

BUDGET

Budget Advisory Committee

Membership of the district's budget advisory committee may include representatives of each of the following groups:

1. District and school site administrators
2. Representatives of bargaining units
3. Parents/guardians
4. Representatives of the business community and/or other community members

The committee's duties may include, but not necessarily be limited to:

1. Making recommendations regarding budget priorities
2. Recommending cost reduction strategies, such as identifying services that may be reduced, made more efficient, or discontinued
3. Reviewing the clarity and effectiveness of budget documents and communications
4. Presenting progress reports on the committee's work and a final report of recommendations to the Superintendent or designee and to the Board

The specific duties of the committee shall be clearly defined and presented to each member in writing, along with any background information necessary for the successful completion of the committee's charges, the timelines for reporting the committee's progress, and timelines for completion of each task.

Initial Budget Adoption

On or before July 1 of each year, the Board shall adopt a budget which adheres to the state's standardized account code structure (SACS) as prescribed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI). (Education Code 42126, 42127)

Before adopting the district budget for the subsequent fiscal year, the Board shall hold a public hearing. The agenda for this hearing shall be posted at least 72 hours before the hearing and shall indicate the location where the budget may be inspected. The proposed budget shall be available for public inspection at least three working days before this hearing. This hearing shall be held at the same meeting as the public hearing to solicit public input on the local control and accountability plan (LCAP) or the annual update to the LCAP. (Education Code 42103, 42127, 52062)

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The Superintendent or designee shall notify the County Superintendent of Schools of the location, dates, and times at which the proposed budget may be inspected, as well as the location, date, and time of the public hearing, in sufficient time for the County Superintendent to publish such information in a newspaper of general circulation at least 10 days but not more than 45 days before the hearing as required by Education Code 42103.

During the hearing, any district resident may speak to the proposed budget or to any item in the budget. The hearing may conclude when all residents who have requested to be heard have had the opportunity to speak. (Education Code 42103)

After the public hearing, at a public meeting held on a different date, the Board shall adopt the district budget following adoption of the LCAP at the same meeting. The budget shall not be adopted if an approved LCAP or annual update to the LCAP is not in effect for the budget year. (Education Code 52062)

The Superintendent or designee shall file the adopted budget with the County Superintendent no later than five days after adoption or by July 1, whichever occurs first. The budget and supporting data shall be maintained and made available for public review. (Education Code 42127)

Revised Budget

No later than 45 days after the Governor signs the annual Budget Act, the Superintendent or designee shall make available for public review any revisions in budgeted revenues and expenditures which are consequently necessary. (Education Code 42127)

If the County Superintendent disapproves the district's budget, the Board shall review and respond to his/her recommendations at a public meeting on or before September 8. The response shall include any revisions to the adopted budget and any other proposed actions to be taken as a result of those recommendations. (Education Code 42127)

Unaudited Actual Receipts and Expenditures

The Superintendent or designee shall prepare a statement of all unaudited actual receipts and expenditures of the district for the preceding fiscal year, using the state's standardized account code structure (SACS) as prescribed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI). On or before September 15, the Board of Trustees shall approve this statement and file it with the County Superintendent of Schools. (Education Code 42100)

BUDGET (continued)**Gann Appropriations Limit Resolution**

The Board shall adopt a resolution on or before September 15 of each year to identify, pursuant to Government Code 7900-7914, the estimated appropriations limit for the district for the current fiscal year and the actual appropriations limit of the district during the preceding year. Documentation used to identify these limits shall be made available to the public on the day of the Board meeting. (Education Code 42132; Government Code 7910)

Interim Reports

The Superintendent or designee shall submit two interim fiscal reports to the Board, the first report covering the district's financial and budgetary status for the period ending October 31 and the second report covering the period ending January 31. The reports and supporting data shall be made available by the district for public review. (Education Code 42130)

Each interim report shall include an assessment of the district budget as revised to reflect current information regarding the adopted state budget, district property tax revenues, if any, and ending balances for the preceding fiscal year. The report shall be based on criteria and standards adopted by the State Board of Education (SBE) which address fund and cash balances, reserves, deficit spending, estimation of average daily attendance (ADA), projected enrollment, ratio of ADA to enrollment, projected revenue limit, salaries and benefits, other revenues and expenditures, and facilities maintenance. The report shall also provide supplemental information regarding contingent liabilities, use of one-time revenues for ongoing expenditures, contingent revenues, contributions, long-term commitments, unfunded liabilities, temporary interfund borrowings, the status of labor agreements, and the status of other funds. (Education Code 33128.3, 42130, 42131; 5 CCR 15453-15466)

Within 45 days after the close of the period reported, the Board shall approve the interim fiscal report and certify, on the basis of the interim report and any additional financial information known by the Board to exist at the time of certification, whether the district is able to meet its financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year and, based on current forecasts, for the subsequent fiscal year. The certification shall be classified as one of the following: (Education Code 42130, 42131)

1. "Positive certification" indicating that the district will meet its financial obligations for the current fiscal year and two subsequent fiscal years
2. "Qualified certification" indicating that the district may not meet its financial obligations for the current fiscal year or two subsequent fiscal years

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3. "Negative certification" indicating that the district will be unable to meet its financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year or the subsequent fiscal year

The Superintendent or designee shall submit a copy of the interim report and certification to the County Superintendent using the state's SACS software, as prescribed by the SPI. (Education Code 42130, 42131)

If the district submits a positive certification that is subsequently changed by the County Superintendent to a qualified or negative certification, the district may appeal the decision to the SPI within five days of receiving the notice of change. (Education Code 42131)

Whenever the district receives a qualified or negative certification as determined by the Board or the County Superintendent, the Superintendent or designee shall cooperate in the implementation of any remedial actions taken by the County Superintendent under the authority granted to him/her pursuant to Education Code 42131.

