Questions a school board member may want to ask their school district finance director

1. What is the educational background of your District’s finance officer?
2. What is his/her professional experience?

3. How many professionals and how many clerical personnel are on his/her staff?
   - In his/her view is that adequate?
4. Does your district prepare a Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR)?

5. What reportable findings, if any, arose from the annual audit?
6. Was a Management Letter issued as a part of the annual audit?
   • What were its findings?

7. Is your District subject to the state procurement code?
   • If so, what findings, if any, arose from the triennial procurement audit?
8. What is the name of the Chief Financial Officer at the State Department of Education (SDE)?

9. How much is your District’s 8% borrowing capacity?
10. What is the average payback period for your 8% debt?

11. How does your staff prioritize capital needs?
12. Is there an annual maintenance audit of your facilities?

13. Is there a long range facility plan to address major capital needs?
14. What percentage of your General Fund Budget comes from local property taxes?

15. What is the current value of one mill?
16. What is the estimated value of a mill for next year?

17. What is the name of your County Treasurer
18. What is the name of your County Auditor?

19. How often do you meet in person with your County Auditor and Treasurer?
20. How much in dollars is your unrestricted fund balance?

21. What percentage of your General Fund Budget is your fund balance?
   
   • Is there a Board Policy addressing the size of the fund balance?
22. How many days of operations will the fund balance cover?

23. Is the Food Service Fund operating in the black or is it subsidized by the General Fund?
24. Does the Food Service fund carry its full share of indirect cost?

25. How do our teacher salaries compare with neighboring districts?
26. How much is our operating millage?

27. How much is our debt service millage?
28. How does our operating and debt service millage compare with neighboring districts?

29. How do we invest our cash?
   • Who makes the decision?
30. Who does enrollment projections?
   • How?

31. Do you attend the bi-annual meetings of SCASBO?
32. Do you attend the annual meeting of ASBO?

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