

EUGENE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Lane County School District No. 4J
November 10, 2009

MEMORANDUM

To: Budget Committee Members

From: George Russell
Superintendent

Re: November 16, 2009 Budget Committee Meeting

This memo is intended to give you an overview of the meeting and describe the materials in your packet.

I. Roll Call

II. Introduction of New Members

III. Election of Officers

It is my recommendation that the Budget Committee elect a chair and vice-chair for the year.

IV. Items Raised by the Audience

Public testimony is welcomed at budget committee meetings, and time is set aside to hear comments from the audience.

V. Items for Information and Discussion

A. 2008-09 General Fund Financial Results

Financial Services staff will review 2008-09 financial results.

B. Information on Ballot Measures 66 and 67

Ballot measures 66 and 67 challenging tax increases by the 2009 Legislature will be submitted to Oregon voters in a January 26, 2010 special election. Ballots will be mailed January 8, 2010. Staff will provide information on the ballot measures and the potential impact to the district's resources.

C. Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) Bond Information

In 2003 the Board authorized district staff to issue pension obligation bonds for one-half of the district's unfunded PERS actuarial liability at that time. The funds were placed in a side account with PERS and are being used to offset employer PERS rates. With the downturn in the financial markets, the value of the district's side account has decreased which will affect future PERS rates. Staff will provide information on the district's PERS bonds.

D. 2009-10 Budget Process Recap and Debrief

During the 2009-10 budget process, district staff provided Budget Committee members with extensive information in an effort to ensure that the budget was focused on the instructional core, retained sufficient funds for operational activities, minimized layoffs and avoided short-term solutions that might have harmful long-term consequences. Staff will recap some of the information reviewed during last year and provide updates if available.

E. Data Requests from Budget Committee Members for 2010-11 Budget Process

Given the likelihood of another difficult budget season, I want to give budget committee members the opportunity to request information they might need to make informed decisions throughout the budget process. By requesting data now, staff will have more time to prepare the information. Staff will accumulate the requests and provide the data at future budget committee meetings.

VI. Items for Action at This Meeting

A. Approve Minutes from the March 9, April 13 and May 18, 2009 Budget Committee Meetings

I recommend that the Budget Committee approve the minutes.

B. Set Date for Next Budget Committee Meetings

I recommend that the next meeting date be set for December 14, 2009 to review enrollment projections and the financial forecast, as well as receive a report on the district's participation in the Harvard ExEI program. I also request that Budget Committee members reserve February 8, February 22, and March 15, 2010 to discuss budget reduction priorities and provide feedback on budget reduction strategies.

VII. Items Raised by Members of the Budget Committee

Budget Committee members will have an opportunity to raise issues that are not included on the agenda.

VIII. Adjournment