Code: **DBEA**
Adopted: 3/13/91
Revised/Readopted: 10/13/99; 10/23/13
Orig. Code(s): DBEA

Budget Committee

By law, the budget committee is charged with decision-making concerning financial priorities.

The budget committee will have the responsibility for reviewing the financial program of the district, reviewing the proposed district budget as presented by the superintendent and recommending an annual district budget in keeping with the provisions of applicable state laws.

Educational policy decisions, however, are the responsibility of the Board, not the budget committee. The committee does not have the authority to add programs or to approve additional personnel or increase salaries. While the committee may, in effect, delete programs because of a fund decrease, the committee is charged primarily with a fiscal evaluation of programs. The committee may, alternatively, set an amount to be cut from the recommended budget and request the administration make such reductions in accordance with priorities set by the Board.

The budget committee consists of seven members appointed by the Board plus the elected Board members. To be eligible for appointment, the appointive member must:

1. Live in the district;

2. Not be an officer, agent or employee of the district.

No budget committee member may receive any type of compensation from the district.

At a meeting in August, the Board will identify vacant budget committee positions, which must be filled by appointment of the Board. The Board will announce the vacancies and receive applications from interested persons during the month of September. Such applications will include a signed statement that the applicant is willing to serve as a member of the budget committee. The Board may appoint budget committee members to as many consecutive terms as deemed appropriate.

The Board will review the names of persons filing applications and names of those persons who have served previously and are willing to be reappointed. No later than aregular meeting in November, the Board will appoint persons to fill the vacant positions.

The appointive budget committee members will be appointed for three-year terms. The terms will be staggered so that approximately one-third of the appointive members' terms end each year. If any appointive member is unable to complete the term for which he/she was appointed, the Board will announce the vacancy at the first regular Board meeting following the committee member's resignation or removal. An appointment to fill the position for its unexpired term will be made at a subsequent Board meeting.

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At the organizational meeting, the budget committee will elect a presiding officer from among its members. It may also establish such other ground rules as necessary for successful operation of the committee.

A majority of the constituted committee is required for passing an action item. Majority for a 14-member budget committee is 8. Therefore, if only 8 members are present, a unanimous vote is needed for passing an action.

The budget committee shall hold one or more meetings to receive the budget message, the budget document, and to provide members of the public with an opportunity to ask questions about and comment on the budget document. The budget committee shall announce the time and place for all such meetings, as provided by law. All meetings of the budget committee are open to the public.

The budget committee may request of the superintendent or budget officer any information used in the preparation of or for revising the budget document. The committee may request the attendance of any district employee at its meetings. The budget committee will approve the budget document as submitted by the budget officer or as subsequently revised by the committee.

After approval of the original or revised budget document, the budget committee's duties cease. The hearing on the approved budget is held by the Board.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

ORS 174.130
ORS 192.610 - 192.710
ORS 294.305 - 294.565

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