BUDGET COMMITTEE APPROVED 5/10/23
Redmond School District
Budget Committee Meeting
April 26, 2023

Board Members in Attendance: Chair Michael Summers, Vice Chair Liz Goodrich, Directors Keri Lopez, Alice DeWittie, Eric Lea
Budget Committee Members in Attendance: Stephanie Hunter, Jill Adams, James Wood, Tim Benesh, Kevin Palmer

The meeting was called to order by Board Chair Summers at 5:33 pm. A quorum was established and there were no corrections, additions, deletions, or questions regarding the agenda.

Election of Officers
Stephanie Hunter moved to elect Kevin Palmer as Chair. Keri Lopez seconded the motion. Motion carried, 10-0

Keri Lopez volunteered to be Vice Chair. Alice DeWittie seconded the motion. Motion carried, 10-0.

Meeting Minutes
Alice DeWittie moved to approve the February 8, 2023 Budget Committee Work Session Minutes. Michael Summers seconded the motion. Motion carried, 10-0.

2023-24 Proposed Budget – Budget Message
Superintendent Cline read the budget message from the 2023-24 Proposed Budget document.

Liz Goodrich requested that in the future the budget message include the number of employees.

On January 31, the Governor released her budget, which included the priorities of homelessness, mental health and addiction care, education, and childcare. The biennial recommended allocation for the State School Fund (SSF) was $9.9 billion, a 6.5% increase over our current biennial allocation. When the Co-Chairs of the Ways and Means Committee released their budget framework on March 23, they maintained the $9.9 billion SSF allocation. $10.3 billion is what the state education leaders’ estimate is necessary to maintain the current service levels. This would include current programs and the roll up costs of salary increases, inflation costs, etc. A $3.1 million shortfall from the General Fund would be equal to cutting 28 teachers or cutting 11 school days. This is not the approach the District would take, but just a way of showing the magnitude of this budget shortfall. The legislature is approximately a month or more out before settling on a budget number, as they are waiting for the next state economists forecast.
Another issue we are facing is a dramatic fiscal cliff in 2023-2025. Our District’s non-charter schools received $9.7 million in COVID Relief ESSER III Funds, and that is all coming to an abrupt end in 2024. We do have $2.9 million in un-budgeted/unallocated ESSER III funds that will support programming for the upcoming biennium. Utilizing those ESSER III funds will allow us to save $2.2 million in General Funds which we will use for additional planned reserves, which will take our planned reserves (required 6.5%) to 9.1%.

The General Fund 2022-23 projected Ending Fund Balance is 13.6%. The District experienced savings due to the inability to fill positions, therefore experiencing savings in salaries, payroll costs and benefits. The District also used the ESSER funds for textbook adoptions, which also created savings in the General Fund. Our revenues also increased because of higher SSF per student because the statewide ADMw dropped.

General Fund compensation costs for 2023-24 are budgeted is $71.5 million, a $6.9 million increase. This increase includes COLA, steps, health insurance cap, additional FTE, and average cost per FTE.

The next Budget Committee Meeting is May 10, 2023. Please review the budget document and submit any questions to Kathy Steinert. During the next meeting, there will be time for public input and additional information regarding the budget and special programs will be presented.

The meeting adjourned at 6:53 pm.

[Signature]
Kevin Palmer, Budget Committee Chair

[Signature]
Gina Blanchette, Executive Assistant