

**FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Citizens' Budget Review Committee - Meeting Notes  
Administrative Center – Board Room  
520 Fifth Avenue, Fairbanks, Alaska  
April 17, 2019**

[Budget Committee Webpage – Audio](#)

Chief Operations Officer and Budget Committee Chair Andy DeGraw called the committee meeting together at 6:02 p.m. in the Board Room of the FNSBSD Administrative Center at 520 Fifth Avenue.

**Roll Call**

**Committee Members Present**

Chief Operations Officer, Chair Andy DeGraw  
Erin Morotti, School Board Member and Board Treasurer  
Chris Benshoof, FEA Member Representative  
Charles Rollins, ESSA Member Representative  
Bruce Bell, FPA Member Representative arrived 6:08 pm  
Teresa Lesage, FPA Member Representative

**Committee Members Absent**

Danielle Malenius, Student Representative (Ben Eielson JR/SR High)  
Scott Eickholt, At Large Community Member  
Coby Haas, FEA Member Representative  
Bethany Spence, ESSA Member Representative  
Tom Bartels, At Large Community Member

**Staff Present**

Heather Heineken, Director of Business Services & Risk Management Liaison  
Sandra Weaver, Budget Specialist

The 2019-20 Budget Committee Meetings are recorded and uploaded to the budget committee page.

Andy DeGraw reviewed and discussed the following topics from the agenda:

**Overview of the following departments:**

**Technology – Executive Director of Technology Janet Cobb  
Overview of the Technology Department Presentation**

**Topics Discussed:**

- Parts on hand, what does that mean?
- Technology – high tech items, who maintains them? Such as engineering – 3-D printers, laser cutters.
  - Support limited on high end technology
  - For CTE items, it was suggested to Contact Dan Domke for advice on maintenance needs.
- Advocate for Research and Accountability Senior Research Analyst Ellis Ott's position
- What are the cost of not making a move.....The technology investments are worth it.

**Teaching and Learning – Executive Director Mel Hadaway Overview of the Teaching and Learning Department reviewed departmental org chart for Teaching and Learning**

**Topics Discussed:**

- Apex increased success rates

- The new adoption from Story Town to the Journey's program was expensive
- Recommended Budget – increase due to e-learning moved from Student Support Services
- e-Learning – students know what it means, consistent learning, and success rate for performance.
- World Languages – took a look at the languages, 2 years needed for performance scholarship
- Apex – FNSBSD higher rate of success compared to most districts
- Pass rate – need to provide stats
- Spending smart – let's be real, talk to staff and know what to order
- Make sure new materials for new teachers
- Destiny Program is a great tracking service
- FNSBSD is on a curriculum cycle

Andy DeGraw discussed topics:

Looking at 2020-2021 Timeline and structure of the committee

Committee input:

- The committee values departmental overviews by executive directors
- Snapshot of the expenses and how they have changed from the last version is appreciated by the committee
- Last year high level, this year there is a good balance including the overview of departments
- 1-2 meetings before the proposed budget, then a couple of after the proposed

### **Legislative Update presented by Chief Operations Officer Andy DeGraw**

- Over 90 days have passed
- House wrapped up the budget, now to the senate
- Education left unchanged
- Administration presented what a \$3 million cut would look like
- Senate indicates plan to maintain education
- Wild card is the governor
- Opinion is that he doesn't have veto power, Governor believes he does
- Sb20 not getting a lot of publicity
  - Barnette is #1 on the list
- SB46
  - Return to a defined benefit plan
  - Legislative committee report – one of the last states without a defined plan
- SB50 – employment tax \$30 every person once a year Capital Project – Doesn't matter on residency
- Lottery/Raffle – PFD raised \$1million dollars
- Borough presentation scheduled 4/18/19. Superintendent Dr. Gaborik, Chief Operations Officer Andy DeGraw and School Board President Wendy Dominique to present the FNSBSD 2019-20 Recommended Budget

Review District Recommended Budget

Committee Discussion

Retirement – to use sick leave to 403 B

- Possibility of a match – how will it play out?
- FPA declined a match
- FPA – open up the health care conversation

Reduction - \$3 million how it could look – Andy reviewed

Forward funding seems to work

Desire of many people

Uncertainty

## **Budget Committee**

- This year the budget process was a lot smoother and noticed by many
- Discussions of a larger Board presence – newer board member could learn from the seasoned board member
- Open for Feedback
- Limits – may need to be addressed
- Carl Perkins –request CTE highlights of where it can be spent
- Request to share the interactive budget map with Board Member Erin Morotti
- More meetings – topic well received, it was suggested the same amount of meeting, but have the department overviews scheduled within the meetings.

Adjourn 7:54 p.m.