



**APPROVAL OF BUDGET MEETING MINUTES**

**POLICY ISSUE / SITUATION**

Enclosed are the minutes for:

- May 4, 2015 Budget Meeting

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**(15-549)** BE IT RESOLVED that the minutes of the May 4, 2015 Budget Meeting are hereby approved.

**District Goal:** All students will show continuous progress toward their personal learning goals, developed in collaboration with teachers and parents, and will be prepared for post-secondary education and career success.

The Beaverton School District recognizes the diversity and worth of all individuals and groups. It is the policy of the Beaverton School District that there will be no discrimination or harassment of individuals or groups based on race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, marital status, age, veterans' status, genetic information or disability in any educational programs, activities or employment.

**WE EXPECT EXCELLENCE****WE INNOVATE****WE EMBRACE EQUITY****WE COLLABORATE****Board Members Present:**

Susan Greenberg  
Anne Bryan  
Mary VanderWeele  
Donna Tyner  
LeeAnn Larsen  
Jeff Hicks  
Linda Degman

**Budget Committee Members Present:**

Carrie Anderson  
Cindy Owen  
Kim Overhage  
Eric Liu  
Evelyn Brzezinski  
Simer Singh  
Tim Garey

**District Administration Members Present:**

Jeff Rose, Superintendent  
Carl Mead, Deputy Superintendent  
Ron Porterfield, Deputy Superintendent  
Claire Hertz, Chief Financial Officer  
Sue Robertson, Chief Human Resource Officer  
Steve Langford, Chief Information Officer  
Maureen Wheeler, Public Communication Officer  
Barbara Evans, Executive Administrator for K-5 Schools  
Brenda Lewis, Executive Administrator for K-5 Schools  
Carolyn Miller, Executive Administrator for K-5 Schools  
Mike Chamberlain, Executive Administrator for High School/Option Schools  
Matt Casteel, Executive Administrator/ABSA Representative  
Robin Kobrowski, Administrator for Curriculum, Instruction Assessment/Secondary  
Ginny Hansmann, Administrator for Curriculum, Instruction Assessment/Primary

Melissa Larson, Communication Specialist  
Kara Yunck, Community Involvement Program Specialist  
Jon Bridges, Administrator for Accountability  
Sho Shigeoka, Administrator for Equity and Inclusion  
Gayellyn Jacobson, Administrator for Fiscal Services  
Linda Hanson, Senior Budget Accountant  
Marcie Davis, Assistant to CFO and Administrator of Fiscal Services  
Susan Rodriguez, Administrator for Licensed Personnel  
Ronda Haun, Administrator for Classified Personnel  
Danielle Sheldrake, Administrator for Student Services  
Jared Cordon, Elementary Principal  
John Peplinski, Title Elementary Principal  
Claudia Ruf, Middle School Principal  
Shirley Brock, Middle School Principal  
Mary Jean Katz, Options Principal

**I. Welcome and Opening Remarks****Kim Overhage &  
Jeff Rose**

Budget Committee Chair, Kim Overhage, called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM. Our goal tonight is to do good work for the kids.

Superintendent Jeff Rose discussed high level areas:

- Focusing on \$7.255B as the funding level.
- Financial Goals for 2015-16: Statutory and policy requirements have been met.
- Strategic Plan: Looking at the dollar amounts available and tying it to the Strategic Plan, the District is highly proficient in this area.
- Community Priorities: There are four (4) specific areas. The District has the ability to move the dial in each area, and the District is not highly proficient in all of them. Some are close to proficient, nearing proficiency and some are still developing. Beaverton School District is extremely fortunate to be adding hundreds of staff. The District is also fortunate to be maintaining a higher ending fund balance in the General Fund to support future Bond issues.

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The meeting location is accessible to persons with disabilities. A request for an interpreter for the hearing impaired, or for other accommodations for persons with disabilities, should be made at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting. Please contact Community Involvement Office at 503-591-4360.

- PERS: There has been a recent court ruling. The District doesn't have specifics at this time but it will have an impact in 2017-19 biennium. The Committee doesn't have an answer on what should be done over the next year, specific to PERS. The Board has been really wise, relative to the ending fund balance and the direction they have given us, with recent conversations exploring further steps specific to a "rainy day" fund. It is very important for the School Board and School District to continue to focus on this area, as the District plans and prepares for 2017-19 as PERS information continues to unfold.
- Budget Process: It has been really beneficial for Board and Budget Committee to come together in the fall to discuss the specific financial goals for 2015-16. The Internal Budget Team (IBT) process was also more focused than in the past. Aligning resources in the Strategic Plan, as well as the academic needs of the student, has improved year by year. The District will continue to improve on how the District provides the Board and Budget Committee updates along the way.

