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Commitment, Excellence, Community

PLEASANT HILL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1
BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Monday, May 18, 2026; 7:00 p.m.; Pleasant Hill Community Center

1. CALL TO ORDER

Board of Directors Chair Drew Gottfried called the May 18, 2026 budget committee meeting to order at 7:12 p.m. Budget committee members present were Morgan Thomas, Madeline Carlton, John Goldberg, Rich Driessnack, Rusty Rexius, Stephen Hammond and John Oldham. Others present were Superintendent Jim Crist, Business Manager Sheri Longobardo, Special Education Director Whitney Connolly, Elementary Principal Brenna Fairchild, Middle/High School Principal Chris Reiersgaard, High School Assistant Principal/Athletic Director Alan Stearns, Middle School Assistant Principal Caleb Salmond and Board Secretary Kimberly Silbernagel.

2. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

2.1 Chair of Committee

Rich Driessnack nominated Madeline Carlton for Chair of Committee. The nomination passed 8-0.

Oldham – Yes	***Gottfried – Yes***	***Woodland – Absent***	***Rexius – Yes***	***Hammond – Yes***
Thomas – Yes	***Carlton – Yes***	***Driessnack – Yes***	***Siburg – Absent***	***Goldberg – Yes***

2.2 Vice-Chair of Committee

Madeline Carlton nominated Rich Driessnack for Vice-Chair of Committee. John Goldberg moved to approve Rich Driessnack. Madeline Carlton seconded the motion. The nomination passed 8-0.

Oldham – Yes	***Gottfried – Yes***	***Woodland – Absent***	***Rexius – Yes***	***Hammond – Yes***
Thomas – Yes	***Carlton – Yes***	***Driessnack – Yes***	***Siburg – Absent***	***Goldberg – Yes***

3. 2026-27 BUDGET MESSAGE

Superintendent Jim Crist read aloud the Budget Message. Refer to the 2026-27 Proposed Budget Document for the verbatim Budget Message.

4. BUDGET DOCUMENT OVERVIEW & PRESENTATION

Business Manager Sheri Longobardo presented a summary of the 2026-27 Proposed Budget Document to the committee.

5. BUDGET QUESTIONS AND/OR CLARIFICATIONS

- A discussion was held concerning the Unappropriated Ending Fund Balance (UEFB) as a percentage of Revenues decreasing from 37.2% in 2025-26 to 23.7% in 2026-27. PHSD's goal for the Unappropriated Ending Fund Balance is 20% and that represents two months average operating expenses, aligning with the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) reserve target. This is a conservative target compared to many districts whose targets are 8-10%. A portion of the decrease in the UEFB for 2026-27 is contingency that is not typically spent and one-time expenses such as the psychologist contract that was projected in two places in the budget but will be filled by an in-person licensed hire and no longer by purchased services and incentives tied to restructuring the licensed salary schedule.
- Superintendent Crist and Ms. Longobardo discussed the new licensed collective bargaining agreement (CBA) one-time incentives with the restructuring of step increases. The CBA also includes a 4% cost of living adjustment (COLA) that allows PHSD to stay in the middle of the pack compared to school districts of similar size in. This allows the district to remain competitive in recruiting and retaining teachers.
- There was discussion about the seismic gym rehabilitation grant project. In the budget there is a large transfer out of the general fund to the reserve for this project. There are also expenditures in the reserve fund for the project. The grant reimbursement of up to $2.49 million will flow back into that reserve, not directly back into the general fund. This project is pay-as-you-go so the district must have funds on hand and will then be reimbursed. Work began in the 2025-26 school year so part of the $2.49 million has already been spent.
- Superintendent Crist offered clarification on the middle school counselor position being absorbed into the 9th grade student success position. This combined approach has effectively been in place for almost the entire current school year. This has created a more streamlined position.

6. PUBLIC INPUT

There was no public comment.

7. APPROVAL OF DOCUMENT

John Goldberg moved that the Budget Committee of the Pleasant Hill School District No. 1 approve the budget for the 2026-27 fiscal year in the amount of $32,029,643 for all funds. Drew Gottfried seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-1.

Oldham – No	***Gottfried – Yes***	***Woodland – Absent***	***Rexius – Yes***	***Hammond – Yes***
Thomas – Yes	***Carlton – Yes***	***Driessnack – Yes***	***Siburg – Absent***	***Goldberg – Yes***

John Goldberg moved that the Budget Committee approve property taxes for the 2026-27 fiscal year at the rate of $4.6414 per $1,000 of assessed value for the permanent rate tax levy, and in the amount of $1,732,642 for the debt service levy.

Oldham – Yes	***Gottfried – Yes***	***Woodland – Absent***	***Rexius – Yes***	***Hammond – Yes***
Thomas – Yes	***Carlton – Yes***	***Driessnack – Yes***	***Siburg – Absent***	***Goldberg – Yes***

8. **BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETINGS (If Needed)**
   - ~~June 1, 2026; 7:00 p.m.; Pleasant Hill Community Center~~
   - ~~June 8, 2026; 7:00 p.m.; Pleasant Hill Community Center~~

   No Additional Budget Committee Meetings will be needed.

9. **ADJOURN MEETING – 8:41 p.m.**

Signed: Drew Gottfried, this 1st day of June, 2026

Drew Gottfried, Board Chair