

## Critical Discussion Points for 2011-12 Budget Process: April 5, 2011

1. The Governor's proposed budget reduces WCASD state allocations by \$3.4 million more than we had anticipated.
2. The WCASD had already reduced its expected state revenues by \$1.1 million rolling back to 2006-07 levels.
3. The total amount of proposed reductions will reduce state funding for WCASD programs to 2003-04 levels.
4. Last minute budget reductions are not the responsible way to prepare a budget.
5. WCASD has been responsibly managing its budget very well for the past two years, and has involved our community in the process (Community Budget Task Force in 2009; Transportation Task Force in 2010)
6. As of March, the total 2011-12 budget gap, including additional state funding cuts, was \$5 million. Reductions have already been approved in the amount of \$3.2 million, including 2011-12 transportation changes, teacher attrition, freeze on 2010-11 discretionary spending, elimination of 3 central office administrative support and 2 custodian positions, other facility department reductions and student parking permit fee increases.
7. Additional budget reductions totaling \$1.8 million must be made in order to balance the 2011-12 budget.
8. The remaining budget gap assumes the following:
  - a. The school board will approve a 1.4% tax increase, or about \$48 per household.
  - b. The governor's proposed budget will not change.
9. Priorities for further reductions:
  - a. Non-program reductions
  - b. Community Task Force findings not taken – These have been reviewed and are posted on the district web page as Phase 3 Budget reductions [http://www.wcasd.net/pdfs/phase\\_3\\_budget\\_reductionsl.pdf](http://www.wcasd.net/pdfs/phase_3_budget_reductionsl.pdf) These potential reductions will be reviewed by the WCASD School Board for possible implementation in fall, 2011
  - c. The proposed Phase 3 reductions were posted on the district web site on April 1, 2011 and reviewed with our community on April 4, 2011.
  - d. "Complex" budget reduction initiatives will be recommended to be placed on a community task force in the fall, 2011 to be implemented in fall, 2012.
10. A salary freeze for all staff would save approximately \$1.4 million in the 2011-12 budget.
11. We also need to begin to make sustainable reductions for the 2012-13 budget, which is expected to have an \$8.3 million budget gap.

12. Reductions will also need to be made now due to retirements, to begin to close the 2012-13 budget gap. School districts are not permitted to furlough people for economic reasons but are permitted to not fill vacated positions due to retirements or resignations. We have several positions where people are retiring at the end of the 2010-11 school year and we might not have those retirements in the 2012-13 year. For those reasons we may not fill all of the vacated positions to achieve sustainable savings.
13. Retirement reductions will:
  - a. Prevent any furloughs for the 2011-12 budget year.
  - b. Possibly result in people being placed in different positions for the 2011-12 year.