

CROOK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING

April 14, 2014
Prineville Education Center
6:30 p.m.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Patti Norris, Doug Smith, Wade Flegel, Tammy Hudspeth, Gwen Carr and Diana Ewing. Scott Cooper, Jodie Fleck and Walt Wagner were absent.

DISTRICT STAFF PRESENT: Duane Yecha, Anna Logan, Mona Boyd, Stacy Smith, Michelle Jonas, Kurt Sloper, Cheri Rasmussen, David Robinson, Jim Bates, Bruce Hahn, Lance Queen, Glenifer Fields, Deen Hylton, Cathy Fall and recorder Diana Rice.

OTHERS PRESENT: Laura Craska Cooper, David and Sandra Howe, Jerald Boyd, Tiffany Cook, Patty Crumrine, Jerrica and Patrick Buchheit, Kelly Ortiz, Pavla Crass, Celia Nunez, and Berenice Nunez.

At 6:30 p.m., Board Chair Patti Norris noted a quorum was present, called the Budget Committee meeting to order and led the pledge of allegiance. Committee members introduced themselves to the audience.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Members elected Wade Flegel as chair and Tammy Hudspeth as vice-chair/secretary.

BUDGET MESSAGE

Superintendent Duane Yecha read the Budget Message.

BUDGET OVERVIEW

Budget Officer Anna Logan received positive feedback for her first-time process of sending the proposed budget electronically by email to each committee member. There was also no objection to the paper budget document being in just black and white.

Ms. Logan explained several pages of the budget document in a PowerPoint presentation.

- The 13/14 deficit balance of \$215,227 was lower than budgeted due to the PERS rates being lowered by the legislature after the budget was completed. The 14/15 deficit is down to \$200,000 with the anticipated PERS rate staying stable. A transfer from PERS Reserve allows a budgeted deficit of this amount, which is lower than in previous budget years.
- The 14/15 Proposed Budget assumes an enrollment of 3977.
- We have been spending down the high ending fund balance from a few years ago.
- There is an FTE summary in the appendix with notes regarding material changes.
- Could use more funding in property insurance, health benefits, textbooks, vehicle fuel, copy machines, and workers' comp.

OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO SPEAK

Several parents were in attendance to address the status of the dual-language program which is conducted at Ochoco Elementary and is currently budgeted for grades K-3. Laura Craska Cooper addressed the committee encouraging expansion to grades K-5, citing established success rates in improved OAKS testing scores, drop-out and graduation rates. The program has grown and can keep up with desired class size.

Patti Norris asked about the reduction of participants - started out with 22 and there are now 15 in Grade 3. Ms. Cooper said some students have moved or were transferred. The attrition has been with the English-speaking students. She also mentioned the inner turmoil at the school level as not all staff supports the program.

Parent David Howe expressed how pleased his family is with the program and encouraged the expansion. He suggested that Crook County set the example to show everyone it will work.

Parent Patty Crumrine stated her family also has enjoyed the program, but the only objection has been to all the drama.

Cherie Rasmussen stated that to expand the program would require an additional 1.5 FTE to Ochoco's already high number of teachers. Crooked River has only 12 teachers with 34 students in some classes. Other programs besides dual language have also been under budgeted.

Filed with the minutes is an email received from Alison Johnson in support of the dual language program.

FUTURE MEETINGS

The target date for budget approval is April 30. Meetings were scheduled for April 22 and April 29 (if needed), 6:30 p.m.

RECESS UNTIL NEXT MEETING

Chair Flegel recessed the meeting at 7:30 p.m. until **Tuesday, April 22, 6:30 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Diana Rice, Recorder

Tammy Hudspeth, Secretary

Date Approved: