

**COLORADO SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT 11**  
Dr. Terry N. Bishop, Superintendent  
**Division of Business Services**  
Glenn E. Gustafson, CPA, Deputy Superintendent/CFO

**DAAC Budget Committee**  
Wendy Chiado, Chairman

**Minutes**  
January 27, 2009  
6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Wendy Chiado, Jamie Cushenbery, John Gartin, Suzy Gingrich, Tina Koenig, John Leary, Jim Mason, Bob Miner, Javan Ridge, and Gerald Roebke

Ex Officio Members Present: Becky Kluck, Ken Wieck, and Becky Moore

Wendy opened the meeting at 6:05 p.m. Due to the short time between meetings, the minutes were not yet ready for approval. Approval of the January 22 and January 27 meeting minutes will take place at the next regular meeting on February 10, 2009.

The outcome of the last board of education meeting was discussed. The board of education has redirected a portion of this committee's charge. Due to the possible budget rescission from the state for the current year and the projected cuts for the next year, the committee will be focusing on areas to cut back the budget. Wendy had already discussed the board's new direction with Becky Kluck and Glenn Gustafson for clarification as to what is expected from the DAAC Budget Committee. Wendy intends to also discuss a possible methodology of how to examine the current budget for places to conserve funds with Becky K and Ken prior to presenting to the committee for consideration and consensus.

The committee debated what to put in the preliminary report to the board, to be presented February 25, 2009. Overall, IBRs and the IBR process will be in the report as well as Rtl recommendations and suggestions as to how to cope with the state's budget rescission. There was much debate surrounding the IBRs and then the budget altogether. Consensus was that there ought to be process controls, planning and accountability for individual department and school budgets. The committee feels the district is severely lacking in these areas. John L and Javan pointed out that too much time is spent by this committee in working out the IBRs which are such a small piece of the budget when the whole budget process is in need of a more critical review by this committee. Concerns were raised about funding and administration of the Rtl program next year.

Ken helped the committee look at the handout of potential accounts to be given an approximate 10% reduction to their remaining budget. The 10% reduction would be a way to move funds for FY09 into contingency in order to ensure that budget is protected from some expenditures, thereby offsetting the potential decrease in revenue. The approximate rescission for FY08/09 is \$1 million and the cut in educational funding is projected to be between \$2 million and \$3 million next year. The committee would like to see another similar spreadsheet with higher than 10% from those accounts that have spent less than 50% of their budget so far this year. Also, mark the accounts that are typically not spent until spring or summer to remain at the 10% level. Becky told the committee that a draft memo of a voluntary spending freeze has been asked prepared by Glenn. The memo is on hold until it has been determined the best way to cut current year budgets, mandatory or voluntary or both.

Jim had concerns about the use of unfilled positions as a means to save money. He believes it sends the wrong message to the staff and community that the district is taking away jobs. He stated that the district should manage perceptions and prepare for the future. He suggested that the overall methodology develop a plan that will still ensure **1)** the \$1 million savings, **2)** we educate our students, **3)** we provide a safe environment and **4)** we prepare for next year.

Becky K discussed the night school budget and staffing comparisons with the committee. Both styles of night school are equally successful. Several committee members questioned the data presented by John Keane at the last meeting. They decided that if the committee recommends consolidation of the two schools, now is not the time to expand it. The committee felt that real student count numbers should be a factor of expansion and not hoped-for enrollment numbers.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m. with plusses and deltas.

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 10, 2009 at 6:00 p.m.**