

65	01/29/25	Do staff understand how Esser Funds affected staff cuts?	<p><i>ESSER funds provided temporary relief to support staffing and programs during the COVID-19 pandemic. As these funds expire, combined with higher-than-expected inflation rates, rising utility and supply costs, and other financial pressures, the majority of school districts are now facing budget shortfalls, which may lead to potential staff reductions.</i></p>
66	01/29/25	Tech levy next year?	<p><i>The final collection year for the Maintenance & Operations (M&O) Levy and the Technology Levy is 2026, while the Capital Projects Levy concluded in 2024.</i></p> <p><i>Currently, the district is collaborating with DA Davidson to assess various options, timing, and key factors related to proposing replacement levies and/or a bond for future funding.</i></p> <p><i>Additionally, here's a helpful link with valuable information on bonds and levies: ESD 112 - Bonds and Levies.</i></p>
67	01/29/25	Will moving to a 5 or 6 period day impact budget or learning experiences?	<p><i>Moving to a 5 or 6-period day could have both budgetary and educational impacts. The effect largely depends on how the change is implemented and the specific needs of the district.</i></p> <p><i>The move could lead to budget savings if staffing and resources are optimized, but could also result in challenges if important programs are scaled back or if the change negatively affects the student experience.</i></p> <p><i>In terms of learning experiences, while students may have fewer opportunities to take a broad range of classes, they</i></p>

			<p><i>may also benefit from more focused instruction in core subjects.</i></p> <p><i>Ultimately, the decision would require careful consideration of both financial constraints and educational priorities to strike the right balance between budget and learning outcomes.</i></p>
68	01/29/25	How much is remaining from recent Capital Projects Levy? Is this sufficient to cover costs of items that were included in the project list for the Levy?	<p><i>This information will be presented at a budget committee meeting in the future and at upcoming board workshops and meetings.</i></p>
69	01/29/25	Is there CTE money we aren't getting?	<p><i>You're correct that the Coupeville School District could potentially receive more CTE (Career and Technical Education) funding if it offered a broader range of CTE courses. This is because CTE funding is often based on the number of students enrolled in CTE classes and the types of programs available.</i></p> <p><i>However, it's important to note that any additional CTE funds received would be restricted and must be used exclusively for CTE programs (such as equipment, instructional materials, and teacher salaries related to CTE courses). This would mean that while the district could increase funding for its CTE offerings, doing so might divert resources away from basic education programs, which could create a funding imbalance.</i></p> <p><i>Considerations:</i></p>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Expansion of CTE programs could be beneficial for students interested in specialized career paths, helping them develop skills that are highly valued in the workforce.</i> • <i>The district would need to evaluate whether increasing CTE offerings is a priority, and whether it would negatively affect core subjects or other educational needs.</i> • <i>Balancing the funding between CTE and basic education is a key factor that the district would have to consider, especially if it means reallocating funds from essential programs like math, science, or arts.</i> <p><i>Ultimately, offering more CTE classes could lead to additional funding but also requires careful planning and balancing to ensure that basic education programs are not negatively impacted. The decision would depend on the district's priorities and student needs, along with a review of available resources.</i></p>
70	01/29/25	What percentage of our district's population is exempt from paying their full property taxes on their property?	<p><i>Determining the exact percentage of property owners within the Coupeville School District who are exempt from paying their full property taxes requires specific data from the Island County Assessor's Office. Property tax exemptions can vary based on factors such as income, age, disability status, and the use of the property.</i></p>
71	01/29/25	What are some additional Capital Projects that need to be funded? Would a Capital Bond make more sense?	<p><i>This information will be presented at a budget committee meeting in the future and at upcoming board workshops and meetings. See also question # 68.</i></p> <p><i>Levy vs. Bond Considerations</i></p>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none">● <i>Levy Funds are typically used for short-term expenses like maintenance and technology upgrades but must be renewed every few years.</i>● <i>Bond Funds are used for major construction, renovations, and long-term capital improvements and require voter approval with a 60% supermajority.</i> <p><i>Conclusion:</i> <i>If the district needs to fund large-scale capital improvements (such as major facility upgrades, new classrooms, or athletic facility improvements), a Capital Bond may be the most effective option. However, for smaller, ongoing facility maintenance needs, a Capital Levy may still be a viable choice. The district will need to evaluate costs, community support, and long-term facility needs before deciding.</i></p> <p><i>In regards to funding additional Capital Projects, it is essential to maintain and improve school facilities, infrastructure, and safety. Here are some potential capital projects that may need funding in the Coupeville School District:</i></p> <p><i>Facility Modernization & Repairs</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● <i>Upgrading aging school buildings, including roofing, HVAC systems, plumbing, and electrical systems.</i>● <i>Addressing deferred maintenance to extend the lifespan of existing facilities.</i> <p><i>Safety & Security Enhancements</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● <i>Installing updated security systems, including cameras, keycard access, and secure entry points.</i>
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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Improving insulation, lighting, and energy-efficient windows.</i>
72	01/29/25	What key programs have been cut? No mention of program changes. Curriculum? Band? Less staff/students?	<i>One of the programmatic impacts was the elimination of the secondary band/music program. Further measures included reducing work days for custodial and maintenance staff, decreasing food service workdays, and cutting paraeducator support. The district also reduced its athletic budget by 10%, with coaches accepting pay cuts to preserve student-athlete programs. Technology expenditures were curtailed by reducing online curriculum subscriptions and staff support positions. These decisions were part of a broader "modified education plan" approved by the school board in April 2024.</i>
73	01/29/25	Are there other funding models besides prototypical?	<i>No, not in Washington</i>
74	01/29/25	Is CSD taking into account the potential elimination of the tax exemption from school district issue bonds in its financial planning activities?	<i>Currently, the district is collaborating with DA Davidson to assess various options, timing, and key factors related to proposing replacement levies and/or a bond for future funding.</i>
75	01/29/25	Are there classified administrators? Slide only mentions CAS and classified staff.	<i>Yes, there are both certificated and classified administrators. classified administrators are included in the CLS category with all other classified staff. The CAS category is Certificated administrators.</i>
76	01/29/25	Why no decisions for 2025 Capital Levy?	<i>The district will need to evaluate costs, community support, and long-term facility needs before deciding.</i>

