

**BUDGET ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
**Meeting Minutes - Monday, January 14, 2019**

**Members Present:** Chuck Allen, Lou Bouchard, Sheila Buck, Andrea Catena, Philip Chang, Sara Cosgrove, Rhonda Delaney, Christie DeWald, Mary Ann Exler, William S M Hall, Dan Hentschel, Brian Hill, Paul Hoak, Bob Logel, Marissa Logue, Cheryl Lomedico, Jessica Mattice, Ken Nelson, Kahlan Poltorak, Pam Reinhardt, Dina Stathopoulos, and Dave Velduizen

**Members Absent:** Karen Arthmann, Georgia Demartinis-Smith, Dave Drury, Maria Hamilton, Clay Harris, John Kuehl, Nancy Kula, Heather Lockhart, Brandie Mercado, Lauren Purvee, Jim Schultz, Betsy Skripnik, Karen Tambasco and Nathaniel Wright.

**Ex-Officio Members:** Nichole LaPlaca, Diane McBride, Paula Sharlow, Andy Whitmore, and Bo Wright

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

**BAC MEETING AGENDA UPDATE**

Superintendent Wright reviewed the updated agenda - two items of note - There will be no BAC meeting on January 28<sup>th</sup>, and the Community Forum is now scheduled for Wednesday April 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**ENROLLMENT UPDATE**

Andy Whitmore stated that Vollmer Elementary will see a spike in enrollment in 2023. Winslow is seeing an influx of students, but this will not present a space issue.

**EXIT POLL SURVEY**

The 2018-2019 budget passed with an 85% rate, and R-H had the highest turnout of voters in the past nine years. Over 40% of the voters were senior citizens. It was clear from the surveys that folks value the education that their children are receiving, and that the tax rate increase was under the cap. In addition, 88% voted for the purchase of the Good Shepherd facility.

**REVENUE PROJECTIONS & TAX CAP CALCULATION**

Andy Whitmore walked the group through the 2019-2020 revenue projections, along with the computation of the Tax Levy Cap. The group noted that they were happy to stay under the 2% cap.

**BUDGET OVERVIEW**

Superintendent Wright reviewed the latest version of the district's budget development overview plan document. The previous version stated the district's budget gap (difference between revenue and expense projections) to be \$1.6million. New items from the last version include budget proposals submitted by staff for a total of \$510,000, and expenditure reduction possibilities totaling \$910,000. To recap, those items are:

- Instructional Technology \$100,000
- Discretionary Spending (no COLA increase) \$ 60,000
- ERS Adjustment \$100,000
- Possible TRS (adjust to final rate TBD) \$140,000
- Potential turnover savings \$200,000
- Class Size -staff to policy target \$210,000
- Teachers on Special Assignment \$100,000

The revised budget gap (projected) is \$1.2million. Sarah Cosgrove asked how we are able to reduce positions without cutting staff. Andy responded that the reductions are predicated on turnover (attrition). Dan Hentschel asked about the intermediate clubs as a possible reduction since they appear to be "broken" Although they do bring a lot of challenges, Andy responded that it's a bit premature to give up on them. Lou Bouchard asked if the district had considered any other options for reductions. Superintendent Wright responded that the district had considered the intermediate clubs as well as the class size staffing caps. He stated that we wish to implement slow, deliberate reductions over time, rather than cutting programs to the bone. He also reminded folks that the Capital projects fund is separate from the General fund.

The meeting adjourned at 8:38.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, February 25, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

