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Commitment, Excellence, Community

BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

**Monday, May 21, 2018, 7:00 p.m.
Pleasant Hill High Community Center**

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Pleasant Hill School District Budget Committee was called to order by Board Chair Wylda Cafferata at 7:03 p.m. in accordance with the public notice of this meeting. Budget Committee members in attendance were: Chuck Spies, Eric Geyer, Gary Shearer, Jennifer Robbins, Jessica Crawford, Wylda Cafferata, Curt Offenbacher, John Oldham, Barbara Orre and Jeff Bernardo. Also in attendance were Scott Linenberger, Superintendent; Sheri Longobardo, Business Manager, Devery Stoneberg, Elementary School Principal; Randy Fisher, High School Principal; and Rita Grimes, Board Secretary.

2.0 NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Ms. Cafferata nominated Gary Shearer to be the Budget Committee Chair. Curt Offenbacher seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously 10:0.

Mr. Offenbacher nominated Jessica Weaver to be the Budget Committee Vice-Chair. Barbara Orre seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously 10:0.

3.0 READING OF THE BUDGET MESSAGE

Superintendent Scott Linenberger read the Budget Message for the Committee. Refer to the 2018-19 Proposed Budget document for the verbatim Budget Message.

Mr. Shearer called for questions or comments from the Committee and the audience. A summary of the questions discussed follows:

Relative to the proposed Reduction of Personnel, if elementary enrollment is projected to be the same, do we have an extra teacher now? Ms. Stoneberg answered that she had 18 teachers this year and will need 18 next year, which allows for 22-23 students per class, depending on the grade level. She stated that losing a teacher means an increase in class size to 30+ students, depending on the grade level.

What about the high school PE teacher position? That position is currently empty and we are proposing leaving it vacant and rearranging coverage. With two teachers, class sizes are in the high 80's. A counselor indicated that they could make PE available to the high school students with only one PE teacher, but did not consider it adequate. Having both male and female teachers provides supervision of the locker rooms.

Of the Priority Focus Areas, what's required and what's not?

New curriculums are not required; more cameras on campus are not required but mean better security; Maintenance of Effort is a requirement for Special Education.

4.0 REVIEW GENERAL FUND BUDGET AND OTHER BUDGETS

Business Manager Sheri Longobardo reviewed a summary of the 2018-19 Proposed Budget document with the committee. A summary of the questions discussed follows:

There was some confusion on the part of the Budget Committee around FTE and what the General Fund supports versus what the Special Funds supports. Ms. Longobardo will provide more detailed information by splitting out the FTE supported by each fund for the next meeting.

Why have Workers' Compensation rates have doubled?

The MOD scale (experience rating) changed as a year of no accidents dropped off the scale leaving several years of high cost accidents to influence the rate. We expect lower rates in the future.

How are debt payments calculated? What are the levy rates? What are the levy balances?

Ms. Longobardo will provide the Budget Committee with the answers prior to, and at, the next meeting on June 4th.

Why is there such a large balance in the Unappropriated Reserves? Why not put it into the Contingency Fund so it can be used, if necessary?

Traditionally, the Board has been fiscally conservative, knowing that they can always call the Budget Committee back together in the event there is a need.

Relative to the Technology Fund, software is spread throughout the budget; is it not all technology? How do we manage software cost? It depends on what the software is used for. Not all software is related to teaching students. Some of the technology items were moved other accounts to more accurately budget expenditures to the appropriate accounts.

Mr. Offenbacher reminded the Committee that, typically, their focus is keep money in the classrooms. He would like really good answers on how the schools will get by on one less elementary school teacher and one less high school PE teacher. In addition, he asked for individual costs for each the 2018-19 Priority Focus Areas to be provided at the next meeting.

Mr. Geyer questioned how the projected 9-12% PERS increase would be funded. Ms. Longobardo stated that the District has a reserve established which is carried forward each year. If the increase cannot be paid out of the General Fund, the reserve funds will be used. Mr. Geyer requested an estimate of how much the increase might be.

Mr. Shearer summarized the Committee's information requests for the next meeting which include more specific information on workers' compensation costs, estimated dollar amounts for Priority Focus items, and any information available on the expected PERs increase.

5.0 FUTURE MEETING DATES (Held in the Pleasant Hill Community Center)

- Board and Budget Committee Meeting, June 4, 2018 7:00 p.m.
- Budget Committee Meeting (*if needed*), June 11, 2018 7:00 p.m.
- Board Meeting – Budget Hearing and Adoption June 25, 2018 7:00 p.m.

6.0 OTHER

7.0 ADJOURNMENT

Budget Committee Chair Shearer adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Signed: _____ on this _____ day of _____, 2017
Gary Shearer, Budget Committee Chair