



November 22, 2011

Eanes ISD is beginning the initial planning for what will be another year of reduced funding from the state's public education coffers. After a \$3.7 million reduction for the 2011-12 school year, the District will face a shortfall of approximately \$5-\$6 million for 2012-13. While the Board of Trustees has committed to using \$4 million out of fund balance, District officials are identifying additional areas to make up the \$1-\$2 million shortfall.

Last year's legislative session forced the District to make tough decisions in reducing its budget: staff reductions through attrition, staff reassignment to vacated positions across campuses, frozen salaries, reduced or eliminated stipends and increased fees associated with field trips and lunches.

This year, budget planning is starting earlier and includes soliciting feedback from staff and developing a plan to include community input and recommendations. Centered around these discussions is the Eanes ISD mission statement, as well as guiding principles for budget development (see guiding principles below).

The preliminary planning focuses on ideas for reduction inside and outside of the classroom, identification of inefficiencies, areas identified that may require additions to the budget (such as increased energy and fuel costs) and revenue opportunity suggestions. Ideas will be collected, analyzed and costs or cost-savings will be assigned, where possible.

More information on how the community can provide recommendations will be released after winter break. Budget updates will be posted online:

<http://www.eanesisd.net/budget>.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR BUDGET DEVELOPMENT 2012-2013

- Budget reductions will be considered in all areas. Decisions will be driven by the district's mission, vision, beliefs, goals, stakeholders' input and data.
- Engage staff, parents, business, and community in a collaborative process to develop budget recommendations.
- Communicate budget recommendations, with the rationale for each, clearly and thoroughly to all stakeholders.
- State and federal mandates must be met in the budget process.
- While maintaining a focus on state and federal accountability, budget reductions will be shared among all schools, programs and departments.
- When possible, Eanes ISD will address staff reductions through attrition with reassignment of existing employees.
- Adoption and implementation of new personnel, programs and initiatives will be limited. Where new investments are necessary, off-setting savings from current programs will likely be required.
- Different time schedules and other scheduling models will be analyzed to ensure effectiveness and efficiency at all levels of schooling.
- Eanes ISD personnel are invited to participate in the budget process and contribute ideas.