



Mountain View
Whisman
School District

Budget Advisory Committee

October 3, 2024





Mountain View
Whisman
School District

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



Mountain View
Whisman
School District

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.



Mountain View
Whisman
School District

Why a BAC now?

Why a BAC now?

- 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.



Mountain View
Whisman
School District

Make Up and Selection of BAC

Make Up of Group

- Member Makeup - diverse group of members to ensure comprehensive representation across our district: Approx 10
 - Principals, Directors, Managers (1)
 - Representatives from employee associations (2) (e.g., teachers' unions, classified staff unions)
 - Parents and Guardians (5): From various school sites with financial leadership experience (minimum one each from Middle and Elementary School)
 - Community Members (1) : Local business owners, community leaders, and interested residents with financial leadership experience
 - Board Members (1)
 - *Observers: District Administrators: (Supt, CBO, Director of Finance)*

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

- Online application open for two weeks
 - 19 applicants for 5 parent slots
- Advertised in MV Voice, school newsletters, Supts eNews and social media
- Ad hoc committee of DO administrators reviewed applications with names redacted for impartiality.
- Applicants were ranked based on a rubric
- Results of the process are being reported to the Board; the Board is not involved in member selection

Selection Rubric

Scoring Guide:

- **5 - Excellent:** Demonstrates exceptional understanding, depth, and relevance.
- **4 - Good:** Shows clear understanding, with strong relevance and some depth.
- **3 - Satisfactory:** Meets the basic requirements with moderate relevance.
- **2 - Fair:** Lacks depth, with minimal relevance or understanding.
- **1 - Poor:** Does not meet basic requirements, lacks relevance, or is incomplete.

Question 1: Interest in Serving on the Committee (300 words max)

Criteria:

/

1. **Clarity of Interest (0-5 points):** How clearly does the applicant express their interest in serving on the committee?
2. **Motivation Alignment (0-5 points):** Does the applicant's motivation align with the committee's goals and objectives?
3. **Passion for the Role (0-5 points):** How passionate does the applicant appear about contributing to the committee's work?

Total Points: 0-15

Selection Rubric

Question 2: Relevant Knowledge, Experience, and Strengths (200 words max)

Criteria:

1. **Relevant Knowledge & Experience (0-5 points):** How relevant is the applicant's knowledge and experience to the committee's focus?
2. **Contribution Potential (0-5 points):** How clearly does the applicant identify specific ways they can contribute to the group?
3. **Strengths Articulation (0-5 points):** How well does the applicant articulate their strengths and how these will benefit the committee?

Total Points: 0-15

Question 3: Experience Working in Groups/ Other Committees (200 words max)

Criteria:

1. **Group Work Experience (0-5 points):** How relevant and extensive is the applicant's experience working in groups to achieve a common goal?
2. **Strengths in Group Dynamics (0-5 points):** How well does the applicant describe their strengths in a group setting?
3. **Awareness of Challenges (0-5 points):** Does the applicant demonstrate an understanding of potential challenges in group work and how they might address them?

Total Points: 0-15

Selection Rubric

Overall Application Quality

Criteria:

1. **Completeness & Adherence to Word Limits (0-5 points):** Has the applicant followed instructions, including adhering to word limits?
2. **Writing Quality (0-5 points):** How well-written is the application in terms of clarity, grammar, and organization?
3. **Overall Impression (0-5 points):** What is your overall impression of the applicant's suitability for the committee?

Total Points: 0-15

Final Scoring

- **Total Possible Score: 60 Points**
- **Recommendation:**
 - **50-59 Points:** Strongly recommend for committee placement.
 - **30-49 Points:** Recommend with some reservations.
 - **29 or Below Points:** Do not recommend.



Mountain View
Whisman
School District

Next Steps

Next Steps

- Communicate with final applicants
- Confirm their comfort with public recording
- Confirm participation for final applicants
- Set the first meeting