

Budget Committee Questions and Responses

4.18.16 Meeting

1a. Question –

How much money is being newly allocated to reduce class size next year? What impact do we expect that to have on class sizes district-wide?

1b. Answer –

In 2015-16, we used one time only funds to add \$6 million (60 teachers) to reduce class size from the Local Option Levy fund balance. This year, we have continued the \$6 million in class size reduction using a permanent source of funding. Class size allocation ratios are the same and the bank of teaching positions to address class size bubbles K-12 is nine more than last year for a total of 41 teachers for 2016-17. If enrollment is over projection in the fall, additional teachers will be added based on increased enrollment.

Option schools will receive an increased teacher allocation in order to reduce the number of different courses for which a teacher preps or increase planning time.

2016-17			
	Staffing Ratio	Average Class Size Targets	Bank Balance
Kindergarten	24.80	28	41 teachers
Grade 1	27.33	29	
Grade 2	27.33	29	
Grade 3	27.33	30	
Grade 4	27.33	31	
Grade 5	27.33	31	
Grades 6-8 (core)	26.33	30-35	
Grades 9-10 (core)	26.53	30-35	
Grades 11-12 (core)	26.53	34-40	

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2a. Question –

What is the cost to reduce class sizes by 1 student?

2b. Answer –

To reduce class size by 1 student across the district has remained the same, or approximately \$6 million.

3a. Question –

How does the District plan for state budget adjustments that occur late in the year (May)?

3b. Answer –

The District updates State School Fund revenue projections in each step of the process. We begin with the initial funding in the proposed budget. We change revenue projections as information becomes available from the state at the approved or adopted budget stages. Last year, we even did a supplemental budget in the fall once the final funding level was determined. We don't often receive the information from the Legislature or Oregon Department of Education in time to include in the proposed budget. For 2016-17, we have additional information for the approved budget, and are adding \$574,058 in revenue.

4a. Question –

Although we do not specify a class size limit, what were the "bubbles" used in 2015/16 to allocate targeted teaching resources?

4b. Answer –

See the response under 1b. The chart includes the targeted class size by level.

These targets change annually based on the funding available, number of classes and individual classroom sizes across the District.

5a. Question –

While most of the budget presentations and budget questions are related to the key investment areas (three community priorities and seven key efforts), on page four of the Budget Message, the sum of all strategic investments for current year (FY 16-17 proposed budget) is only \$7,228,018. This \$7,228,018 of total investments is less than 1% of \$998,501,566 proposed annual budget and is less than 2% of \$449,926,506 General Fund. Just strictly looking at the numbers and percentages, it seems that the amount we budgeted for key strategic investments

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is immaterial to the overall annual budget and General Funds. If the multi-year plan and key strategic investments are such critical priorities to our schools, teachers, and students, why such small amount is being budgeted? Please share your/Internal Budget Team's perspective on this.

5b. Answer –

Additions to the general fund budget have been categorized by pillar, community priority and key effort. We have not categorized the entire budget by pillar, priority and key effort.

Below is a chart by fund reflecting the purpose of each fund and the total % of budget. Our strategic investments in the pillars, key efforts and community priorities generally occur in the general fund.

Fund	Description	Amount	% of Total Proposed Budget
100 General	Daily operations of the District (pillars, key efforts & community priorities)	449,926,506	45.1%
200 Special Revenue	Resources designated for a specific purpose such as grants, student body funds, nutrition services	88,015,625	8.8%
300 Debt Service	Payments for bonds and debt issued as approved by voters	75,805,344	7.6%
400 Capital Projects	Construction of new schools, rebuilding of schools, major renovations, technology infrastructure and equipment	373,081,000	37.4%
600 Insurance	Self insurance funds for worker's compensation, property and liability insurance	11,273,091	1.1%
700 Scholarships	College scholarships for Beaverton students	400,000	<1%
Total		998,501,566	100%

6a. Question –

Further to question #5 above, since the FY16-17 proposed budget is part of a Multi-year Finance Plan, how much (%) of the Multi-year budget is invested specifically in the key investment areas (three community priorities and seven key efforts)?

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6b. Answer –

Below is a chart listing the strategic investments to date and their percentage of general fund budget.

Pillar/Priority	Key Investment	Prior Year \$	2016-17 Additions \$	Total 2016-17 \$	% of Total Proposed General Fund Budget
WE Expect Excellence	Educator Effectiveness	\$255,000	\$317,600	\$572,600	0.13%
	Standards-Based Learning System	16,621,000	1,222,620	17,843,620	3.97%
WE Innovate	Future Ready Schools	2,000,000	1,400,000	3,400,000	0.76%
WE Embrace Equity	AVID	1,660,000	805,000	2,465,000	0.55%
	Culturally Relevant Practices	5,797,316	1,942,380	7,739,696	1.72%
WE Collaborate	Learning Teams	325,000	-	325,000	0.07%
	Community Partnerships	-	80,000	80,000	0.00%
Class Size		6,958,718	1,210,418	8,169,136	1.82%
Instructional Time		-	-	-	0.00%
Comprehensive Education		4,138,743	430,000	4,568,743	1.02%
Total Key Investments/Community Priorities		\$37,755,777	\$7,408,018	45,163,795	10.04%
Total General Fund Budget				\$449,926,506	

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7a. Question-

What is the curriculum adoption cycle for the next several years?

7b. Answer -

Currently the Teaching and Learning Department is working on a 3-5 year schedule for curriculum adoption. Here are the initial plans:

The District is the English language arts adoption in 2015-16 with implementation running the next 3-4 years. Staff are in the process with the math adoption which will likely conclude in 2016-17 with implementation over 3-4 years. The next content area will be Health (and possibly Physical Education) beginning in 2016-17 and likely concluding in 2017-18 with implementation running 2-3 years.