

Budget News for October 28, 2008

Chief Business Official Kathleen Clow presented three possible scenarios for RVSD budget this year with 4 year multiple year projections. There are many unknowns at this point: whether we will have mid-year cuts, whether the 6.5% restoration to categorical programs will remain in place, and what COLA we will receive in 2009-2010 and the years following. The following three scenarios explore what happens to the budget under various circumstances.

Scenario A includes 0.68% COLA that is in the Governor's budget, assumes a zero COLA for 2009- 2010 and no 6.5% reduction in categorical programs for this year. Scenario B includes 0.68% COLA and zero COLA for 2009-2010 but assumes a 6.5% cut to categorical programs. Scenario C assumes zero COLA for 2008-2009, zero COLA for 2009-2010 and a 6.5% cut to categoricals.

Scenario A leaves us with a 5% reserve for 4 years, falling to a 4% reserve in 2012-2013. No additional cuts need to be made; it assumes no restorations of the cuts previously made.

Scenario B would necessitate a cut of \$45,000 by 2011-12; the reserve would go down to 4% that year and 3% the following year, 2012-2013. Scenario C, the bleakest of the three, shows budget reductions of \$100,000 needed by 2010-2011 and increased reductions in the subsequent two years. Even with reductions in Scenario C, the reserve drops to 4% in 2011-2012 and 3% in 2012-2013. We will know more about the current year state budget in January and will be better able to judge whether or not we need to make mid-year reductions to the current year budget.

Highlights of the upcoming Special Board Meeting of Tuesday, October 28, 2008

A special meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held to review the Board Policies # 5000, Students.

***Highlights from the Board Meeting of
Thursday, October 23, 2008***

- Supervisor Hal Brown presented a check for \$25,000 to the Ross Valley School Trustees. On behalf of the county, Hal thanked the district for its forward thinking in planning for sustainability when they installed solar panels at the school sites. Hal encouraged RVSD to apply again for a sustainability grant in the next fiscal year. We thank Hal for his outreach to the schools and support for the ecologically progressive solutions.
- The board unanimously adopted the Governance Handbook, a framework for effective governance. It addresses unity of purpose, roles, commitment to norms and agreement on protocols as formal structures that enable the governance team to perform its responsibilities in a way that best benefits all children.
- A report on the English Language Learner Program was presented, including a description of the current program, funding sources and analysis of student learning in the program.
- The board approved the timeline for completion of a Facilities Study and recommendations of options from a District Planning Advisory Committee. The plan will provide the information needed by the board to determine how we will address space needs for the growing enrollment in the district.
- The board approved the Action Plan for the District Goals and implementation of the Strategic Plan. Target goals of percent of students scoring at the proficient or above level were set for each grade level in math and language arts.

You can view the entire board packet and view all the topics the board will be addressing at <http://rvsd.csbaagendaonline.net>.

***If you have any questions, please contact the Superintendent's Office.
Thank you for your continued support of the District.***