

**BAINBRIDGE ISLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 303**  
**District Budget Advisory Committee**  
Meeting Minutes

**Date:** March 13, 2012  
**Place:** Board Room – Commodore Campus  
**Time:** 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

**INFORMATION**

*State Budget Legislation*

A special edition of This Week In Olympia (TWIO), published by the Washington Association of School Administrators, was shared with the committee. Superintendent Faith Chapel noted the final page of this edition included a comparative list of the adopted budget proposals from both the Senate and House. Ms. Chapel explained the major sticking point between the parties has been the proposed June 2013 general apportionment delay for school districts (from the last business day in June 2013 to the first business day in July). Another sticking point is the skipping of a required pension payment, which would save \$133 million in the current budget, but would have to be paid back with interest. The House also proposed a delay in LEA payments, providing another \$75 million to limit cuts. Ms. Chapel noted so far the implications of the reductions being considered are no different than what was on the draft February projections.

**DISCUSSION**

*Projected Budget Gap 2012-13*

The draft 2012-13 General Fund Projected Budget Gap document from the February 28<sup>th</sup> DBAC meeting was distributed to the committee. Ms. Chapel noted the big question mark was the donation from the Bainbridge Schools Foundation for next year. Foundation Executive Director Vicky Marsing announced fundraising was ahead of last year, and following the spring breakfast the foundation board would determine the level of support to be committed to the school district. Reviewing the draft budget gap documents, the adjusted budget gap, should the Foundation renew their pledge, would be \$800,300. The committee also discussed the district's fund balance that could potentially be applied to the 2012-13 budget year.

Ms. Chapel provided the committee with the 2012/13 Possible Additional Budget Reduction Strategies document listing additional alignment of staffing to enrollment and possible reduction of programs and services (document will be posted on the website). Working with the principals, the administrative team reviewed prior planning documents to consider past suggested reductions that could help close the budget gap, and the strategies list represented this work. Areas of additional enrollment alignment included some FTE reduction of specialists at grades K-6, counselors at grades K-12, and special education staffing grades K-12. Reduction of programs or services included a reduction in custodial staffing, administrator/TOSA at grades 5-8, reduction of some FTE of librarians K-12, reduction in athletic programs grades 7-12, and reduction of some classified staff in each school. The committee engaged in a long discussion regarding teacher planning time and related specialist support. It was noted the decrease in enrollment, both this year and projected for next year, had a large impact on staffing. It was also suggested information regarding the impact of staffing reductions on services be added as a descriptor on future strategy sheets. All committee members acknowledged the proposed reductions being reviewed were difficult to consider.

*Strategies to Address Budget Gap*

Ms. Chapel asked committee members to break into two discussion groups facilitated by Associate Superintendent Julie Goldsmith and Assistant Superintendent Peter Bang-Knudsen. Each group was tasked with reviewing the DBAC subcommittee reports from 2010 in which each subcommittee considered additional revenue strategies, efficiencies or cost reduction strategies, and budget reduction strategies. The review should consider the budget reductions that have already been implemented, and previously suggested reductions that had yet to be considered. Each group was asked to record budget reduction and revenue-generating recommendations, which will then be collated into a document to be shared at the next meeting. Committee members spent the next hour reviewing the subcommittee reports, and brainstorming other possible budget reductions or revenue-generating strategies.

**Next Meeting:**

March 27  
April 10  
April 24  
May 8  
May 22  
June 5