

Budget and Levy Committee Meeting

Agenda

02.02.24

1. Approve Minutes (attached)
2. Recap and Options—*Micah Hill, Superintendent, and Pat McHugh, Executive Director of Business and Operations*
3. HR Reduction Timeline Under Collective Bargaining Agreement—*Trevor Laboski, Executive Director of Human Resources*
4. Next Meeting

Budget and Levy Committee Meeting

Minutes

11.17.23

Attendees: Pat McHugh, Executive Director of Business & Operations; Micah Hill, Superintendent; Amy Shattuck, Asst Superintendent; Trevor Laboski, Executive Director of Human Resources; Ginny Haines, Director of Special Education; Barbara Frank, Director of Academic & Community Services; Tyler Christiansen, Communications Director; Kacee Ballou, President MEA; Koan Mercer, Trustee; Ann Wake, Trustee; Keegan Witt, Trustee; Stephanie Wodarz, Business Specialist.

Committee met from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm

Pat presented on the following topics:

- Elementary and High School General Fund expenditures with details on contracted services, utilities, property/liability insurance, and supplies.
- FY23 GF expenditures by building Elementary and Middle School
- FY25 Projections
- Historical and future estimates for FY19-FY28

Trevor presented on the following topics:

- FTE by school and grade PK-8 with the view to required classroom minimums and FTE per student
- Classified FTE by school K-12 divided by program/grade
- ESSER funded positions
- Plan for ESSER people

Discussion on what makes up the General Fund by Ann Wake and how we can help schools. Koan asked about Health Insurance trust and health of the fund.

Discussion on what the plan is for the ESSER positions and how to best use the board. Koan concerned with what we can do to save ESSER positions that are student focused. If we would use money that is leftover.

Did not have time to discuss soft money agenda item.

Next steps: next meeting Thursday, December 14th.

Budget and Levy Committee Meeting

Minutes

12.07.23

ATTENDEES: Micah Hill, Superintendent; Koan Mercer, Trustee; Amy Shattuck, Assistant Superintendent 9-12; Vincent Giammona, Assistant Superintendent K-8; Trevor Laboski, Executive Director of Human Resources; Tyler Christensen, Communications Director; Pat McHugh, Executive Director of Business and Operations; Ginny Haines, Director of Special Education; Shannon Judge MEA; Ann Wake, Trustee; Keegan Witt, Trustee; Stephanie Wodarz, Business Specialist; Barbara Frank, Director of Academic and Community Services.

1. Federal Programs & Grants—Barbara Frank. Barbara explained the various Title programs and what they do, how funding formula works. Some of the federal funding is not yet decided causing issues with funding grants. Expect to see less money in the federal grant programs this year.
2. General Fund Expenditures – Pat McHugh. Pat spoke to the latest projection for the FY25 GF including potential salary costs. Pat showed the break outs of HS GF expenditures.
3. One Time Only Funds – Pat McHugh. Pat explained the sources and what they mean. Bulk of the OTO funds are in the elementary district.
4. Priorities & Options—Micah Hill. Explained three things impacting budget: ESSER, declining enrollment, inflation. We are entering into a negotiating year which will impact numbers. All the numbers we have looked at are based on passing operational levy. Minimum district priorities: meet accreditation standards, admin oversight, keep lights on in our buildings and keep them in good working order. Looking at efficiencies and expenses and finding ways to cut. Can make cuts to central services, but these services still have to go on and will impact schools, teachers. Spoke to potential safety levy along with operational levy.
5. Next Meeting
 - a. Date Selection: January 11, 2024. Will meet on the 2nd Thursday of the month when possible.

Budget and Levy Committee Meeting

Minutes

01.11.24

ATTENDEES: Micah Hill, Superintendent; Koan Mercer, Trustee; Amy Shattuck, Assistant Superintendent 9-12; Vincent Giammona, Assistant Superintendent K-8; Carleen Hathaway MMCEO; Trevor Laboski, Executive Director of Human Resources; Tyler Christensen, Communications Director; Pat McHugh, Executive Director of Business and Operations; Ginny Haines, Director of Special Education; Shannon Judge MEA; Ann Wake, Trustee; Stephanie Wodarz, Business Specialist; Barbara Frank, Director of Academic and Community Services; KaCee Ballou MEA.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

1. Updated General Fund Projections— Pat McHugh. Pat reviewed General Fund projections that had been shown at recent board meetings. Declining enrollment and loss of ESSER are impacting budget.
2. Staffing/Program Implications and Reduction Options—Micah Hill. Discussion of potential staffing/program reductions and other options to balance budget including:
 - Reduce staffing by 14 FTE, saving \$756k
 - Reduce district/building administration and support staff, saving \$96k
 - Close Jefferson school, saving \$32k
 - Increase student participation fees and external facility rental fees
 - Eliminate or reduce certain programs like SPARK, Lifeworks, building budgets
 - Shift positions to other funds
 - Spend one-time only funds
 - Changes to elementary specialist staffing for equity
 - Reviewed budget deficit scenarios under 3 plans: without levy, with general fund levy, and with safety levy. Safety levy would fund items like SROs, counselors, behavioral interventionists, and other safety related expenses
 - Similar discussion was had about the high school district budget and strategies to address funding issues
 - Non-tenured staff likely to get layoff notices by 2/21. Special Ed positions are less likely to be affected
 - Levies need community support; District should communicate levy impacts
 - Discussion about potential closure of Jefferson with the view to school serving as future K-5 charter location if charter school approved