

**Input on 2010-2011 Budget
Summary of Community Conversation Comments**

The following input was received from participants in discussion groups during a Community Conversation held on December 3, 2009 at Travis High School.

What areas should the District consider for budget reductions?

- Eliminate signing bonuses
- Reduce transportation #59
- Increase class size
- Reduce use of late buses (evaluate use and maintain where needed)
- Eliminate Program Facilitators
- Discontinue 6th grade at elementary schools
- Move to block scheduling at secondary level
- Implement ONE DAY ONLY furlough for all staff and faculty (except custodial)
- Renegotiate contracts with outside vendors
- Long-term school consolidation plan/redistricting
- Reduce benchmark testing (as well as minimizing extra copies, etc.)
- #7 aggressive energy savings programs (absolutely – budget crisis or not or not)
- Reevaluate trainings (electronic a possibility?)
- #63 cover rental costs
- Restrict/Reduce - Review transfer policies
- Consider consolidating schools
- Eliminate Curriculum Specialists
- Eliminate Director of Diversity
- Eliminate Office of Redesign
- 3% cut across the board
- Implement one day/mo furlough for central staff
- Consider increase of employee health insurance contribution
- Cuts at central administration before campus level
- Consider police department reduction w/regard to budget impact (less guns, bulletproof vests)
- #36 reduce/eliminate travel allowance (not the cell phones though) switch to reimbursement basis vs. pre-allocated amount
- Reevaluate transportation #9
- #64 P-cards
- #37 Temporary reductions in teacher signing bonuses

- #19 Self-insure health insurance*
- #20 *Do not consolidate low enrollment schools. Redraw zoning districts instead
- #26 No larger class sizes for secondary
- #41 Do not eliminate Fine Arts elementary OR secondary
- Sell 6th street complex and move into underutilized school
- Bring nurses back as AISD employees
- Eliminate signing bonuses for new teachers
- Replace retirees w/low cost new hires
- Take consolidation off the table; rather bring more students back to the neighborhood schools
- Increase employee \$ to healthcare: sliding scale
- Eliminate/Reduce the Benchmark testing
- Eliminate contract w/Seton nurses
- Eliminate long term hardship leave for employee that have exhausted their leave
- Eliminate food spending - out source
- Self insure
- Freeze hiring on non-classroom positions
- Across the board decrease 10% of instructional budget
- Return non-teaching instructional coaches,
- Use under-enrolled schools for dual language offerings
- #47 Do not eliminate support staff
- #24, #25 No reduction of prep/planning periods for secondary
- Eliminate payroll check printing
- Do not consolidate schools in general. Consider reassessing school boundaries to better utilize school buildings
- Make all day kindergarten optional
- Move curriculum specialists to campuses
- Go to block scheduling
- Delay construction of new schools or close schools that are unused; consider reuse of under populated schools [which (id) schools that will be impacted}
- Furlough: 4 day work week across district = 0
- Eliminate late start at High School
- Increase class size by one student at HS/MS
- 10% pay cut across the board; until the \$ is back
- All employees contribute to health insurance
- Reduce Consultant Expenditures
- Teachers income not reduced (by health care increase)
- Return non-teaching instructional coaches, sifs (c.o. folks), etc. to classroom!
- Intensive use of the schools (morning and

- sifs (c.o. folks), etc. to classroom!
- Shift school year start later (maybe?)
- Prepay loan
- Eliminate Executive principals
- Base employee contribution to health insurance according to their salary
- evenings)
- #9 Optimize use of all resources hum + physical
- Reduce consulting contracts
- Reduce travel budget significantly

What options do you recommend for the District to generate revenue?

- Sell attractive properties
- Rent properties during off times
- Advertize on school property/buses for “approved” concepts/products
- Bring > kids to school everyday
- Parent Support Specialists - house calls
- Community mentors
- Better health services
- Drop-out Prevention Specialists on all Secondary campuses
- Increase space rental charges
- Daycares on campus for teacher’s kids
- #7 Add solar panels
- School board should ask voters for property tax increase
- Lobby legislature for school finance reform
- Aggressive grant process
- Focus on school attendance increase PSAs
- Reduce work week to 4 days during summer
- Work in collaboration w/ACC and others leasing to Post-Secondary to utilize our spaces
 - (charge for usage/shares)
 - sports facilities, etc.,
 - rent 40 conferences,
 - SBSW
 - Inform the community
- Move to > online communications
- Increasing attendance
- Reduce tardies (incentives) (Saturday school)
- Create a charitable foundation
- #64 Implement P-cards

- Recycle. Go green!!
- Employees earning \$100K+ should pay \$50 per month health contribution
- Raising taxes
- Healthcare Facilities on campus to increase the attendance
- Import students – move choice, more engagement plus relevant curriculum, more trade classes
- Capital investment in public services
- Investigate rental rates at CAC
- Recapturing students schools from private/charter schools
- *Invest in increasing daily attendance (ex: Family Resource Center at Webb)
- Outsource our food sources to increase attendance
- For profit – short courses – use empty schools in the summer
- Sale of properties not in use

What programs/areas should the District spend money on?

- Facilities improvement (practice rooms, performance space)
- Dual language programs
- Increase training for staff to support special education
- Assured quality in all subjects
- Bring back subjects that kids are interested in: Robotics, Shop (wood and metal), Auto Mechanics, Future Technology, and Vocational Ed
- No blanket policy against rehiring retirees (no to #13/14)
- Provide adequate resources before considering closures and do **NOT** close successful schools (no to #20)
- Salary increase for teachers (impact retention)
- Increase supports for special education for inclusion
- Support dropout prevention programs
- Need a Certified Academic Language Therapist (CALT) on all campuses - especially elementary
- Day care for students' kids
- Raises to classified staff wages (**DO NOT** cut positions here)
- No reduction in teacher planning periods

- Aggressive, attractive attendance program*
- Do not eliminate special areas (now, ever)
- *need to attract quality teachers – no cuts to programs that get/keep those teachers
- Libraries
- Invest in educator quality especially in needy schools
- Reinstate Spanish academies
- Another Bond election
- Eliminate portables (start an architectural program. Build our own +Go Green)
- Tutoring, after school reading & math
- Dual language programs
- Classroom supplies
- National Board Certified Stipend
- Salary increase. Staff pay incentives based on personal; campus success; cost of living
- Fine Arts (CATE programs, Special Areas: PE, Art, Music) keep them
- Drop Out Prevention or Recovery
- Teacher compensation
- Transportation for Magnet Schools
- Keep hardship pay
- No forced block
- Keep AISD PD
- Keep central office – accessible to
- No increased class size
- Salary increases in line with urban districts cost of living
- Fine Arts
- Technology – innovation stations
- Smaller classes
- Incentives for attendance
- Renaming schools for \$1 million each
- Redesign
- Classroom supplies
- Reading specialists
- Incentives for staff that keep teachers in school
- Teacher quality
- Family Resource Centers
- Pay veteran 5+ year teachers better, proportionally – National Board (reduce turnover)
- Self- insurance plus wellness program for staff and students
- Keep planning periods
- Keep small schools open
- Counselors
- More technology
- Investigate how to motivate students to attend school regularly
- Rent and evaluate obsolete facilities

community

- More bilingual communication
- More counselors and specialists to assist parents