

Ashland School District No. 5, Jackson County, Oregon - The Budget Committee met in a regular session on Tuesday, May 8, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. in the Ashland School District Board Room. Present were:

Ruth Alexander	)	
Amy Amrhein	)	
Mat Marr	)	
Heidi Parker	)	Budget Committee Members
Amy Patton	)	
Bill Anderson	)	
Rick Barth	)	
Chris Holzshu	)	
Keith Massey	)	

Juli Di Chiro, Superintendent  
Pam Lucas, Business Manager  
Jeanne Peterson, Executive Secretary  
Traci Adams, Accountant  
District Administrators

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Chair Barth.

II. Roll Check

A roll of the Committee was taken and all members were present with the exception of Mike Zodrow.

III. Approve Minutes of April 23, 2007

Mat Marr moved that the committee approve the minutes of April 23, 2007, as presented. Bill Anderson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

IV. Discuss Agenda Additions and Subtractions

Rick Barth added Textbook Replacement and Collective Bargaining Results to the agenda.

V. Three Year Revenue and Expense Outlook and Consequences; Budget Fund Balance

Juli Di Chiro and Pam Lucas reviewed the State School funding and noted the possible school improvement funds which would be competitive grants applied for by individual school districts. Ashland's possible grant amount would be \$611,572. The three year revenue and expense outlook was reviewed, and carryover was explained. A philosophical discussion was held regarding continued levels of reductions each year.

Juli Di Chiro reviewed the staff reductions as outlined in the Budget Message. She reviewed the Ashland Middle School reorganization and explained that we anticipate the

reduction of two sixth grade teachers a year from now. The year following that would anticipate a reduction of the Cross Graded team. That type of reorganization needs to be planned for Ashland High School; possibly a draft plan could be available one year from now.

Enrollment costs per student were reviewed.

#### VI. Long-Term Liabilities

Pam Lucas reviewed the depreciation of the buses explaining that the purchase of one bus is included in the proposed budget. We should plan to purchase one new bus every year for the next several years.

Juli Di Chiro explained that it would cost \$200,000 annually to replace 20% of the computers in the district. The proposed budget includes \$50,000 for computer hardware. Some schools use Title funds to replace computer systems.

Pam Lucas reviewed the projected retirement expenses for certified staff. The projections were based on the assumption that all certified staff would retire upon eligibility. In reality, that does not occur and it is difficult to predict. Members questioned whether the district should set aside funds for the future impact of retirements or pay as they occur.

Juli Di Chiro stated that we should budget \$150,000 per year for textbook adoptions. We are \$90,000 below that in the proposed budget.

Discussion was held regarding whether or not to deal with any of the long-term liabilities.

#### VII. Detailed Budget Questions

Pam Lucas reported that the refund of bond expenses totals approximately \$185,000 at this time. She will research how much time the District has to refund bond expenses. All members present agreed that the district should be refunded the bond expenses.

#### VIII. Schedule Meeting Dates and Times

The next meeting will be held on May 21 at 7:00 p.m. in the District Board Room. The agenda will include updated budget, AHS Metals Program, Capital vs. Operating Budget Tradeoffs, Detailed Budget Questions, Collective Bargaining results.

#### VII. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

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Chair

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Clerk