

Centennial School District Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) 2018/2019 Budget

This document was created in response to questions we have received from the school community. We understand that miscommunication can add fear and confusion in these times of uncertainty. To ensure that accurate information is available to all about the strategies to address the budget shortfall, answers to the following frequently asked questions are being made available.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Why do we have a budget shortfall?

The funding level approved by the Oregon Legislature for the current school year was \$8.2 billion over the biennium for the state school fund. Our budget proposal comes at a time when the Oregon Legislature decided to fund the 2017/2019 biennium budget for education at 50 percent for each year. Typically, the state has funded education at 49 percent in the first year of the biennium and 51 percent in the second year, which helps offset the roll up costs that districts face every year. Even though we have an improving economy, K-12 funding has remained stagnant. While the appropriation of \$8.2 billion sustained Centennial's current level of service for this school year, the 50 percent appropriation was only a band-aid for 2017/2018. Unfortunately, this appropriation poses several challenges for the Centennial School District for the 2018/2019 school year.

Centennial Board and Budget Committee met in April to address ways this shortfall could be mitigated. During the initial presentation, the committee members expressed interest in reducing cost through furlough days, holding staff positions intact, and that any reductions should be shared proportionally between all staff groups. The committee directed the Superintendent to engage the administrator, classified, and certified groups in discussion about furlough days and/or other ways these reductions could be achieved.

We have received several grants over the last few years, do these help?

Separate funding sources outside of the general fund, such as Measure 98, School Improvement Grants (SIG) at Parklane and Oliver, Title, IDEA, TechSmart and other grant funds provide us with the opportunity to increase supports in specific schools and programs. These funds are also very helpful in expanding opportunities and offerings for students. These types of funding sources all have requirements and/or restrictions in how they may be used, therefore and unfortunately, they are not an option in addressing the shortfall that we are facing for next school year.

What will reductions look like for administrators?

Administrators were presented with two options: take furlough days or cut an administrative position. After discussion with Administrators, an agreement was reached to take at least 4.5 furlough days (or approximately 2 percent) to lessen the impact on students and staff, as well as to preserve the one Administrator FTE.

What will reductions look like for classified?

Meetings with OSEA leadership have been held throughout the spring. Most recently, a meeting was held with OSEA leadership on Friday, June 8th and a follow up meeting was held Wednesday, June 13th. We are hopeful that we can find a way to preserve

Classified FTE through calendar adjustments. Current ideas under discussion would preserve 4.0 FTE Classified positions. Classified staff will be hearing from their union leadership shortly.

What will reductions look like for certified?

Reductions have been necessary at all levels and we are in the midst of providing these notifications. Below is a summary:

- District: 2.0 FTE TOSA
- CMS: 1.0 FTE
- CHS: 2.0 FTE spread across several positions
- CPS: 0.5 FTE
- Elementary: 3.0 FTE Reduction at the follow schools: Meadows, Wood, Butler Creek

These reductions were made through a blend of unfilled vacancies made available through attrition, re-formatting positions through other funding sources, RIF, and involuntary transfer.

In summary, this is an overall reduction of 8.5 FTE. While these reductions have resulted in only 0.33 RIF, as we are able to accommodate impacted staff through other available positions within the district, this is a challenging time for these staff members as well as their colleagues and administrators. The FTE reductions will increase class sizes and directly impact the level of service we are capable of providing to students.

Is there time for other suggestions to be provided?

The budget has been adopted for 2018-2019, but leadership from the two represented groups (CEA and OSEA) may discuss additional options with the Superintendent.

Is this only a Centennial issue?

There is a funding issue facing K-12 education across the state of Oregon. As we talk to neighboring districts, we're each facing similar issues, as we work to address the projected budget shortfall. It is evident that Oregon needs a long-term and sustainable revenue plan that adequately funds education and our state's basic services. The development of a sustainable revenue plan rests in the hands of our state legislators. We will continue to advocate for adequate K-12 funding in Oregon.