

**Budget Committee Meeting**

Administrative Center - Board Room  
520 Fifth Avenue, Fairbanks, Alaska  
Tuesday, September 29, 2020 from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Administrative Center – Board Room (Zoom)  
Meeting Notes

**A. Preliminaries**

**1. Call to Order & Roll Call**

Erin Morotti, School Board Member and FY 20-21 Budget Committee Chair called the meeting to order at 5:34 PM. Budget Committee meetings are recorded and will be available on the district's website.

Committee Members Present:

*Erin Morotti, Board Committee Chair  
Andy DeGraw, Chief Operations Officer  
Tara DeVaughn, FEA Secondary Representative  
Coby Haas, FEA Elementary Representative  
Lynn Weckesser, FPA Elementary Representative  
Graham Storey, FPA Secondary Representative  
Mark Herrmann, Community Representative*

*Ryan Hinton, Non-Represented Representative  
ESSA Representative TBD  
ESSA Representative TBD  
Student Representative TBD  
Greg Kahoe, Community Representative  
Kathy Bennett, Parent Representative*

Committee Members Absent:

None

Staff Present:

Dr. Karen Gaborik, Superintendent of Schools  
Sandra Weaver, Budget Specialist

**B. Agenda**

**1. Adoption of Agenda**

Graham Storey made a motion to adopt the agenda, Tara DeVaughn seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**2. Adoption of the Feb 26, 2020 Notes**

Greg Kahoe made a motion to adopt the February 26 Notes, Kathy Bennett seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**C. New Business**

Opening remarks - Erin Morotti

- Committee Chairperson Erin Morotti thanked the committee for serving and being part of the process of the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District 2021-22 Budget

- The new and continuing members introduced themselves and gave a brief introduction about themselves
- Committee Chairperson Erin Morotti said she will reach out to ESSA President at their next meeting to let her know that she would like to see ESSA members on the committee as soon as possible

#### **D. Introduction to the Committee Process – Andy DeGraw**

PowerPoint provided – Attached

1. What is our Purpose?
2. Committee Best Practices
3. Linking Budget to the Strategic Plan
4. Budge 101 – Revenues and Expenditures

Committee discussion ensued:

- As of September 29, 2020 enrollment has dropped over 1800 students this school year in the district
- Committee meetings are public meetings, meetings are open, and not confidential
- ADM – Average Daily Membership discussed
- There could be many Tier I and II employees retiring based on how many employees attended a retirement meeting at the professional development day
- This year’s budget included a 403 B Match (FEA) in an effort to retain/attract employees
- Not only does a decrease in enrollment affect the general fund, it also touches the transportation fund
- BSA – Base Student Allocation is currently \$5930, Juneau discusses the BSA at the end of the session (the biggest piece of the pie)
- With the funding from Juneau being at the end of session, it becomes challenging with the district budget and the timelines the District must follow for employee contracts and Alaska Statutes and the notifying staff with potential layoff notices
- This year’s budget included recommendations from last year’s committee; such as addressing equity and inclusion and creating a new department; Social Emotional Learning & Prevention Department that falls under Student Support Services Department

#### **E. Group Discussion**

Andy DeGraw gave review of 2019-20 Committee Report:

- The committee will present this year’s committee recommendations at the December 1, 2020 School Board meeting
- Board Member and Budget Committee Chair Erin Morotti and Fairbanks North Star Borough School District Chief Financial Officer Andy DeGraw asked the committee members to think of topics important to the different stakeholders
- What is Important to Us exercise was shared with the committee and the results of the exercise will be presented at the October 13, 2020 Budget Committee meeting; that will include the ranking of the importance of items from the Strategic Plan that are important to the members

**Other Discussion Topics included:**

There will be scheduled presentations of the following departments:

- *Facility Maintenance Department*
- *Human Resources*
- *Information & Technology*
- *Special Education*
- *Student Support Services*
- *Teaching & Learning*

Once the presentations are set, the committee will be notified.

**Additional Discussion Topics:**

Audio of the Budget Review Committee meetings can be heard on the following site:  
<http://www.k12northstar.org/boe/meeting-notes>

The meeting adjourned at 7:36PM

Notes respectfully submitted by Sandra Weaver