
LOCAL OPTION LEVY AND BUDGET PRIORITIES

POLICY ISSUE/SITUATION

A Local Option Levy is being considered as a possible funding solution in 2013-14. There will be an update on the work being done as the Board considers a Local Option Levy for the May 2013 ballot.

The District is working on varying funding scenarios and balancing the budget for 2013-14. In December 2011, the board created Budget Priorities for 2012-13. The Board will review last year's priorities and provide input for 2013-14.

Approved School Board Budget Priorities December 12, 2011

College & Career Ready: I believe that we need to prioritize the resources, supports and course offerings that have the closest connection to our District goal of students being college and career ready. They should be aligned to the core college admissions and graduation requirements and clearly explained to students, parents and other school stakeholders.

Equity: I believe we need to prioritize schools receiving equitable resources, which would include differentiating dollars beyond a common base level to areas in the district in need of the most support as determined by academic achievement for the purpose of reducing the achievement gap and providing educational opportunities and academic success for all students.

Individual Student Achievement: I believe we need to prioritize high levels of instruction by ensuring teachers have the appropriate supports, tools and time for purposeful collaboration to focus their efforts on individualizing education (interventions, accelerations, special needs, TAG, etc.) instruction and the Professional Learning Model referred to in our Strategic Plan.

Instruction/Class Size: I believe we need to prioritize class size, starting with the primary grades and investing in early childhood partnerships. We should consider class size in middle and high schools that facilitates student learning in core content areas that we can sustainably afford.

Technology: I believe that our technology priorities, in order, should be: 1) ensuring a secure district-wide infrastructure that protects and serves our students, staff and their confidential information, 2) integrating proven technology tools into classroom instruction when it will improve individual student achievement; and 3) enhancing parent involvement in student achievement with an easy to use tool that communicates the level of academic progress of students.