

CASBO Top Five List

Remember:

1. Most people are “Numbers Challenged”
2. Most people will not read more than “One Paragraph”
3. Don’t always have “Bad News”
4. Don’t “Wing it”
5. It is “All about the kids, not the numbers”

Where to Start Budget Building Build

a spending plan that reflects the
goals of the district

- Input (LCAP-Local Control Accountability Plan)
 - Board
 - Administration
 - Staff
 - Community
- Estimated ADA
- Latest LCFF calculation

Determining Staffing

75% to 80% of LEA's Budget

- Based on estimated ADA
- Special programs needed/offered/expensed out
- Electives being offered
- Additional or less Certificated/Classified support
- Department needs
 - Business, Maintenance, Transportation, Technology, Cafeteria, Secretarial, etc.
- Results of negotiations

Average Daily Attendance

- ADA drives a district's primary source of general purpose funding, its LCFF funding
- LCFF funding is based on attendance through the P2 reporting
- Funding is based on the greater of current-year or prior-year
- LCFF calculator is updated corresponding to state budgets, i.e. Adoption and May Revise

Financial Reporting

- State reporting:
 - Adopted Budget, July 1st
 - First Interim, October 31st
 - Second Interim, January 31st
 - Third Interim (Qualified or Negative only)
 - Unaudited Actuals, June 30th

Audit Reports

- AKA Government-wide Financial Statements
Auditors provide site visits twice a year
 - Interim Audit
 - Year-end Audit
- Annual Report is a combination of all funds
- Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance
- Auditors' Findings – processes, procedures, financial, reporting etc.

Audit continued

- Findings provide guidance
 - Validates district is doing a good job
 - Raises red flags where improvement is needed
- Auditors are your friends, the experts to ask right at your fingertips!

School Budgeting 101

“School finance is complex and confusing. If something makes sense, you probably don’t have it right.”

- School Service of California