

Strategically Budgeting in Difficult Times to Educate Children for Their Place in a Global Society

Wallingford Public Schools

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Questions to Consider

- **What challenges are we facing as we begin to develop district budgets?**



Intended Outcomes of Presentation

- **How does a district utilize its strategic plan as a planning and monitoring tool for the procurement of resources to educate students for a global society?**
- **How does a district utilize its strategic plan as a roadmap for budget development?**



Intended Outcomes of Presentation

- **How does a district utilize its strategic plan in initiative implementation?**
- **How does a district scaffold its strategic plan to address the disparity between anticipated resources and a sustainable growth model?**



Strategically Budgeting – STEP 1

- **Develop a strategic plan**
 - **Solicit input from all constituents**
 - **Parents**
 - **Students (present and past)**
 - **ALL staff**
 - **Certified**
 - **Non-certified**
 - **Community Leaders**
 - **Town Council**
 - **Clergy**
 - **Community Organizations**



Strategically Budgeting – STEP 2

- **Develop a Clear Mission**

- **Mission**

- **To inspire, educate and support all students as they discover and pursue their personal best.**



Strategically Budgeting – STEP 3

- **Develop a Clear Vision**

- **Vision**

- **Wallingford Public Schools, with family and community, will distinguish itself with innovation teaching and learning experiences in a safe and supportive environment.**
 - **Our goal is to ignite passion for learning and excellence in every student so that each becomes a life-long contributor to the local and global communities.**



Strategically Budgeting – STEP 4

- **Develop Key Beliefs and Goals**

- **Beliefs**

- Communication is a collaborative process that connects all stakeholders as they work toward common goals.
 - Education and learning are the shared responsibilities of students, families, school, and community.
 - The WPS Learning Community will provide the personal and academic challenges and learning necessary to prepare students to perform their personal best in the real world and in the future.



Strategically Budgeting – STEP 4

- **Develop Key Beliefs and Goals**

- **Beliefs**

- Clear, consistent communication and education are the shared responsibilities of district employees, families, students, and the community.
 - Honesty, integrity, respect and fairness are essential to building trust: The district climate will foster a collaborative, collegial environment.
 - Students are prepared with personal and academic learning necessary for the real world.

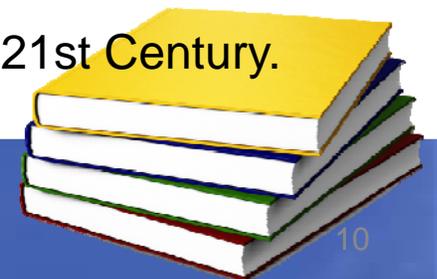


Strategically Budgeting – STEP 4

- **Develop Key Beliefs and Goals**

- **Beliefs**

- A positive, safe, healthy school environment nurtures, inspires and enables the development of each student's potential.
 - The facilities of each school shall promote learning and provide a clean, safe, and environmentally sensitive atmosphere.
 - A financial plan is an essential component of a viable strategic plan.
 - Technology is an essential part of school and life in the 21st Century.



Strategically Budgeting – STEP 4

- **Develop Key Beliefs and Goals**

- **Beliefs**

- Applying the technologies that our students and professionals use in their daily lives to Wallingford's education system improves learning and enhances effective instruction.
 - We need to match how we teach to how our 21st Century students learn.
 - Technology needs to be embedded in course curriculum and that all students, faculty, and staff need to be proficient in technology fundamentals.



Strategically Budgeting – STEP 5

- **Develop Key Beliefs and Goals**
 - **Goals**
 - **Community Outreach and Partnerships**
 - **Curriculum and Instruction**
 - **Facilities**
 - **School Climate**
 - **Technology**



Strategically Budgeting – STEP 6

- **How do we meld the strategic planning budget into our traditional budget process?**
 - **Decisions Made**
 - **Develop and present a 3 year sustained services budget**
 - **Present a 3 year strategic plan budget also**



Strategically Budgeting – STEP 7

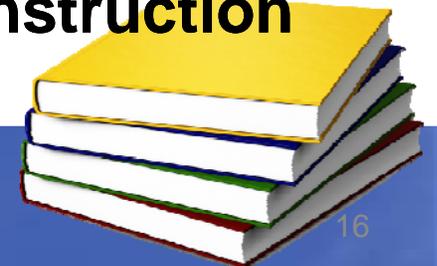
- **Develop Budgets Based on Strategic Plan**
 - **Each budget page included the strategic plan:**
 - **Goal**
 - **Objective**
 - **Specific item or service requested**
 - **Level in district impacted**
 - **Recurring or non-recurring expense classification**



Strategic Planning Budget			Sub-Committee: Curriculum and Instruction		
			Goal #1: Students will fully master the foundational skills necessary at every level of their education		
Object Code	School	Description	Estimated Costs		
			2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
		1. Pacing Calendars			
300	Elem/Middle	Summer Revisions	6,000	Recurring	
		2. Revise Curriculum - Language Arts			
600	Elem/Middle	Programs/ Leveled Books	300,000	Recurring	
300	Elem/Middle	Curriculum Development -writing, spelling	12,000	Recurring	
100	System	2.0 FTE Curriculum Teachers	144,000		
		3. Revise Curriculum - MS/HS World Language			
600	Middle/High	Programs /Textbooks	50,000	Recurring	
300	Middle/High	Summer Professional Development-curriculum implementation	6,000	Recurring	
300	Middle/High	Summer Curriculum Development	3,200	Recurring	
100	High School	Stipends - Two World Language Department Chairs	11,156		
		4. Unit Assessments			
100	Elem/Middle	Summer Development/Revision	12,000	Recurring	
		5. Curriculum Revision Cycles			
100	Middle/High	Release times/ substitutes-revise curriculum	6,000	Recurring	
300	Middle/High	Summer Curriculum Development	16,000	Recurring	
100	Middle School	Stipends - 8.0 Subject Area Coordinators		38,040	

Strategically Budgeting

- **How did this process impact decision making of the Wallingford Board of Education?**
 - **Provided priorities**
 - **Three years offered The Board of Education:**
 - **Look to the future**
 - **Picture of educational impact if funding was not granted one year of plan**
 - **Grounded the budget in curriculum and instruction**



Strategically Budgeting

- **How did this process impact initiative implementation of strategic plan requests?**
 - **Established priorities based on a significant input**
 - **Required us to be strategic in the use of funds**
 - **Provided us with a clear focus**



Strategically Budgeting

- **How has this process impacted budget development this year?**
 - **Expanded conversation across all curricular areas**
 - **Set a focus for conversation and planning**
 - **Acted as a common language and rationale for what will be included in the budget**



Strategically Budgeting

- **What program impact has resulted since the implementation of the strategic plan budgeting process?**
 - **Increase in world language opportunities at middle school**
 - **Increase in intervention services at high school**
 - **Increase in technology procurement**



Strategically Budgeting

- **What facilities impact has resulted since the implementation of the strategic plan budgeting process?**
 - **Included Town Risk Manager, Fire Marshal, and insurance agent in prioritization of facility needs**
 - **Acted as validation and substantive support for funding to address issues**



Strategically Budgeting

- **What are other areas impacted since the implementation of the strategic plan and new budgeting process?**
 - **Increased parental involvement to take action**
 - **Increased understanding of what the children of Wallingford need to be successful in our changing global society**



Strategically Budgeting

- **What are other areas impacted since the implementation of the strategic plan and new budgeting process?**
 - **TEAMWORK, COLLABORATION, and TRUST**



Strategically Budgeting

