

Budget Committee Meeting

Administrative Center - Board Room 520 Fifth Avenue, Fairbanks, Alaska

Wednesday, October 19, 2022, from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Administrative Center – Board Room

Meeting Notes

A. Call to Order

Maggie Matheson, School Board Member and FY 22-23 Budget Committee Chair called the meeting to order at 5:37 PM. Budget Committee meetings are recorded and will be available on the district's website.

B. Roll Call

Committee Members Present:

Margaret (Maggie) Matheson Board of Education Chairperson

Andy DeGraw, Chief Operations Officer

Allison Curry, FEA Secondary Representative

Ryan Hinton, Non-Represented Representative

Robert Herrick, Parent Representative

Bruce Bell, FPA Secondary Representative via Zoom

Robert Burgess, Parent Representative joined the meeting at 5:50

Committee Members Absent:

Loa Carroll-Hubbard, Community Representative

Mack Benn, Student Representative

Wendy Demers, FEA Elementary Representative

Teresa Lesage, FPA Elementary Representative

TBD, ESSA Representative

TBD, ESSA Representative

Staff Present:

Sandra Weaver, Budget Specialist II

C. Agenda

1. Adoption of Agenda October 19, 2022

Ryan Hinton made a motion to adopt the agenda, Robert Herrick seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

D. Notes

2. Adoption of October 12, 2022 Notes

Allison Curry made a motion to adopt the October 12, 2022 Notes, Ryan Hinton seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

E. Opening Remarks – Chairperson Maggie Matheson

F. Guest Speakers:

 **Human Resources, presented by Executive Director Ivory McDaniel**

PowerPoint provided – EEO Officer Allison Baldock and Human Resources Assistant Director Neil Hecht joined Ivory for the presentation.


Committee Discussion Ensued - Included Topics:

- Where are the IT positions in the budget? They reside in Information and Technology, the IT department will present on October 26, 2022.
- Can staff give their own opinion if they disagree with something? Yes, when they're off the clock, there is a policy that supports this topic.
- Members stated that they appreciated the review of the department in detail
- New hires – Did last year have a lot more transfers? Yes, there were more transfers with the school closure.
- Direction on recruiting –Fairbanks North Star Borough School District is known for late hires, HR will approach this topic with recruiting in December.
- Onboarding and retention – what efforts are being used? Amazing health care plan, great working atmosphere, salary, etc.
- Negotiations – This is not an HR-led event, Ivory was elected to serve on the FNSBSD Management team for negotiations.

 **Facility Maintenance Department (FMD), presented by Executive Director Jahanara Carreon**
PowerPoint provided

Committee Discussion Ensued - Included Topics:

- Diminishing funds means “wants” projects cannot be completed.
- Custodians were able to transfer with the movement of the closed schools.
- Failing systems – FNSB owns the buildings, every two years we send a list of needs and the FNSB ranks the needs.
- Hutchison Career Center – FNSBSD working with the borough on funding.
- Large projects – FNSBSD
 - Three funding sources; Capital Projects, FNSB, and then District funding
- When asked what the department needed, the answers were; FMD would like more staffing and it would be nice for an electrical/mechanical engineer.
- Do you feel the employees make the decisions on priority? Yes, they're able to make the decisions, Jahanara relies on them to do so.
- What would be a critical problem? An example was a pipe that froze at Ben Eielson School.
- Systems are aging, there is 300 million estimated for deferred maintenance.
- Contracted services are very expensive.

 **Andy Degraw** Chief Operations Officer reviewed the budget book with the committee and the DRAFT recommended letter:

Committee Discussion Ensued - Included Topics:

- Multiple pathways, some would like to see the ranking lowered.
- What are multiple pathways? Different paths of learning?
- There are different pathways for students to advance/graduate.
- Discussion on staying out of the weeds and what the focus of the committee is.
- Feedback on the memo:
 - Technology 1-1 add tech advisory committee that includes teachers/stakeholders.
 - Communication and technology – get more involvement with families.
 - Not reflective is the learning environment – some like smaller schools “all grades”.
 - Family engagement – parents need support after COVID add the word *Support*.
 - PowerSchool tutorial for parents Google Classroom.
 - Maintain class size.
 - Long term – what to do with the budget?
 - If we don't have the resources, we need to narrow the scope.

G. Committee Discussion:

1. What is important to us? (Continued)
2. Consideration of items to include in Budget Committee Report

Additional Discussion Topics:

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM,
Robert Burgess made a motion to adjourn, and Ryan Hinton second the motion.

Notes respectfully submitted by Sandra Weaver.