
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: BOARD MEMBERS
FROM: JOHN H. GRANT, SUPERINTENDENT
SUBJECT: BUDGET
DATE: 11/1/2005

We face an early deficit of about \$4.5 million that hopefully will be greatly offset by new revenue coming from state and federal resources. That's hopefully . . . We also know that our other revenues may be at risk because of declining assessments and "earnings" generated taxes.

We can disagree about perceptions and beliefs, but as we reconstruct the budget codes to use Pentamation and analyze the reality of the 2005-06 budget, we know the following:

1. All flexibility normally built into a budget was removed
2. We are under budgeted in several areas and may not be over budgeted in enough areas to balance codes out.

As a result, when we take everything into consideration, we may be facing a referendum scenario for 2006-07 to: A.) have enough taxes to support the existing program; or B.) determine which programs people want to maintain.

The actual budget development could have the following parts:

- A. The Board costs out a 2006-07 program that ONLY PROVIDES WHAT THE STATE MANDATES.
- B. The Board adds to the 2006-07 programs those items not required by the state but WHAT THE BOARD MANDATES.
- C. The Board adds to the 2006-07 program those items not required but WANTED UP TO THE DEFINED ACT 72 SPENDING LIMIT.
- D. The People, by referendum, add to the 2006-07 program described above and NEED VOTER APPROVAL TO RAISE THE TAXES TO COVER COSTS.

If we find ourselves in a referendum situation using the ultimate opportunity for community participation, at no additional cost, the Board could seek voter input on “non-fiscal” items. The door will be open.

As requested, here are some “one liners” for Board consideration in charging administration to cost out alternative approaches to our mission.

1. One “high school” located in multiple buildings.
2. One “track” curriculum based on meeting state standards with accommodation for vocational training and academic acceleration.
3. One “county wide” interscholastic athletic program with an extensive “county wide” intra-scholastic program.
4. One “county wide” band, drama and extra curricular competitive program.
5. Design school policy to restructure school transportation to improve cost/benefit ratio.
6. Realign Board committees and restructure administration to increase work efficiency on meeting district mission.
7. Commit to a “two attendance area” school district by 2010 and approve a facilities plan to move in that direction. Use voter referendum to make the determination.
8. Design a voluntary employee salary reduction program. Example: For a 5% reduction in pay a person has an increase in vacation days corresponding to 5% of the work year.
9. Persons who have held district health insurance for five or more years can give up the insurance for \$6,000 salary adjustment.
10. Design a marketing plan to compete for our cyber school students. Do what we must to bring them back to our “blended school approach.”

I believe we are past fine-tuning our existing structure. Every Board ahead of you has been trying to do that since the district was formed. Its time to restructure the district and no one but you can do it.