Thank you to the IBT and Business office for going above and beyond their typical duties. Many times they were called from their specific roles to a variety of meetings to contribute to the goals of the District. Thank you to the Board and Budget Committee for staying engaged, researching and representing the community.

## II. Approval of Minutes from the April 20, 2014

**Kim Overhage**

**Overhage** asked for any corrections to the minutes from the April 20<sup>th</sup> meeting. Carrie Anderson described the testimony from Tom Bryan (third bullet point on Page 11) should read: "Suggested the transporting of students to various locations in order to attend the programming classes."

**Overhage** made the motion to approve the minutes, as amended. The motion passes unanimously.

## III. Budget Update

**Claire Hertz**

**Hertz** described the three (3) major changes to the proposed Budget:

- Page 16: Changed the funding level to \$7.255B. State School Fund (SSF) revenue and instructional time/teacher collaboration has been reduced.
- Revenue: Previously Kindergarten tuition was included – this should not have been. Legislature is increasing the high cost disability level from 34% to 80% funding level.
- Capital Projects/Bond: Budget was in the construction appropriation level, and the District is transferring out of Construction and into the Support Services level for bus purchases.

You will be voting on the following summarized information:

- Total budget amount for All Funds: \$984,932,922;
- Permanent tax rate of \$4.6930 per thousand of assessed value;
- \$1.25/per thousand for the Local Option Levy ; and
- \$53,109,285 for the bonded debt in our bond issues for capital improvements.

**Overhage** thanked everyone from Staff for answering all of the questions from the Committee.

## IV. Budget Committee Final Comments

**Kim Overhage**

**Overhage** explained the next steps were to go around to each Committee member asking "Do you support the budget?" Please answer with a "yes" or "no." However, Eric Liu would like to add something first.

**Liu** commented on the students who testified at the April 20<sup>th</sup> Budget Meeting, in regards to the AP Computer Science classes. He explained all high schools have this similar issue, not just Westview. Liu sent a thank you to teacher, Dan Valasquez, who noted it was hard to find qualified teachers. Valasquez mentioned a teacher's salary is about 50% of a computer programmer in the industry, which reflects why there were so few candidates. The District has been cutting back on the programs and teachers. All were cut through budget and staff reductions. The workload is so high, the teacher almost quit. Liu would like to

propose no more cuts to these programs, as well as ear-mark funding at each high school to increase the programs.

**Overhage** echoed these concerns, however, the Committee may not be able to accomplish this goal this late in the year. How is it possible to recruit the computer science teachers needed? Are there other compensation options? There is a very large salary difference between an engineer and a starting teacher. The District needs to explore possible solutions.

**Tyner** suggested a task force to work on the computer science program, and to get started sooner rather than later using resources the District can draw upon from the community. The program may not necessarily be during the school day, it may be an after school class. The Committee should review in the next budget year and by that time the District may have specific dollars, as well as people lined up.

**Superintendent Rose** described there can't be a solution this evening, however there have been many conversations since the testimony from the students. Unfortunately, it can't be solved simply by adding teachers. There are possibilities with staffing, college partnerships, or online classes. This isn't specific to a budgeting task, there is a lot of internal work that needs to be done. However, it has started many conversations already. The District will continue to report on this topic to the Board.

**Overhage:** The School Board would be the appropriate committee for this topic. A task force would be a great idea. The process needs to be done thoroughly and with a balanced approach.

**VanderWeele** thanked Liu for elevating this topic. The Committee is approving an undesignated amount of teachers in the current Budget and working at a "function" level. With the budget approval tonight, there is enough flexibility to work within this structure.

**Overhage** asked each member: "Do you support the Budget?"

**Brzezinski** – Yes, supports the Budget. Brzezinski felt better at the end of this year than last year. There were many successful conversations that developed and were resolved within the Budget meetings. Budget Committee/Board members could discuss what their priorities were in the fall. She could see comments that were made at the end of last year were included in how supplemental budget dollars were spent. She spoke to Eric Liu, to not give up and have confidence in staff resolving the computer program issue. Started with the group expressing priorities, and felt as though the committee had input as a committee member. She supported the idea of having a meeting in late fall to give direction to the IBT process through setting priorities. Appreciated the fact the District is adding programs/positions and not taking away, thanks to the voters.

**Larsen** - Yes, supports the Budget. She was very excited about many things, especially about adding rather than cutting. Looked forward to advocating for increased instructional time, as well as collaboration time as the State adds to our funding in the next month or two.

