

Questions Received from Board of Education Members and Residents Regarding 2017-2018  
Superintendent's Proposed Budget – December 13, 2016

1. Would it be possible to discuss other reduction scenarios? Is the loss of 23 staff the only way to meet an acceptable budget amount for the 2016-2017 school year?  
**RESPONSE:** We have proposed a reduction scenario that we believe meets the district's needs next year. This is our responsibility to you as a Board. The major expenditures in our budget are the cost of salaries and providing benefits to these same positions. The Board can discuss reducing other positions, programs, services etc. but that will create other issues as you can well imagine. This is the proposed budget that we believe will meet our needs. Again, I wish to reiterate having been given such a low target number (which I did not get close to) and mitigating the unanticipated deficit in the 2016-2017 budget caused this type of reduction scenario.
2. Are there any other viable ways to make reductions that we as a Board could discuss?  
**RESPONSE:** The Board is free to discuss any reductions at this point to offset those proposed and we will describe the impact of each if/when they are discussed.
3. Is it possible for all of the athletic teams to shave off a bit of their budgets to allow for all of our sports offerings to remain with proper staffing?  
**RESPONSE:** We can take more from their supplies. All other expenses (officials, transportation, rentals etc.) are fixed costs for providing the athletic programs we currently offer.
4. Did closer examination of the 2.5% soft cap exclusions offer a bit of relief for us to reinstate pieces of our budget? Staff?  
**RESPONSE:** Based on extensive research completed by Heather, we believe that if the current 2017-2018 Superintendent's Proposed Budget percentage (approximately) is advanced, it will adhere to the 2.5% soft cap mandate we were provided.
5. As has been stated openly in meetings, once we eliminate positions, we can pretty much guarantee that we'll never get them back. This coming school year is just the beginning. What are we setting ourselves up for cutting in the years to follow?  
**RESPONSE:** Agreed. No reductions are good. The current 2017-2018 Superintendents Proposed Budget does not eliminate any programs. The reductions to athletics are simply having JV players playing up at the varsity level in both golf and tennis. We don't have sufficient participation levels to continue to offer DV football.
6. The flat rate activity fee is not being well received. What other options can we consider?  
**RESPONSE:** I understand. Any other option would require us to recue approximately \$72,000 from some other line(s) in the current, proposed budget.