



Mountain View
Whisman
School District

Budget Advisory Committee

September 6, 2024





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What is a Budget Advisory Committee (BAC)?

Alignment with Strategic Plan

- Strategic Plan: Goal #5: Equitable distribution of resources that support student success
 - Ensure facilities and resources equitably serve all students

BAC Definition

- An advisory body; recommendations are made to the Superintendent
- Provides engagement, ideas, expertise to the District in developing budget priorities
- Their primary purpose is to ensure transparency, foster understanding among stakeholders, and promote public participation in financial decision-making.
- This group is not subject to regulations from the Brown Act or the Greene Act.
- Similar in purpose and structure to Parcel Tax Oversight Committee and Bond Oversight Committees



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Purpose

Purpose of a BAC

- Serves a diverse community of stakeholders.
- In times of complex and varied financial needs, this committee brings together different perspectives, ensuring that budget decisions are inclusive and well-informed.
- Helps the District better navigate financial challenges, prioritize spending, and ensure that resources are allocated equitably to support all students effectively.
- Engagement, transparency and guidance in times of complex and sometimes competing financial needs.

BAC Roles & Responsibilities

- Serve as a liaison between the district and the broader community, sharing information and gathering input from stakeholders.
- Work with other committee members to develop practices that support the district's educational goals.

BAC Roles & Responsibilities

- Examine the district's budget, revenue sources, and expenditures to understand financial trends and projections.
- Offer feedback and recommendations on
 - budget priorities
 - cost-saving measures that minimize the impact on student learning and staff welfare
 - revenue enhancement opportunities.



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Why a BAC now?

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- This spring, there has been a demonstrated disconnect between stakeholders and the district over use of resources
- Stakeholders need clarity on District financial procedures and legal obligations
- District staff could also benefit from all stakeholder perspectives to make sure that all initiatives are right sized and aligned with Strategic Plan goals.



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Make Up and Selection of BAC

Make Up of Group

- Member Makeup (ranges from 8 - 18 members): We are seeking a diverse group of members to ensure comprehensive representation across our district:
 - District Administrators: Principals, Directors, Managers.
 - Representatives from employee associations (e.g., teachers' unions, classified staff unions)
 - Parents and Guardians: From various school sites with financial leadership experience (minimum one from Middle and Elementary School)
 - Community Members: Local business owners, community leaders, and interested residents with financial leadership experience
 - Board Members

Commitment

- Meets quarterly, with additional meetings as needed during the budget season.
- Members may be asked to review data and documents, or participate in community engagement outside of regular BAC meetings
- Members should commit to attending at least 75% of meetings and actively participate in discussions and subcommittees.

Application and Selection

- Complete the online application [here](#) by September 13th, 2024.
- Selection: Ad hoc committee will make recommendation after a review of the applications with names redacted for impartiality. It's possible applicants may be contacted for more information.
- Final applicants will be presented to the Board for approval.



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Questions

Questions for the Board

- Are there any stakeholders that are not represented on the BAC that we should include?
- What is the ideal size of this group (how many from each representative group)
- Which Board member(s) would participate?
- Should we televise the meeting