

Budget Committee Meeting

MPB Board Room and via ZOOM/Owl

Wednesday, April 16, 2025

35800 E Historic Columbia River Highway, Corbett

OR 97019

Budget / Board Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

A Budget Committee Meeting of Corbett School District was held Wednesday, April 16, 2025, beginning at 7:00 PM in the MPB / Board Room and via ZOOM-Owl virtual platform. Budget members present were Brad Hunter, Presiding Officer; Krystina Robison, Vice Presiding Officer (virtual); Amy Ciecko; Patrick Murphy; Jennifer Bruton; Benno Lyon and David Osborn. Board members present were Todd Mickelson, Chair; Leah Fredericks, Vice-Chair; David Granberg; Dylan Rickert; Bob Buttke; Ben Byers and Todd Redfern. Also present were Administrators Derek Fialkiewicz, Ed.D., Superintendent; Brie Windust, Business Office Assistant/ZOOM moderator; Robin Lindeen-Blakeley, Deputy Clerk/HR Lead; Regina Sampson, Business Manager/CFO and Jeanne Swift, Assistant Superintendent/Student Services Director. NOTE: The minutes are prepared to coincide with time scheduled matters and the numbering system of the agenda and is not necessarily the actual order of happenings at the meeting.

1. Preliminary Business - second meeting of the Budget Committee, a meeting to approve the budget which starts at 7:00 p.m., prior to the Board meeting agenda.

1.1. Call to Order/Flag Salute

Brad Hunter, Presiding Officer, called the meeting to order and led the flag salute.

<https://policy.osba.org/corbett/I/INDB%20D1.PDF>

2. Review and Acceptance of Agenda

Brad Hunter, Presiding Officer – No changes were called to the agenda.

<https://policy.osba.org/corbett/AB/BDDC%20D1.PDF>

2.1. Approval for Extension of Minutes

Brad Hunter, Presiding Officer asked for a motion to extend the minutes.

Leah Fredericks moved and Todd Mickelson seconded the extension of the Budget Committee Meeting minutes of April 9, 2025.

The vote of the Budget Committee and Board Members was unanimous, 14-0, to extend the approval of the minutes.

<https://policy.osba.org/corbett/AB/BDDG%20D1.PDF>

3. BUDGET REVIEW

Derek Fialkiewicz, Ed.D., Superintendent and Regina Sampson, Business Manager/CFO  
Proposed Budget for 2025-26

Review/discussion on any changes identified through budget committee questions on April 9 or those arising from our internal review of the proposed document

Dr. Fialkiewicz stated that nothing has changed since the first budget meeting.

<https://policy.osba.org/corbett/D/DBD%20D1.PDF>

7:02 p.m. 4. AUDIENCE COMMENTS – Amy Ciecko thought that the goal/perspective from the last meeting was to hear from the audience before we discuss.

Brad Hunter will leave the budget review open and proceeded to recognize Mindy LaFramboise, patron/parent, who provided public comment regarding the importance of maintaining extracurricular activities in the budget. After watching the last meeting, it looks like the budget doesn't necessarily cover what we need. She recognized how our school suffers without diversity in music, sports, as well as with Advanced Placement and art/literacy, with the 25% cost of living increases. Teachers are dependent on students and students come because of that. She was thankful for our amazing teachers and programs.

7:07 p.m. Brad Hunter called for other public comment and heard none.

#### 5. Budget Committee Discussion

Todd Mickelson did not attend the meeting on April 9, but felt comfortable with what has been put together and thanked Ms. Sampson for her work on the budget.

Amy Ciecko believed that the number five budget goal included extra-curricular. Corbett Youth Sports (CYS) doesn't do all Corbett sports for CMS. How is other music, sports, theater handled?

Dr. Fialkiewicz had a meeting with CYS and Corbett football for details. All CMS sports will be continued with them. No other extracurricular being affected, as they are currently. This is what keeps kids interested.

Benno Lyon maintained the priorities are the Ending Fund Balance (EFB) and facilities, and now CTE? The budget is to protect values and priorities, so can you speak to goals three and four? Morale is low after staff having a hard year, and student safety?

Dr. Fialkiewicz said that additional Educational Assistants (EA's) were being added to assist with classroom and the student safety piece. In addition, the \$2.5 million grant for seismic of the MPB is huge for student safety.

Ms. Sampson noted that we are maintaining FTE.

Dr. Fialkiewicz said there are no other decreases, hoping to add a teacher in the CMS, and not cutting anymore, so hopefully building trust.

Dylan Rickert recognized there will be a number of additional students.

Dr. Fialkiewicz said yes, three educational assistants to add.

