

BUDGET PLANNING PHILOSOPHY

Weston County School District #7 budget planning and preparation is a component of the program planning and daily operation of the district. The ultimate goal of the budget planning process is to ensure the provision of the fiscal resources necessary to support the education endeavors of the students in the district. To that end, the process is a continual one, and one integrated into the delivery of instruction, technology, issues of maintenance, and provision of support programs (food service, transportation, etc).

The superintendent and business manager will have primary responsibility for budget preparation. That responsibility includes development of a budget calendar, requests to instructional and program area managers for staff input, development of a preliminary budget for board review, and development of a final budget for board consideration according to Wyoming Statute.

Individuals having some degree of input into budget preparation will include virtually every individual working in the district. Principal(s) and program directors, teachers, support staff members, maintenance and custodial workers, and transportation personnel will all have an opportunity to express needs in the areas of supplies, equipment, building maintenance and perceived personnel positions.

So that the programs and activities of the school district can occur and the district mission statement can be achieved, several factors will receive careful attention. Paramount attention will be given to the common core of knowledge and skills. The student performance standards established for each school within the district will provide budget-guiding principles.

The budget should demonstrate how the district would establish an order of priority that will facilitate the ability of students to have opportunities for meeting and/or exceeding the performance standards established. Fixed costs must be met. Beyond those, to the extent possible, priority will be given to acquisitions that enhance student learning opportunities. Within the respective schools in the district, budgetary priority will be given to considerations supporting achievement of the established strategic plan and school improvement plans.

Budget priorities:

- Fixed costs
- Student safety
- Instruction
- Student support services
- Technology
- Non-instructional
- General administration
- Board of Trustees

The final budget draft submitted to the board will reflect the superintendent's recommendations regarding the most efficient and effective means for achieving the educational goals of the district.

The board will consider the recommendations and requests and review the anticipated resources available as they establish a budget reflecting the priorities of the district.

NEW REGULATION
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