			<p><i>See also questions # 68 and 71</i></p> <p><i>Levy vs. Bond Considerations</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Levy Funds are typically used for short-term expenses like maintenance and technology upgrades but must be renewed every few years.</i> ● <i>Bond Funds are used for major construction, renovations, and long-term capital improvements and require voter approval with a 60% supermajority.</i> <p><i>Conclusion:</i> <i>If the district needs to fund large-scale capital improvements (such as major facility upgrades, new classrooms, or athletic facility improvements), a Capital Bond may be the most effective option. However, for smaller, ongoing facility maintenance needs, a Capital Levy may still be a viable choice.</i></p>
77	01/29/25	Teacher longevity average?	<p><i>Approximately 84% of teachers in Washington remain teaching in their same school from one year to the next. On average, 7% of teachers move to another school within the same district, and about 2% transfer to a different district each year. Approximately 7% of teachers in Washington leave the teaching profession annually. (Statistics from OSPI and Education.uw.edu)</i></p> <p><i>These statistics indicate that a significant majority of teachers in Washington State continue teaching within the same school each year, reflecting a relatively stable teaching workforce.</i></p>
78	01/29/25	Local Levy/Bond approval rates?	<i>See PowerPoint slides from the January 29, 2025 meeting.</i>

79	01/29/25	How can we notify the public about school situations and about levy's more?	<p><i>To effectively notify the public about school situations, levies, and other important district information, there are several communication strategies and channels the Coupeville School District is currently using and could consider implementing.</i></p> <p><i>Some effective ways are regular updates via the district website, email newsletters, community forums and meetings (this budget committee), flyers and direct mail, robocalls and text alerts, engagement with local organizations and partners, public displays and signage, interactive online tools, social media, press releases/local media.</i></p> <p><i>By using a mix of these channels, the district can increase awareness, encourage community involvement, and ensure that voters are informed and engaged.</i></p>
80	01/29/25	In FTE dollars from State: Where does transportation and food service Admin fit in?	<p><i>The Transportation and Food Service admin fall under the CLS categories on the FTE graph/slides.</i></p>
81	01/29/25	Are our neighboring districts going through the same thing?	<p><i>Yes, neighboring school districts are facing similar financial challenges. Coupeville school district is on the Northwest Educational Service District 189's financial watch list, along with 27 other schools in the region.</i></p> <p><i>These financial challenges are not unique to Coupeville; many districts are grappling with similar issues, leading to difficult decisions regarding staffing and program funding.</i></p>
82	01/29/25	Does CAS budget versus cost include the salaries of 2 CAS on leave?	<p><i>The CAS budget information that was presented is based on budgeted positions which includes 1 ES Principal, 1</i></p>

