SC SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION TRAINING

BUDGET PLANNING
COMPARE INTERESTING FACTS
QUESTIONS TO ASK

October 12, 2016

What does a Typical Budget Calendar Look Like for a School District?
JANUARY & FEBRUARY

- JANUARY - Budget forms and instruction packets forwarded to School Principals and Department Heads from Finance Office
- JANUARY - School Administration meets with teachers, staff, and SIC members to discuss needs
- FEBRUARY - Budget requests due to Finance Department for compiling
- FEBRUARY - Finance Department provided Pupil Projections by school for upcoming school year
- FEBRUARY - Budget time line distributed to Board of Trustees

MARCH & APRIL

- MARCH – Superintendent and Assistants meet with each Principal and Department Head to discuss staffing and budget needs for next year
- MARCH - Board of Trustees presented State and District budget overview
- MARCH - Leadership Team reviews budget requests and recommends budget priorities
- APRIL - Board of Trustees discusses budget priorities
- APRIL - Board of Trustees presented any updated State Budget information
MAY & JUNE

- **MAY** - Finance Department reviews updated revenue estimates, budget requests, and projected fund balance position with Board
- **MAY** - Budget priorities presented at Principals’ Meeting
- **MAY** - Board of Trustees receives most current budget information and funding priorities as recommended by Administration
- **MAY or JUNE** - Budget presented at a Public Hearing
- **JUNE** - Board of Trustees adopts Budget

### School District Interesting Facts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Greenwood 50 School District</th>
<th>Lee County School District</th>
<th>Fort Mill School District</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sq Miles of District</td>
<td>322</td>
<td>411</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of Students</td>
<td>8,963</td>
<td>2,047</td>
<td>14,051</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Special Needs Students</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of ESOL Students</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of Employees</td>
<td>1,190</td>
<td>337</td>
<td>1,655</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of Facilities</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Sq Feet of Facilities</td>
<td>1,796,690</td>
<td>589,564</td>
<td>2,140,017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Acres</td>
<td>673</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>794</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of Bus Routes</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miles Driven each Day / Yearly</td>
<td>5,731 / 1,031,580</td>
<td>3,866/715,210</td>
<td>5,850/1,053,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of Students Transported</td>
<td>6,650</td>
<td>1,446</td>
<td>8,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of Field Trips</td>
<td>230</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>411</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Trip and Activity Miles Yearly</td>
<td>70,000</td>
<td>25,000</td>
<td>90,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meals Served / Day / Year</td>
<td>10,489 / 1,887,886</td>
<td>2,687/497,122</td>
<td>6,826/1,208,313</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Poverty</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Questions to Ask

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

Questions to Ask

11. Is there a long range facility plan to address major capital needs?
12. What is the current value of one mill?
13. How often do you meet in person with your County Auditor/Treasurer?
14. How much in dollars is your unrestricted fund balance?
15. What percentage of your General Fund Budget is your fund balance? Is there a Board Policy addressing the size of the fund balance?
16. Is the Food Service Fund operating in the black or is it subsidized by the General Fund?
17. How do our teacher salaries compare with neighboring districts?
18. How much is our operating and debt service millage?
19. How do we invest our cash? Who makes the decision?
20. Do you attend the bi-annual meetings of SCASBO?