Dylan Rickert asked if two at elementary and one at CAPS?

Dr. Fialkiewicz said it will be figured out when we have evaluated our needs.

Brad Hunter asked about capital improvements and a timeline for capital long-term needs budget.

Ms. Sampson answered that the investment is done by looking at list from maintenance supervisor, Steve Salisbury and then all-encompassing five-year plan hopefully.

Brad Hunter asked if this is front loaded or when to see assessment, in six months?

Ms. Sampson said she is meeting with Steve to determine a six month start list with operational budget in a future budget page.

Dr. Fialkiewicz looked at other districts who have put out surveys and plan to do one in May or June for feel for priorities on maintenance and then share document for transparency and accountability.

Brad Hunter noted that during the discussion on April 9 there was a lack of numbers to see what the true cost is to maintain the buildings.

Dr. Fialkiewicz has seen Mr. Salisbury for the last 2.5 years getting estimates and contractors. He then assumes work to do and when given a month, it has changed. It is tough to get actual costs.

Todd Mickalson noted that is why local contractors can give helpful numbers in past. They know our buildings and can give rough ballpark estimates.

Benno Lyon referred to the five-year plan delineating deferred maintenance versus beyond or only through bond? Questions about things to fund.

Dr. Fialkiewicz commented that we can't conquer all. The role is on the priority list.

Todd Mickalson said we can give ideas on what to go out for on grants and a priority for payment list.

David Osborn would encourage the community and creativity, building engagement and then trust and targeting.

Dr. Fialkiewicz agreed that is why we need community engagement from start to finish.

Todd Mickalson said the high level view from the Board.

Dr. Fialkiewicz said their perspective comes first, and not taint with other people's ideas.

Ben Byers said operating on emergency reserve, debt management. Then and if we don't do that well, we can't deliver or start to compromise.

Dr. Fialkiewicz noted that Curtis Young, patron/parent, was working with large facility improvement. As soon as we were in the news, we weren't financially stable. If going out for grants and donations, we first have to have our priority of EFB. We will need to go out for G.O. Bond in future and present a large enough EFB.

Ms. Sampson concurred that having stability and healthy EFB does affect our bond rating, so we are looking long-term to resolve.

Dr. Fialkiewicz said that bigger picture is larger EFB for large facility projects.

David Osborn asked what does that look like?

Ms. Sampson believed at least a 5% EFB and how long we have had it.

Amy Ciecko asked if it was a three-year plan to achieve 5%.

Dr. Fialkiewicz answered yes, that is our goal and to continue positive cycle.

Amy Ciecko noted the EFB -\$33,000.00. \$250,000.00 Contingency to roll into that EFB?

Dr. Fialkiewicz answered correct.

Brad Hunter noted that Beginning Fund Balance (BFB) was due to declining enrollment. How do you build options?

Dr. Fialkiewicz replied that originally when decision was made to decrease enrollment for 10 years. Then COVID and we fell off of the cliff. We thought it best to decrease each year with staffing, reshuffle through attrition and keep on parallel path so we wouldn't be affecting EFB.

Todd Mickalson said the plan is for a high coming up and then eventually to go down to 1050, but no lower. The community agreed to keep the community viable.

David Osborn proclaimed that he hopes we can all engage and not focus so much on a number as opposed to the number of enrollment going up or down and what serves students and staff to set the metric.

Dr. Fialkiewicz thought this budget serves us well given circumstances with \$100,000.00 in risk management, \$200,000.00 in Contingency. We need to do what is best for kids, and that is what it is there for.

#### 6. Approval/Recommendations Action Items

Leah Fredericks approved the 2025-26 Budget and Appropriation of Funds as written and read aloud from the Board packet attachment. Todd Mickalson seconded.

The vote of the Budget Committee and Board was 12 – 2; Todd Redfern and Bob Buttke opposed.

Leah Fredericks read aloud the motion to Approve Levying of Taxes as in the Board packet attachment with the corrected tax amount of \$385,387.00. Todd Mickalson seconded.

The vote of the Budget Committee and Board was 12 – 2; Todd Redfern and Bob Buttke opposed.

<https://policy.osba.org/corbett/D/DBEA%20D1.PDF>

#### **Attachments:** (2)

#### 7. Adjournment of the Budget Committee Meeting

Brad Hunter, Presiding Officer – Thanked Ms. Sampson and Dr. Fialkiewicz for their work. The budget committee meeting was adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Next meeting:

Wednesday, June 18, Public Hearing on the Budget

All meetings at 7:00 p.m. in the MPB/Board Room/Via ZOOM