



## **District Office**

255 NE 6th Avenue, Estacada, OR 97023  
(503) 630-6871

---

**May 19, 2011 - Revised**

### **2011-2012 Budget Sub-Committee** **Q & A's and Other Activities**

At our most recent School Board Meeting there were requests by citizens to publish information on the District Website addressing some questions about the proposed 2011-2012 budget. Below is a very basic Q & A. However, if you are interested in additional explanations, please plan to attend the “Budget Sub-Committee” meeting on Monday May 23, 2011 in the High School Choir Room from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. There is a designated committee selected, but anyone is welcome to attend as an audience member. The public will be given “limited” opportunity to speak to the Committee.

#### **1. Why are 2 Reading Specialists being cut?**

- Due to a 2.1 million budget shortfall, as well as a reduction in Title I funding, 2 elementary Reading Specialists were cut. Although we will feel the loss, our Title I Program will still be in effect. Using a slightly different model, all students who require additional help or reading will receive assistance. The new “Learning Center” model will combine remaining financial resources and allow for the neediest students to receive instruction both inside & outside of their classrooms. As a result of training provided in the RTI (Response to Intervention) model, and increased time dedicated to literacy instruction, all classroom teachers are improving their abilities to provide more in-depth reading instruction in the regular classroom.

#### **2. Why is the District proposing cutting 1 Elementary Principal, and having only a half-time principal at the two in-town elementary schools?**

- This shows how serious our financial challenges are for the next 2 years. Personnel regulations prevent a more thorough explanation.

#### **3. What are the pros and cons of blending?**

- Blending will be referred to as “Shared Teaching” to more accurately describe the model we plan to implement.
  - **ADVANTAGES TO “SHARED TEACHING”**
    - Improve student achievement for all levels, not just the middle of the class, by allowing for more differentiation through shared teaching model.
    - Balance class sizes as they move through the grade levels.
    - Reduce teacher workload through collaboration and shared-teaching opportunities.

- Provide for a “contraction model” in which the school will not lose its integrity as enrollment and staff decline.
- Compensates for loss of TAG and Title I positions.
- Allows for the financial support of 3 elementary schools.

- **POSSIBLE DISADVANTAGES**

- May need to purchase additional curriculum.
- Will need to be creative in Professional Development due to loss of professional development days.
- Resistance from a small group of teachers/parents who may either misunderstand the model, not like the model, or resist change.

**4. Has the District considered closing a school?**

- **Yes. Much planning time & preparation will be needed if this possibility becomes a serious option.**

**5. Is the District considering moving an Administrator back into the classroom?**

- **Not at this time.**

**6. What program changes are being proposed?**

- **To be announced.**

**7. Will ELL services be cut?**

- **No. All identified ELL students will receive their legally-required services.**

**8. Will the public have an opportunity to give input to the proposed budget planning ideas for next year?**

- **Yes. The Board Sub-Committee meeting scheduled for May 23, 2011 from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. in the High School Choir Room will be the opportunity.**

**9. Are there any proposed raises for staff members for the 2011-2012 fiscal year?**

- **No. However, teachers are able to move horizontally across their Salary Schedule with completed college coursework.**