



Strategic Budgeting

Board Development Series | January 2016

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The Governor John Engler Center for Charter Schools | Central Michigan University



Strategic Thinking

To think about, view, assess and create future success



Session Objectives

- Understand the “why” or “purpose” of creating a budget
- Think strategically to identify needs and determine budget priorities
- Understand the importance of collaboration in creating and implementing a strategically focused budget



Question #1

What is a budget?

- A plan that allocates resources to implement strategy, meet goals and achieve mission



Question #2

Why does a school create a budget?

- Set expectations
- Set accountability targets
- Communicate priorities
- Help control spending



Question #2

Why does a school create a budget?





Budgeting Steps

- Identify needs
- Determine priorities
- Determine sources of funds
- Fund the priorities



Question #3

How will you gather information to identify needs in your school?

Question #4

What are the current needs in your school? Please list based on order of priority.



Step #1

Identify Needs

- Mission
- Strategic plan
- Educational program
- School improvement plan
- Assessment data
- Staff input
- Community input



Step #2

Determine Priorities

- Student recruitment (enrollment)
- Employee compensation
- Facility
- Technology

How does this make you unique?

How will this create future success?



Step #3

Determine Sources of Funds

- State aid
- Grants
- Loans
- Business/community relationships
- Capital campaign



Step #4

Fund the Priorities

- Align dollars with priorities and put your plan into action



Budgeting Steps

- Identify needs
- Determine priorities
- Determine sources of funds
- Fund the priorities



Collaboration

Team

- Board members
- School leader
- Business manager
- Teachers
- Technology
- Maintenance/custodial
- Food service



Collaboration

Timeline

- When should the budget process begin?
 - January
- When should the board first see the budget?
 - March
- When should the board approve the budget?
 - May



Collaboration

Communication

- Create a culture of open communication
- Trust is key
- Communicate the “why”



Recap

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Why Does a School Create a Budget?





Why Does a School Create a Budget?





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