



Code: **DBEA**
Adopted: 11/18/97
Revised/Readopted: 7/09/08; 9/28/16

Budget Committee

The budget committee will have the responsibility for reviewing the financial programs of the district, reviewing the proposed district budget as presented by the superintendent and recommending an annual or biennial district budget in keeping with the provisions of applicable state laws. By law, the budget committee is charged with making recommendations concerning financial priorities.

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 increase salaries. While the committee may, in effect, delete programs because of a fund decrease, the committee is charged primarily with a fiscal evaluation of programs. The committee may, alternatively, set an amount that changes the recommended budget and may request the administration make such changes in accordance with priorities set by the Board.

The district budget committee will consist of the five members of the Board and five members appointed by the Board as required by law. To be eligible for appointment, the appointive member must:

1. Live and be registered to vote 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 has the authority to appoint additional members to serve in an advisory capacity during the budget process.

No later than October of each year, the Board will identify vacant budget committee positions which must be filled by appointment of the Board. The Board will announce the vacancies and receive applications from interested persons during the month of November. Such applications will include a signed statement that the applicant is willing to serve as a member of the budget committee and to adhere to the policies of the district. The Board may appoint budget committee members to as many consecutive terms as deemed appropriate.

In November, the Board will review the qualifications of the persons filing new applications and those of previous members who are willing to be reappointed. At the first regular meeting in December, the Board will appoint persons to fill the vacant positions.

If the district elects to prepare an annual budget, the appointive committee members of the budget committee will be appointed for three-year terms. The terms will be staggered so that, as near as practicable, one-third of the appointive members' terms end each year. If the district elects to prepare biennial budget, the appointive committee members of the budget committee will be appointed for four-year terms. The terms will be staggered so that, as near as practicable, one-fourth of the appointive members' terms end each year. If any appointive member is unable to complete the term for which he/she

was appointed, the Board will announce the vacancy at the first regular Board meeting following the committee member's resignation or removal. An appointment to fill the position for its unexpired term will be made at the next regular Board meeting.

At its first meeting after appointment, the budget committee will elect a presiding officer from among its members. It may also establish other ground rules as necessary for successful operation of the committee. A majority of the constituted committee is required for passing an action item. Majority for a 10-member budget committee is six. Therefore, if only six members are present, a unanimous vote is needed for passing an action item.

The budget committee shall hold one or more meetings to receive the budget message, receive the budget document and to provide members of the public with an opportunity to ask questions about, and comment on the budget document. The budget officer shall announce the time and place for all such meetings, as provided by law. All meetings of the budget committee are open to the public.

The budget committee may request from the superintendent or director of fiscal services any information used in the preparation of, or for making revisions to 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 to -192.710](#)

[ORS 294.305 to -294.565](#)