**Degman** – Yes, supports the Budget. Echoed what Larsen said. Was still concerned regarding the following two items:

1. The number of students in the classrooms: Science classes are fairly large, which isn't conducive to the best learning environment. Is that due to lab space, what is the reasoning for this?
2. Libraries, Future-Ready: Needs to be more community involvement in the initiative.

**Liu** – Yes, supports the Budget. Disturbing to him that in times of additions, the District was still cutting in some very important areas. Supports the budget other than this.

**Hicks** – Yes, supports the Budget. This was the last Budget Meeting for Hicks, he felt very positive and excited about this budget with many things to look forward to, in particular, the expansion of the Two-Way Immersion (TWI) program and new teacher mentoring. Hoped to get some time for new teachers to collaborate, as well.

**Owen** – Yes, supports the Budget. Feels much better this year than last year. This year has been much more consolidated. The meeting in the fall was very important in order to lay the framework for the year. Agreed with Brzezinski, the discussions from last year felt heard. Thank you to everyone for all the hard work and for getting all the information to the Committee.

**Tyner** – Yes, supports the Budget. Thank you to Staff for all the hard work. Concerned the Budget doesn't cover everything that the Committee set forth as a priority. The number one accomplishment should be smaller class-sizes. The one-to-one relationship between student and teacher speaks volumes and sets them on a path to excellence. Additionally, college-readiness should be a greater focus.

**Garey** – Yes, supports the Budget. Thank you to Staff and IBT. There are two (2) concerns:

1. Libraries: What does our library look like in 5-10 years? Does the District have qualified teachers?
2. Class time, increased days, and bring down ratios. Hoping there aren't cuts this year that will then need to be filled in the near future.

**Greenberg** – Yes, supports the Budget. Agreed with the idea of a task force for Future-Ready Libraries.

Would like to focus on the following areas next year:

1. Instructional time.
2. Programming Classes: There was a lot of discussion around programming in the high schools, however, the District should be looking into programming throughout all levels
3. Individualized education: More technology in the classroom.

**Singh** – Yes, supports the Budget. Thank you to whole team. This year was a much improved process from last year. Going forward, it would be nice to have a more holistic approach to "Future-Ready" by leveraging all the technology the District has at their disposal. Money will always be a problem. Possibly look into collaborating with industries in the local community. Leverage community help, adding more resources, looking into how much money is being spent and how efficient it is. This Budget gets a grade 8 out of 10.

**Bryan** – Yes, supports the Budget. Whether the District is adding or subtracting, this Budget shows the priorities. When revenue is finalized, it would be appropriate to add instructional time or teachers. The District is much closer to adding instructional time. It feels much better in terms of class size, education offerings. Moving forward to spring and summer, there may be opportunities to receive additional funds. Further conversations will be necessary at that time regarding class-size and instructional time. Appreciation to Liu, however, the problems are bigger than solving at the school level, and should be at a District level. Very appreciative to Beaverton voters.

**Anderson** – Yes, supports the Budget, with reservations. Instructional time will hopefully be the next addition. There are sixty (60) unassigned teacher positions - rather than assume the District can't hire an AP programming teacher or teacher/librarians, maybe its possible the District can offer the program classes and attempt to fill the positions. Would like to see the Libraries happen much faster than the 5 year plan that has been laid out.

**VanderWeele** – Yes, supports the Budget. Agreed with most of the comments from the committee. Appreciated the additional question and answer process and learning about the additional investments in relieving class size, they are greater than previously understood. Agreed with Tyner regarding the class-size priority. Southridge High School has an average of 36 students and PE has 48 students – this is still too high. There needs to be an investment, District-wide, to lower class-sizes. Tracking the priorities from the IBT regarding the "Whole-Child Instruction." Additions of CTE, programming, music, PE and librarians means the District is moving forward and making progress. Expanding PE, in compliance with state law is a priority. Continue to focus on instruction time and collaboration as the committee hopes for stability.

The challenge of the PERS ruling is incredibly disappointing. May have to make up for the savings that were anticipated. Need to fund Rainy Day fund, and expect the Board to approve in the next two weeks.

Continued work from committee and staff is necessary due to the uncertainty of the Gain Share funding, the non-sustainable nature of this year's funding and the big challenge of getting PE increased to state law. The local community has been extremely generous, but now moving into year 3 of a 5 year levy. The District needs to express appreciation and appreciate the difference it has made.

**Overhage** – Yes, supports the Budget. The Budget is very overwhelming to figure out. There has been a tremendous amount of effort put into this Budget and the Committee is eternally grateful.

Next year: continue figuring out Future-Ready libraries, computer science and figure out the correlation of why kids aren't graduating. There are 39,000 kids who need to be successful citizens of this country and moving on to college.

