

Fern Ridge School District 28J

Code: **DBEA**
Adopted: 2/24/97
Revised/Readopted: 5/23/05
Orig. Code(s): 6130

Budget Committee

By law, the budget committee is charged with decision-making concerning financial priorities.

The budget committee will have the responsibility of reviewing the financial program of the district, reviewing the proposed district budget as presented by the superintendent, and approving an annual district budget in keeping with the provisions of applicable state laws.

Educational policy decisions, however, are the responsibility of the Board, not the budget committee. The committee does not have the authority to add programs or to approve additional personnel or increased salaries. While the committee in effect may delete programs because of the deletion of funds in arriving at a district budget, the committee is primarily charged with a fiscal evaluation of programs. The committee may, alternatively, set an amount to be cut from the budget and request that the administration make such reductions in accordance with priorities set by the Board.

The budget committee consists of five members appointed by the Board plus the five elected Board members. To be eligible for appointment, the appointive member must:

- Live in the district; and
- Not be an officer, agent or employee of the district.

No budget committee member may receive any type of compensation from the district.

At the first Board meeting in July the Board will identify which vacant positions on the budget committee must be filled by appointment of the Board. The Board will announce the vacancies and receive applications from interested persons through the month of September. Such applications will include a signed statement stating that the applicant is willing to serve as a member of the budget committee. The Board may contact the person who previously served in the now vacant position to ascertain his or her willingness to serve another term if appointed.

At the first regular Board meeting in October, the Board will review the names of persons filing applications and names of those persons who have served previously and are still willing to be appointed. At the first regular meeting in November the Board will appoint persons to fill the vacant positions.

The appointive members of the budget committee will be appointed for terms of three years. No person may serve more than two consecutive terms as a budget committee member unless a position is vacant. The terms will be staggered so that approximately one-third of the terms of the appointive members end each year. If any appointive member is unable to complete the term for which he or she was appointed, the Board will announce the vacancy at the first regular Board meeting following the resignation or removal of the committee member. Budget committee members may be removed for the same reasons as Board

members. An appointment to fill the position for its unexpired term will be made at the next regular Board meeting.

At the first meeting after its appointment, the budget committee will elect a chair and secretary from among its members. It may also establish such other ground rules as it deems necessary for the successful operation of the committee.

As provided by law, the committee will hear the budget message presented by the superintendent, receive the budget document, listen to comments and suggestions by patrons and announce the time and place for its future meetings. All meetings of the budget committee are open to the public.

The budget committee may request of the superintendent or business manager any information used in the preparation of or for use in revising the budget document. The committee may request the attendance of any district employee at its meetings. The budget committee will approve the budget document as submitted by the superintendent or as subsequently revised by the committee.

After approval of the original or revised budget document, the budget committee's duties cease. The hearing on the approved budget is held by the Board.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 174.130](#)
[ORS 192.610 - 192.710](#)
[ORS 294.305 - 294.565](#)

Cross Reference(s):

BDE - Public Hearings
DBD - Budget Priorities
DBG - Budget Hearing