will decline by \$2.35 million in 2012/13, and then forecasts out through 2016/17. The ending fund balance is projected to fall below 5% of budget in 2014/15. Discussion ensued. The Budget Committee was then reminded of numerous fiscal needs in the district from textbooks to adding back lost instructional days to lowering class sizes. Discussion ensued. Ms. Delapoe stated that many of the topics being discussed came out of the long-range planning discussions held last fall. She shared that she was keeping that information in mind so it can be addressed. Discussion ensued regarding title schools and cut days.

Mr. Allen then explained the potential fiscal impact of over \$500,000 if the charter school application was approved (stressing that this was only a fiscal impact analysis of the proposal). Discussion ensued regarding charter schools in nearby districts. Lastly, Student Based Budgeting was discussed; both conceptually as well as how it has been implemented over time in GAPS. Discussion ensued.

At 8:55 Mr. Bricker made a motion to extend the meeting for 15 minutes until 9:15 p.m. Mr. Summers asked for discussion. There was none. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

2. Achievement Compacts

Superintendent Delapoe addressed the Committee and began sharing information on Achievement Compacts. She stated that they are complicated and a work in process. She shared the Achievement Compacts are reflective of part of the Governor's goal to have 100 percent of students graduate from high school with a 40/40/20 exit rate. The 40/40/20 refers to 40% going on to a 4-year degree, 40% going on to a 2-year degree, and 20% graduating from high school.

Ms. Delapoe referred to the definitions of the Achievement Compacts that were included in the packet. She shared that the first three are around graduation. The first section relates to college and career ready. The target is identified as 80 percent of our students graduating in 4 years of high school. Next is post secondary enrollment where students are enrolled in some kind of higher education or technical education after high school. Another is students graduating with nine or more college credits already on the books. Ms. Delapoe reported that last year at least 22 percent of our seniors graduated with nine or more credits due to earned LBCC credits; there are many other areas where students can obtain college credits.

Ms. Delapoe emphasized that the Achievement Compact contains our own targets and that each district in the state of Oregon are looking at setting goals for the future and developing plans on how to raise their targets.

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Mr. Smith commented that gains could easily be made regarding the more than 9 credits requirement through conversations with LBCC without costing much money. Ms. Delapoer responded that those conversations have already begun and it involves students preschool through grade 20.

Another area in the Achievement Compact is “Progression”; making sure our students are progressing. We are not sure how having students ready for kindergarten is our responsibility because we cannot control it but we are working with area childcare and promoting informational documents to the community. At 3rd grade, progression is determined in math and reading by passing the OAKS testing. At 6th grade, being on track to graduate is related to the student’s attendance, being present at least 90 percent of school calendar days. In high school, it is based on completing 6 basic credits their freshman year and 90 percent attendance.

Ms. Delapoer shared that four of the priorities could be from the District Accountability Plan. She also shared that there are potential changes in the works on some of the targets and the board which determines these targets is scheduled to meet Wednesday. Some items being discussed include separating the 9th grade on-track attendance and credits; possibly changing to a five-year completion or graduation rate; adding writing assessment at 7th grade for academic measure at the secondary level; and move a math target to 5th grade so it would be measured at 3rd, 5th, and 7th grades.

Mr. Boehme asked about what happened with the Achievement Compact sent to the State. He stated he understood that changes were required. Ms. Delapoer responded that the graduation target was rearranged by raising our graduation target by 1% and 3rd grade math scores were also raised by 1% and resubmitted. These changes were accepted by the state.

Ms. Delapoer referred to the copy of the flow chart in the packet. She stated that Subsection 3 proposed a language revision to include parents in the communication process. She stated that there is still a need for input from a broader scope of stake holders. She shared that there was an advisory committee (Large District Leadership Team) appointed by the Board at the end of September which consists of individuals from the certified and classified associations, individuals from schools, and district level administration. This committee has developed a process for setting targets and developing plans which will be sent out to other stakeholders for feedback. They are on target to take the feedback and revise the plan for presentation to the Board on January 28. At the end of May, the Board will start discussions on approving proposed Achievement Compacts; but we are a long way from that at this time.

Mr. Norman stated that when this was talked about last year, there was not much direction coming from the state, and the information that we were receiving was very vague. He asked if the state was providing more information beyond what they provided previously. Ms. Delapoer responded that we have been jumping through the hoops as necessary. She stated that if one looks at our graduation rate of 79% and the state’s graduation rate of 67%, we want to increase that rate, however, it seems odd that they want us to continue increasing our rate when we are already above and beyond the state rate. She emphasized though that the document talks about the targets and how we are getting there, at the local level, not the state level. Overall they want to see the numbers continue to improve.

Mr. Smith asked if the district had heard anything about pre-populated goals dropping off as districts make improvements. Ms. Delapoer responded that the Achievement Compacts will be in place for several years since it replaces “No Child Left Behind.” She stated that she doesn’t think they will go away anytime soon.

Ms. Delapoer then commented that included in the packet is a copy of the District’s Accountability Plan and that the Board is in the process of revising it. She shared that an Education Funding Team (a group pulled together to discuss where the future of education may be going) has made some summary recommendations to

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the governor. She stated that she has heard that a percentage of the State School Fund is targeted for these investments

Mr. Boehme commented that he had a concern that when the TIF grant funds are gone, how the district will be able to continue to finance the ideas that teachers and coaches have implemented during the grant funding period. He commented that he hopes there will be a possibility to carve out a few dollars to give the same advantages to other schools. He stated that there should be a conversation or start planning for these types of opportunities. Mr. Boehme also shared that he has heard a lot about the inconsistency of programs available in elementary schools. The elementaries are so decentralized that each principal determines where they spend their FTE (some put it into Music; others Art; others PE). He stated that many parents want to know why their student can't have what other schools are offering. He asked if some thought had been given as to try to influence the principals so all students have the same opportunity across the board. Ms. Delapoer stated that they are looking at specialists at the elementary level. She stated that if there is an opportunity to add back staff; reducing class size or putting specialists at the elementary level would need to be looked at. She stated that this type of discussion takes place at the Large DLT.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were none.

BUDGET COMMITTEE REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

1. Are Charter Schools also required to have Achievement Compacts? Ms. Delapoer reported that charter school scores would be counted with district scores as are all GAPS schools. Charter Schools fall under the District's umbrella in relation to Achievement Compacts and testing.

Mr. Summers asked if there were any additional questions. There were none.

ADJOURN

Mr. Summers adjourned the meeting at 9:17 p.m.

Will Summers, Committee Chair

Recorded by Kathie Caldwell