



## 2018-2019 BUDGET COMMITTEE

### Minutes of May 10, 2018 Budget Committee Meeting # 1

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The Gresham-Barlow School District Budget Committee met at 7:00 p.m., Monday, May 10, 2018 in the Partnership Room of the Center for Advanced Learning, 1484 NW Civic Drive, Gresham, OR.

Members in attendance were: Kris Howatt, Sharon Garner, Carla Piluso, John Hartsock, Matt O'Connell, Blake Petersen, Kathy Ruthruff, Justin Weatherford, Darrell Buell, Rebecca Merchant, Karen Camp, and Nicki Belnap. Committee members Amanda Gayken joined the meeting by phone.

Committee member Nicholas Kemper was absent.

The following central office administrators were present: A. Katrise Perera, Mike Schofield, James Hiu, Teresa Ketelsen, Julie Evans, John Koch, Athena Vadnais, Angie Kautz, April Olson, Karina Bruzzese, Lynne Hill and Sarah Avery.

#### **WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS**

Board Chair, Kris Howatt, called the meeting to order at 6:59 p.m., welcoming all present to the meeting. Introductions were exchanged for the benefit of those in the audience.

#### **ELECT CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR**

Board Chair Kris Howatt conducted the process of electing a budget committee chair and vice-chair.

Chairperson: John Hartsock nominated Rebecca Merchant; Justin Weatherford seconded the nomination. By acclamation, Rebecca Merchant was declared as Chairperson of the budget committee.

Vice-Chair: Rebecca Merchant nominated Darrell Buell. There were no other nominations for Vice-Chair. By acclamation, Darrell Buell was declared as Vice-Chair of the budget committee.

#### **OPENING COMMENTS**

Superintendent Perera provided opening comments focused around the charge the district continues to receive of doing more with less each year. She reviewed the three priorities that came up during the academic audit the district conducted in the fall. These priorities were used as the focus for developing the proposed budget. The superintendent's 2018-19 Budget Message was distributed to all those in attendance.

#### **PROPOSED BUDGET AND DELIVERY OF BUDGET MESSAGE**

Chief Financial Officer Mike Schofield provided an overview of the budget process, financial update summary, and the district demographics from 2008-09 to 2017-18 and 2018-19

projections. Mr. Schofield then shared the major budget modifications including budget assumptions he used to develop the 2018-19 budget, what is on the horizon for the district, and the PERS reserve. Mr. Schofield explained the roles of the budget committee and next steps.

### **PROPOSED BUDGET DISCUSSION**

Justin Weatherford asked about local option levies as an option for additional funding that could be included in the budget. Mr. Schofield responded that a conversation on local option levies has not been brought to the board since the passage of the bond.

Matt O'Connell asked what the construction excise tax looks like and what is being done with the funds. Mr. Schofield responded that the funds are looking decent. The funds can only be used for land, furniture, equipment, tracks and fields; the funds cannot be used for construction.

Kris Howatt pointed out that the budget is for a full calendar year and that there have not been any cut days or cut staff for the 2018-19 budget year.

Matt O'Connell noted that Reynolds School District has announced cuts and asked what the Gresham-Barlow School District has done differently to prevent cuts for next year. Mr. Schofield responded that the district is always projecting a few years in advance and has been mindful about building their reserves since 2014.

### **OPEN PUBLIC TESTIMONY**

Chair Merchant opened public testimony at 8:01 p.m. There were no community members present to offer testimony.

### **CLOSE PUBLIC TESTIMONY**

There being no public testimony, Chair Merchant closed public testimony at 8:01 p.m.

### **COMMITTEE ACTION**

Chair Merchant called to approve the 2018-2019 budget.

Kris Howatt moved to approve the Gresham-Barlow School District Levy at the full permanent rate of \$4.5268. Matt O'Connell seconded the motion; motion passed 9-3.

Kris Howatt moved to approve the 2018-2019 Debt Service Levy in the amount of \$18,203,156. Kathy Ruthruff seconded the motion; motion passed 12-0.

Kris Howatt moved to approve the Gresham-Barlow School District 2018-2019 budget (all funds) in the amount of \$502,926,209. Sharon Garner seconded the motion; motion passed 8-4.

### **SET AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING / THURSDAY MAY 17, 2018**

Because action was taken to approve the 2018-19 budget, the May 17, 2018 meeting was cancelled. Budget committee members were encouraged to meet with Mr. Schofield to discuss any questions they may have.

## CLOSING REMARKS

Superintendent Perera thanked everyone present for attending the meeting and noted her appreciation for the vote of confidence to move forward.

Board Chair Howatt noted that this would be Sharon Garner's final budget committee meeting since she will be leaving the board at the end of the school year. Board Chair Howatt shared that there will be an opening on the board in June if anyone is interested or knows of anyone interested in applying for the position.

Chair Merchant adjourned the meeting at 8:12 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Sarah Avery, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent and Board of Directors.

Note: These minutes were approved by the board on June 7, 2018:sa