Thank you to IBT for looking at the big picture. The whole group came together to make recommendations to the Committee. Thank you to the Board for setting goals and making priorities.

## **V. Approval of Budget and Tax Levies**

**Kim Overhage**

**Brzezinsky** reads the motion to approve, seconded by **Larsen**:

The Beaverton School District Budget Committee moves that the Beaverton School District budget in the aggregate amount of \$984,932,922, for all funds, for 2015-16 be approved and that the permanent tax rate of \$4.6930 per \$1,000 of assessed value be assessed in support of the General Fund.

I further move that a local option tax rate of \$1.25 per \$1,000 of assessed value be assessed in support of the General Fund.

I further move that a tax of \$53,109,285 be approved for the service of bonded debt obligations of the School District.

Discussion on the motion? None. Motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

## **VI. Budget Process Debrief:**

**Kim Overhage**

- **What went well?**
- **Are there areas for improvement?**

**Overhage** explained there would be a budget process de-briefing, discussing what went well and what could be improved. The Committee was broken into groups of three (3) and one representative would report out to the group.

**Greenberg, Singh and Garey**: Everyone worked toward the few goals set forth. Discussed the possibility of starting the budget discussions earlier in the year for short term/long term goals. Shared the desire for a more interactive program to communicate, other than Google Docs.

**Owen, Tyner & Hicks**: Think outside the box to get community comments. Felt the communication with the public was unsuccessful. Is it possible to allow people to e-mail comments, then read them at the Budget meetings? Need to leverage the Parent Teacher Organizations more.

**Liu, Degman & Larsen**: Goals were fabulous. The ability to ask questions with an amazing response time was great. Improvement: when Budget document came, it would have been nice to see the major changes or additions, line-itemed out, with goals and priorities. This would make it less intimidating and not so overwhelming. It's difficult to get a handle on the whole document.

**Brzezinsky, Overhage** agreed to continue having a meeting early in the year. The Spanish listening session was a great addition. As for improvements, need more community involvement earlier in the process.

Getting more detail, granularity in the variance reports and highlighting the differences from last year would be helpful to the committee. Need to remind everyone that some of the dollars for subsequent years are in addition to and not cumulative. Could dollar amounts be added together?

**VanderWeele, Anderson, Bryan:** Mirror LeeAnne’s comments on the priority setting meeting and Q & A. Initial presentation needed to show overtly the alignment with the Strategic Plan and the priorities that were determined in December, with dollar figures. May want to look at the questions from this year in order to help prepare the presentation for next year. Find a different context for announcing new and exciting programs, additions/positions when educating the Board/Budget Committee.

Mary VanderWeele highlighted this would be her last year. She thanked Kim Overhage (Chair), Evelyn Brzezinski (Vice Chair) and Carrie Anderson (Zone Committee Member) for past 6 years. She also thanked Jeff Hicks’ for his ten years of service.

**Degman:** Spanish Listening session was a great idea, and it would be nice to expand to the northern side of the District. Most families on the north side wouldn’t travel to Vose (southern side of the District).

**VII. Closing Remarks**

**Jeff Rose**

Rose appreciated the positive feedback, and recognized it was important to celebrate successes. It would be very easy to constantly focus on what the District needs to do better without celebrating what was done well. The student goal, which is “All students will show continuous progress toward their personal learning goals.” The District needed to operate in the same way. As for the budget process, what can the District do year after year to show continuous progress? Recommendation on how the District can improve its processes are really important. The District will make note, as well as think about how to demonstrate the progress throughout the coming year. The hope for this evening was to leave pleased but far from satisfied. There will be more steps in the budget process working with the school board, through June. This is also a reminder this state is still several billions of dollars off from what the kids deserve. Why aren’t we disgraced with how the kids are being funded on a State level? Thank you to the community for ongoing engagement. There is great work being done in Beaverton. It’s very important to advocate for all of the kids to the State of Oregon.

There is a Funding Forum on Thursday, May 21<sup>st</sup>. Please think about attending that event.

Regardless of which dollar amount the District ends up with, there needs to be conversations about 1) what to do over next couple of years and 2) what are we going to do in this state to create a seamless process? This is an incredibly powerful and focused group. The District will continue to lean on you for overall support moving forward. Thank you to everyone.

**Overhage:** Final approval and formal hearing process will be at with the School Board meeting on June 1<sup>st</sup>. It is a public hearing. All Budget Committee members and community are welcome.

**Budget Meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.**

Kim Overhage  
Budget Committee Chair

Marcie Davis  
Recording Secretary