

BUDGET ADVOCACY AND REVIEW ADVISORY COMMITTEE

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

To involve the public in the promotion and review of its annual budget, the Washington County Board of Education has created a Board advisory committee, the Budget Advocacy and Review Advisory Committee. This committee shall be comprised of representative parents, businesspersons, and community leaders who are interested in examining, making recommendations, and promoting the budget.

THE COMMITTEE OBJECTIVES

1. Review the program priorities that the Board establishes each year before they begin the budget process.
2. As needed, request and review presentations (by key administrative staff) that outline the budget needs and budget priorities of the various departments/divisions of the school system.
3. Review the proposed operating budget. Provide an independent, public response to the Board and the Superintendent.
4. Once the Commissioners finalize the local appropriation, review the Board's final operating budget and provide comment to the Board, if the committee deems necessary.
5. Serve as a liaison to the public to promote the program priorities and the Board's budget proposals.
6. Be available to assist the Board in advocating its budget with the Board of County Commissioners and with the general public.

MEMBERSHIP SPECIFICATIONS

The Board of Education shall appoint the members of the Budget Advocacy and Review Advisory Committee. Membership on the Budget Advocacy and Review Advisory Committee shall be limited to no more than fifteen (15) members of the community. Efforts should be made to appoint to the Committee as voting members, a representative from the County PTA and a representative from the County Citizens' Advisory Council. Appointments shall consider appropriate financial, business, or educational background, geographical residency, and community involvement.

The Chief Financial Officer shall serve as an ex-officio non-voting member of the Committee.

TERMS OF OFFICE

1. Individuals may be appointed to a term of office of up to five (5) years.
2. The terms of office may be staggered to allow for the rotation of up to 1/2 of the membership of the Committee over a five (5) year period.
3. No individual shall be appointed to serve for more than two (2) consecutive terms on the Committee unless specifically exempted by the Board. Reappointment to a second term is not automatic.

OPERATIONS SPECIFICATIONS

1. Minutes of each meeting shall be kept and forwarded promptly by the staff liaison to the Board and the Superintendent.
2. The Committee will report to the Board at the following times:
 - a. After adoption of the proposed Board budget,
 - b. Prior to adoption of the CIP budget, and
 - c. As requested by the Board.
4. The independent response reports to the Board shall focus on the following criteria of budget review, as appropriate:
 - a. Consistency with the current Master Plan,

- b. Educational soundness,
- c. Consistency with assessment data,
- d. Cost effectiveness, and
- e. Balance between systemic and school needs.