

<p style="text-align: center;">BUDGET ADVISORY COUNCIL Meeting Minutes - Monday, February 26, 2024</p>
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Members Present: Karen Arthmann, Andrea Catena, Dre Collins, Steve DeSantis, Dan Hentschel, Paul Hoak, Hailey Lehman, Brad Malone, Jessica Mattice, Diane McBride, Ken Nelson, Bao Nguyen, Pamela Reinhardt, Millie Sefranek, Katy Smith

Members Absent: Chuck Allan, Lisa Clar, Andrew DeLaVergne, Cara Granger, William Hall, Maria Hamilton, Clay Harris, Carl Kirchgessner, Nichole LaPlaca, Vinny Rau, Diana Sheffer, Dina Stathopoulos

Ex-Officio Members: Kimberly Delardge, Mary Ann Exler, Andy Whitmore and Dr. Barbara Mullen

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

BASE BUDGET REVIEW

Andy Whitmore, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations and Dr. Barbara Mullen, Superintendent, reviewed and responded to questions that were submitted by the members of the council regarding the Base Budget Review. Members asked questions regarding the following topics:

- District-based budgeting versus building-based budgeting
- Expenditures for consultant services
- Class-size
- Reserve Usage
- Secretary for Deputy Superintendent

TAX CAP, TAX LEVY & TAX RATE

Andy presented the Tax Levy Cap Calculation for 2024-25. While the calculation shows that the district would be allowed to increase the tax levy by \$4.25 million and increase the tax rate by 2.7%, the Superintendent is recommending that we ask the voters for an increase of \$3.6 million with a tax rate increase of 1.99%. All members of the council agreed with the proposed plans.

REVENUE BUDGET PROJECTION

Andy shared the Revenue Projection of \$170,314,893 for 2024-25. The projection is based on the governor's proposed budget. Our district expects to receive an increase of \$1.6 million (2.9%) in State Aid with \$1.3 million (3.6% increase) coming from Foundation Aid. Revenues from local sources (property taxes, PILOTS and sales taxes) are projected to increase by \$5.3 million (5.4%). Planned reserve usage is \$4 million of the \$21 million of available reserves.

BUDGET PROPOSALS

Twenty budget proposals, totaling \$1.4 million, were submitted for consideration. Dr. Mullen revisited the budget principals with the council and highlighted that the budget is being developed to align with district priorities and support student outcomes. She has engaged with the cabinet members to assess the budget proposals thru a lens of academic return on investment (AROI) and alignment with the district priorities.

\$797,000 of budget proposals are being recommended to be added to the 2024-25 base budget. Several of the proposals can be absorbed within the current budget while others are not being advanced at this time. The proposals that are being recommended by the Superintendent include:

- Universal Screener for Student Data (\$50,000)
- Technology Teaching Assistant for Student Chromebook Repair Program (\$54,000)
- Innive Data Analytics and Data Visualization Tool (\$382,000)
- Instructional Leadership Team Meetings (\$81,000)
- Clerical Support for CTE Director (\$68,000)
- Girls Flag Football Team (\$9,700)
- Recruiting Coordinator (\$105,000)
- Concentrix Chronic Absenteeism Assistance (48,000)

(Costs shown for proposed positions include wages plus employee benefits like FICA, Retirement Systems, and Health Insurance which make up approximately 40% of the total cost of the position.)

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

The next meeting will be on Monday, March 25, 2024 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Ann Exler, Budget Technician