			<i>Secondary Principal, 1 Assistant Principal, and 1 Superintendent.</i>
83	01/29/25	How do you incorporate State budget trends and any legislative action (bills, etc.) into budget planning?	<p><i>Regular monitoring of the state budget trends by reviewing the Governor's proposed budget, the Legislative budget passed by state legislature, and any updates from the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI).</i></p> <p><i>Projected funding levels - State funding is a significant part of the district's revenue stream, particularly the funding for basic education. Projections provided by the state are used to estimate revenues for the coming fiscal year.</i></p> <p><i>Collaboration with other districts, tracking legislative actions and bills, scenario planning, budget flexibility, and incorporating budget timelines and schedules.</i></p>
84	01/29/25	Are there currently any way students get news about school projects?	<p><i>Yes, there are several ways students in the Coupeville School District (and in many districts) can stay informed about school projects or other important news.</i></p> <p><i>Some common methods for keeping students up to date include daily announcements, school website, a student portal (such as Google classroom), email and newsletters, student meetings and assemblies, classroom discussions, bulletin boards and flyers, and peer communication through student leaders or school club activities.</i></p>
85	01/29/25	How have programs been impacted by attrition?	<i>Program impacts due to attrition (the gradual reduction in staff or resources) are often a significant concern for school districts, especially when faced with funding challenges. In the case of Coupeville School District or any district</i>

			<p><i>experiencing attrition, programs may be affected in several ways:</i></p> <p><i>Reduced Course Offerings and Electives - Attrition of staff can lead to a reduction in course offerings, especially elective subjects or specialized programs that require specific instructors. For example, if teachers in subjects like arts, foreign languages, or vocational training leave and are not replaced, students may no longer have access to those electives. In some cases, CTE (Career and Technical Education) programs may also suffer due to the need for specialized teachers, leading to fewer opportunities for students to explore these career paths.</i></p> <p><i>Impact on Extra-Curricular Activities</i></p> <p><i>Larger class sizes, increased burden on remaining staff, and impact on school culture.</i></p>
86	01/29/25	Why do Administration contracts have language to mirror CEA bargained items?	<p><i>The language in administration contracts that mirrors bargained items is often included for several key reasons, primarily to ensure consistency, fairness, and legal compliance across all employee groups within the school district.</i></p>
87	01/29/25	What is the soonest we can go out for a Capital Project Levy again?	<p><i>The final collection year for the Maintenance & Operations (M&O) Levy and the Technology Levy is 2026, while the Capital Projects Levy concluded in 2024.</i></p> <p><i>Currently, the district is collaborating with DA Davidson to assess various options, timing, and key factors related to</i></p>

			<p><i>proposing replacement levies and/or a bond for future funding.</i></p> <p><i>Additionally, here's a helpful link with valuable information on bonds and levies: ESD 112 - Bonds and Levies.</i></p>
88	01/29/25	How much has the district paid for leave coverage for 2024-2025 this year so far? Maternity? Administration? Paid Leave?	<p><i>For 2024-2025 the district budgeted \$300,000 for Certificated and Classified substitute costs and through 1/31/2025 the actual costs = \$243,602.41</i></p>
89	01/29/25	Does each district negotiate CBA's or is it done at a regional or state level?	<p><i>It is done by each district.</i></p>
90	1/29/25	I wonder where the admin for food, transportation, sped, and superintendent fit into the fte graph?	<p><i>The Superintendent falls under CAS and the other admin fall under the CLS categories on the FTE graph/slides.</i></p>
91	1/29/25	I am curious if school districts have ever been operated on a 4 days a week model? Would we be able to increase days to fill all of our requirements into 4 working days?	<p><i>We are not aware of any public school districts that have operated on a 4 days a week model.</i></p>
92	1/29/25	What the main area we need to work on is or if there is one?	<p><i>Identifying the main area that the Coupeville School District (or any school district) needs to work on can depend on several factors such as budget constraints, community feedback, student needs, and district goals.</i></p>

