



Budget Committee Meeting
December 3, 2009
4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Member:

Janis Arnell- Schnell Certificated
Maggie Bush – Schnell Parent
Dave Copeland – Sierra Parent
Misty diVittorio – Board Member
Connie Freitas – Markham Classified
Jennifer Fusano – CFO
Cali Gray – Sierra Classified
Sam LaCara – Administration
Wendy Lee – District Office Confidential/Sierra Parent
Nancy Lynch – Superintendent
Robin Lyons – Board Member
Daniel O’Connor – Markham Certificated
Matt Smith – Administration
Sean Martin – Parent/New Board Member (Observer)
Absent – Donna Bazett, Tansy Danker, Judi Whittington

1. Nancy – Minutes from last meeting:

Minutes were discussed.

2. Jen – Budget

Jen provided handouts from a couple of the slides from the PowerPoint that she presented at the Board Meeting. These showed that this year we are not deficit spending because of the one time ARRA money that we have received from the Federal Government. She then explained that we do have an ongoing deficit. Without the ARRA funds the ongoing deficit for this year is approximately \$238,000. This year we are using all of this money which is around \$600,000. So with that, next year in the 2010/2011 school year we will have a decrease to our fund balance of approximately \$525,000. At this time it is unknown as to whether there will be any additional ARRA money so none is budgeted. There were questions as to why the deficit for 2010/11 does not equal the ARRA money exactly and Jen explained that some of the Special Ed money is being used for one time expenditures as outlined in the required guidelines and that there are other assumptions that are built into a multi-year projection.

3. Joint Grant with the City of Placerville

Nancy explained how the District is applying for State funds with the city of Placerville for a revitalization project for the Markham field area. There would be no cost to the District and there would be a 20 to 30 year maintenance agreement with the City. There will be public meetings regarding this on December 16th and on January 19th at Markham School.

4. Carouse ideas for further reductions or generate revenues.

The committee wrote down their ideas and thoughts on chart paper around the room to represent the interests of their groups. Next, we read through the ideas and the common threads were transportation, fund raising and parcel taxes.

The following is the list of ideas that the committee had:

1. Shorten the bus routes by having some outlying routes have pick up points closer to schools
2. Stop community day school for 2010-2011 and reevaluate annually
3. Do not have a pre-school class unless there is a guarantee of 22 students enrolled
4. Strongly consider a parcel tax
5. Inform the parents, teachers and community of the state of the District budget and state budget
 - a. Consequences
 - b. Cuts
 - c. Impacts
6. Really study combining districts, special session, inform parents and teachers
7. Review bus fees – use study to ensure no drop in attendance
8. Expand grant writing; research/explore hiring a grant writer again
9. Fund raising, conduct community events
10. Evaluate energy use
 - a. Emphasize turning off lights
 - b. Heating and air conditioning settings
 - c. Energy patrols
11. Cut athletics and partner with community organizations
12. Follow through – we were to chart savings – where is chart
13. Review district expenses
14. Brown outs to reduce electric bill
15. Cut Board stipends
16. Reduce days for all staff (furlough)
17. Dinner fund raiser – for District wide
18. Fun Run 5K fundraiser
19. Water audit at Sierra and Schnell
20. Lights out campaign
21. Reduce Markham clerk to match Sierra and Schnell
22. reduce secretary number of work days- during vacations
23. Shorten school year
24. Reduce teachers staff development days
25. Eliminate CARE class at Markham
26. More local taxes
27. Bus route restructure
28. Increase use of facility fees
29. More solar panels to capture electricity to run campus
30. Determine the basic programs we will have and preserve as many jobs as possible, keep good people in place for the economic turn around
31. Large scale District fund raising

5. Ideas, Questions, Suggestions

Since we were running short on time, items on the agenda that will be moved to the next meeting are:

Sub-committees

Long term plans to slow the rate of using the reserves

Prioritizing restoration

6. Set meeting and agenda

Meeting Date: January 19th, 2010 4:00 p.m.

Meeting ended at 5:05 p.m.