

North Santiam School District

Code: **DBEA**
Adopted: 7/01/96
Readopted: 10/16/97, 7/16/09

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 recommending 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 may, in effect, delete programs because of the deletion of funds in arriving at a palatable levy figure, the committee is charged primarily with a fiscal evaluation of programs. The committee may, alternatively, set an amount to be cut from the recommended budget and request that administration make such reductions in accordance with priorities set by the Board.

The budget committee consists of seven members appointed by the Board plus the elected Board members. To be eligible for appointment, the appointive member must: (1) live in the district; (2) not be an officer, agent or employee of the district. No budget committee member may receive any type of compensation from the district.

The Board will develop a procedure for advertising budget committee vacancies and for appointing interested citizens to those positions.

The appointive members of the budget committee will be appointed for terms of three years. 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. An appointment to fill the position for its unexpired term will be made at the next regular Board meeting.

At its first meeting, the budget committee will elect a chairman and vice chairman from among its members. It may also establish such other ground rules, as it deems necessary for 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](#)