Whenever the County Superintendent conducts a comprehensive review of the district's financial and budgetary conditions after determining that the district's budget does not comply with SBE-adopted criteria and standards for fiscal stability, the Board shall review the County Superintendent's recommendations at a public Board meeting. Within 15 days of receiving the report, the district shall notify the County Superintendent and the SPI of its proposed actions on the recommendations. (Education Code 42637)

If the second interim report of the fiscal year is accompanied by a qualified or negative certification as determined by the Board or the County Superintendent, the Superintendent or designee shall, no later than June 1, provide to the County Superintendent, the State Controller, and the SPI a financial statement that reports data for the period ending April 30 and projects the district's fund and cash balances as of June 30. (Education Code 42131)

Audit Report

By April 1 of each year, the Board shall provide for an audit of the district's books and accounts or the County Superintendent shall make arrangements to provide for that audit. (Education Code 41020)

The Superintendent or designee shall establish a timetable for the completion and review of the audit within the deadlines established by law.

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To conduct the audit, the Board shall select a certified public accountant or public accountant licensed by the State Board of Accountancy from among those deemed qualified by the State Controller. (Education Code 41020, 41020.5)

The Board shall not select any public accounting firm to provide audit services if the lead or coordinating audit partner having primary responsibility for the audit, or the audit partner responsible for reviewing the audit, has performed audit services for the district in each of the six previous fiscal years. (Education Code 41020)

While a public accounting firm is performing the audit of the district, it shall not provide any nonauditing, management, or other consulting services for the district except as provided in Government Accounting Standards, Amendment #3, published by the U.S. Government Accounting Office. (Education Code 41020)

The audit shall include an audit of income and expenditures by source of funds for all funds of the district, including the student body and cafeteria funds and accounts and any other funds under the control or jurisdiction of the district, as well as an audit of student attendance procedures. (Education Code 41020)

If the district participates in the school district of choice program to accept interdistrict transfers, the Superintendent or designee shall notify the auditor, prior to the commencement of the audit, that the audit must include a review of the district's compliance with specified program requirements. (Education Code 48301)

The Superintendent or designee shall cooperate with the auditor to provide the necessary financial records and to ensure that the audit report contains all information required by law and the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB).

By January 31 of each year, the Board shall review, at an open meeting, the annual district audit for the prior year, any audit exceptions identified in that audit, the recommendations or findings of any management letter issued by the auditor, and any description of correction or plans to correct any exceptions or any issue raised in a management letter. (Education Code 41020.3)

No later than December 15, the Superintendent or designee shall file the report of the audit for the preceding fiscal year with the County Superintendent, the California Department of Education, and the State Controller. (Education Code 41020)

If an audit finding results in the district being required to repay an apportionment or pay a penalty, the district may appeal the finding to the Education Audit Appeals Panel by making an informal, summary appeal within 30 days of receiving the final audit report or initiating a formal appeal within 60 days of receiving the report. (Education Code 41344, 41344.1)

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Fund Balance

In accordance with GASB Statement 54, external financial reports shall report fund balances in the general fund within the following classifications based on the relative strength of constraints placed on the purposes for which resources can be used:

1. Nonspendable fund balance, including amounts that are not expected to be converted to cash, such as resources that are not in a spendable form or are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact
2. Restricted fund balance, including amounts constrained to specific purposes by their providers or by law
3. Committed fund balance, including amounts constrained to specific purposes by the Board
4. Assigned fund balance, including amounts which the Board or its designee intends to use for a specific purpose
5. Unassigned fund balance, including amounts that are available for any purpose

Negative Balance Report

Whenever the district reports a negative unrestricted fund balance or a negative cash balance in its annual budget or annual audit report, it shall include in the budget a statement that identifies the reasons for the negative unrestricted fund balance or negative cash balance and the steps that have been taken to ensure that the negative balance will not occur at the end of the current fiscal year. (Education Code 42127.5)

Non-Voter-Approved Debt Report

Upon approval by the Board to proceed with the issuance of revenue bonds or any agreement for financing school construction pursuant to Education Code 17170-17199.5, the Superintendent or designee shall notify the County Superintendent and the county auditor. The Superintendent or designee shall provide the Board, the county auditor, the County Superintendent, and the public with related repayment schedules and evidence of the district's ability to repay the obligation. (Education Code 17150)

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When the Board is considering the issuance of certificates of participation and other debt instruments that are secured by real property and do not require the approval of the voters of the district, the Superintendent or designee shall provide notice to the County Superintendent and county auditor no later than 30 days before the Board's approval to proceed with issuance. The Superintendent or designee shall provide the Board, the county auditor, the County Superintendent, and the public with information necessary to assess the anticipated effect of the debt issuance, including related repayment schedules, evidence of the district's ability to repay the obligation, and the issuance costs. (Education Code 17150.1)

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EVERGREEN SCHOOL DISTRICT
San Jose, California