

ASD Ways and Means
December 19, 2022

Names of Members:

Dwayne Purvis (Chair) - Present
Jeff Candito - Present
Greg Fritz - Present
Mike Akillian - Present
Mozammel Husainy - Present
Steve Frades - Remote
Rick Barnes - Absent
Marilyn Gibson (Alternate) - Remote

Person(s) appearing before the Committee

Steve Chamberlin (Superintendent) - Present
Amy Facey (SAU) - Present
Tom Gauthier (ASB) - Present

All Previous Minutes accepted with edits.

Personnel Cost

A new draft of the report was shared and discussed.

We discussed whether we should include suggested actions in our reports or just provide an analysis.

We discussed and analysis about the major costs in the current CBA.

It was proposed that we have three Objections:

- 1) Gather all the information to make a foundational analysis
- 2) Our position on each of these
- 3) Defend our position to Public

It was agreed that we would present an analysis of contracts but not specific recommendations.

We had a brief discussion on the budget process. Some members mentioned that the budget process is too opaque.

It was widely agreed that the ASD needs a Strategic Plan to see if things such as budgets and facilities align to such a Plan.

Facilities Project linked to Outcomes

Steve Chamberlin mentioned that the response that he has made and others in the administration have made have been incomplete to the question of how facilities are linked to student outcome. Steve mentioned that he will be making a video to better address this topic.

Steve Chamberlin also mentioned that this proposed budget shores up Literacy (class size, library asst).

Steve and Ways and Means agreed that there are significant headwinds from decisions made over past 10 years such as the number of school days.

Steve suggested that the ASD have several specific goals such as meaningful relationships between students and teachers, literacy at 4th grade (89% at grade level), and teacher leader effectiveness.

Steve proposed 5 years of this and then see what happens

Ways and Means wanted to know: How do we measure what happened? No clear answer was provided but test scores were mentioned as one metric.

Personnel cost summary

A calculation will be done to determine what percentage is AEA, ASSA, and non-union?

Calculated Tax Rate Discussion

We discussed whether or not to include state aid in the budget.

We discussed the proposed 2% cap on tax increases. One way to work with a passed tax cap is to raise more funds voluntarily. More voluntary funds would provide a feedback for the totality of school policies in ASD.

We are #7 for State Aid; 1 or 2 expected??

Facilities Report

We heard a draft of the Facilities Report.

The comparison between repair the facility we have now and build a new school was previously made by the school board. We noticed that if we are able to pay for the repairs as we go, the cost is half as much as the cost to build a new building because of the 6% interest rate over 30 years.

It was mentioned that this option does not increase the amount of space at Wilkins.

Quotes are being sought for the roof repair at AMS.

There is no prepayment penalty on bond.

We discussed the accuracy of enrollment projections.

Default Budget calculator

Eliminated positions are not to be included in Default. However, positions that are modified are included in Default.

We had a discussion on each of the Warrant Articles we expect to be on the ballot.

The meeting was ended.