June 9, 2025 Budget Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Members attended: Marie Brown, Erin Kravitz, Diana Engel-Holmes, Whitney Thwaite

Staff attended: Mei Chan - CBO, Erik Burmeister - Superintendent

Absent: Latha Ramanan, Dan Levin, Gautam Nadella, Jason Morimoto

Meeting was called to order at 2:01pm

May 12 meeting minutes were reviewed. Due to lack of quorum, they will be brought back for approval at the next meeting.

The committee discussed questions on the budget such as line items, reserves, the "math", revenues, expenses, communications/process, overarching philosophy/policy. Some specific questions were:

- 1. Special Education, what is our approach/policy?
- 2. Out of district students
- 3. Definition of "equity"
- 4. Why do we not need to use reserves if we are deficit spending?
- 5. What is our "northstar"? Is it class size?
- 6. How can we better communicate on budget?
- 7. Should we reduce our reserve level?
- 8. Explore new revenue sources such as Parcel Tax
- 9. Hiring freeze
- 10. Re-evaluate job descriptions, re-classify positions
- 11. Increases in operating costs and supplies
- 12. Enrollment decline, what does this mean to the budget
- 13. What are the thoughts on layoffs now that the budget outlook has improved?
- 14. Is it the committee's responsibility to audit the monthly warrant registers?

Erik shared that the committee should not be responsible for warrant register audits as it is the role of the Board. He also suggested that proper board policy language may help us achieve no layoffs. We will be looking at revenue opportunities such as charging for field trips, busing and bringing back Apple for the Teacher.

The committee also discussed how the BAC could look like going forward. It could be split into 2 groups to have better space for different needs. BAC will continue as is until the full Board decides in Aug/Sept board meeting.

Further discussion on Special Education and Reserves took place.

The next meeting will be scheduled for either 8/11 or 8/18. Marie will send out an email on preferences from the group.

Meeting adjourned at 3:58PM