			<p><i>Here are some key areas that many districts typically focus on:</i></p> <p><i>Funding & Budget Management - With challenges surrounding staff reductions, levy renewals, and financial shortfalls, one area that often needs attention is budget management. Better communication with the public about the necessity and impact of levies could help with voter support.</i></p> <p><i>Student Enrollment & Retention - Accurate enrollment forecasting is critical to the budget and planning for programs and staffing.</i></p> <p><i>Technology & Infrastructure - Adapting new technologies for teaching and learning is a constant challenge. Post-pandemic, many districts have been working to address gaps in technology access and ensure that all students and staff have the necessary tools and training.</i></p> <p><i>Career & Technical Education (CTE) - Expanding CTE programs could be a major area for growth, especially if there is potential funding available for CTE courses but the district is not offering enough options. However, expanding CTE might involve trade-offs in terms of funding allocation from other areas like basic education, so balancing this decision is crucial.</i></p> <p><i>Staffing & Teacher Retention - Staffing shortages and/or teacher retention issues that many districts face are important to address. Compensation, professional development, and addressing workload concerns are central issues.</i></p> <p><i>Community & Parent Engagement - Effective communication with parents and the local community is key, especially when</i></p>
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			<p><i>it comes to informing about changes, challenges, and opportunities such as levies and budget cuts. Finding ways to increase parent involvement through community meetings, surveys, or volunteer opportunities in order to better understand the needs and concerns of families.</i></p> <p><i>Special Programs & Equity - Equity in education remains a central issue for many districts, focusing on ensuring all students have equal access to resources and opportunities, especially for those with unique needs (e.g., special education students, English language learners). It may be important for the district to ensure that the programs addressing mental health and student wellness are adequate.</i></p> <p><i>Facilities & Maintenance - The state of school buildings, maintenance, and energy efficiency are important for the comfort and safety of students.</i></p> <p><i>Curriculum & Instruction - Reviewing the curriculum to ensure it is comprehensive, equitable, and aligned with state standards is always crucial. If there are any gaps in student learning, targeted interventions and professional development for teachers might be needed. Expanding project-based learning or offering more diverse electives could engage students in new ways.</i></p> <p><i>The main area the district needs to focus on will depend on a combination of the factors above (and possibly other factors). If funding issues are a significant concern, it may be important to focus on levy campaigns and financial sustainability. If student enrollment trends and staffing retention are causing concerns, those areas may need immediate attention. In any case, an open dialogue with the community, transparent communication, and a focus on educational equity should be central to any decisions.</i></p>
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			<i>Would you agree that one of these areas should be prioritized, or do you think there's a specific challenge that stands out most right now?</i>
93	1/29/25	I want to know how attrition has impacted programs offered by the district over time.	<i>Program impacts due to attrition (the gradual reduction in staff or resources) are often a significant concern for school districts, especially when faced with funding challenges. In the case of Coupeville School District or any district experiencing attrition, programs may be affected in several ways.</i>
94	1/29/25	Historical information and understanding from districts spending and community priorities is missing from the pictures.	<p><i>You're absolutely right—historical spending trends and community priorities are critical to understanding how district finances have evolved and where future funding should be allocated.</i></p> <p><i>We have been and are continuing to analyze past expenditures and budget trends over time while evaluating and determining funding shortfalls. This ongoing process helps us work toward a financially stable and sustainable structure that aligns with the district and community needs.</i></p> <p><i>We are looking at the impact of past levies and bonds and planning for funding proposals.</i></p> <p><i>We are evaluating if there are any shifts in community priorities. For example, CTE expansion, technology investments, and early childhood education.</i></p>

			<i>We are engaging the community through forums, such as this budget committee, and through surveys in order to refine funding priorities.</i>
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