



Hosting a community budget discussion



A three-night conversation

- Three neighborhood high schools hosted
- Two-hour, drop-in style open houses
- 2-minute orientation video
- Conversations organized around nine topics
- Facilitated by subject-matter experts
- Estimated 125 participants

Themes

- How do I know my money would be used wisely?
- How will my money be spent? I want the details.
- We've seen this before. I'm concerned about the cycle continuing.
- Rate dropped while AV increased – result is taxes didn't go down

Ideas

- Gradually increase tax rate – don't go from 1.50 to 2.50 in one year
- Find balance and moderation



Library

Themes

- How do we keep libraries open most amount of time?
- Libraries are info specialists – not just check-in/out
- Who maintains collection? Improves? Digital access?
- Are we overloading classroom teachers?

Ideas

- How can volunteers help?
- Automation at MS/HS. Access “other” libraries.
- Get student voice about collection.
- Did we look at spreading out librarians?
- Explore partnerships w/city and county libraries for resources to enhance our school (SPS) library/technology experiences (i.e.) STEM





Class sizes

Themes

- Worried about loss of support for teachers – secondary specifically.
- How much do we receive for lower K-3 class size funding?
- What will SPS do with large class size at grades 4-6?
- Cannot let class size creep up. It matters to student success.

Ideas

- Decreasing grounds/maintenance to save other student-contact jobs.
- Can I forgo some of my wage increase to help fund teaching positions?



Elementary school day

Themes

- Library model – what does this look like?
- Shortened day...what does that mean for our kids?
- Choice between art and science? Does that mean my child will miss out on one or the other?
- Extended lunch time – more time to play/eat/SEL with teacher
- Shortened day...child care/programs

Ideas

- Families supportive of teachers having common Friday prep time

Administrative staffing

Themes

- What has been done?

Ideas

- Sell building downtown and relocate

Salary Reduction Reconciliation



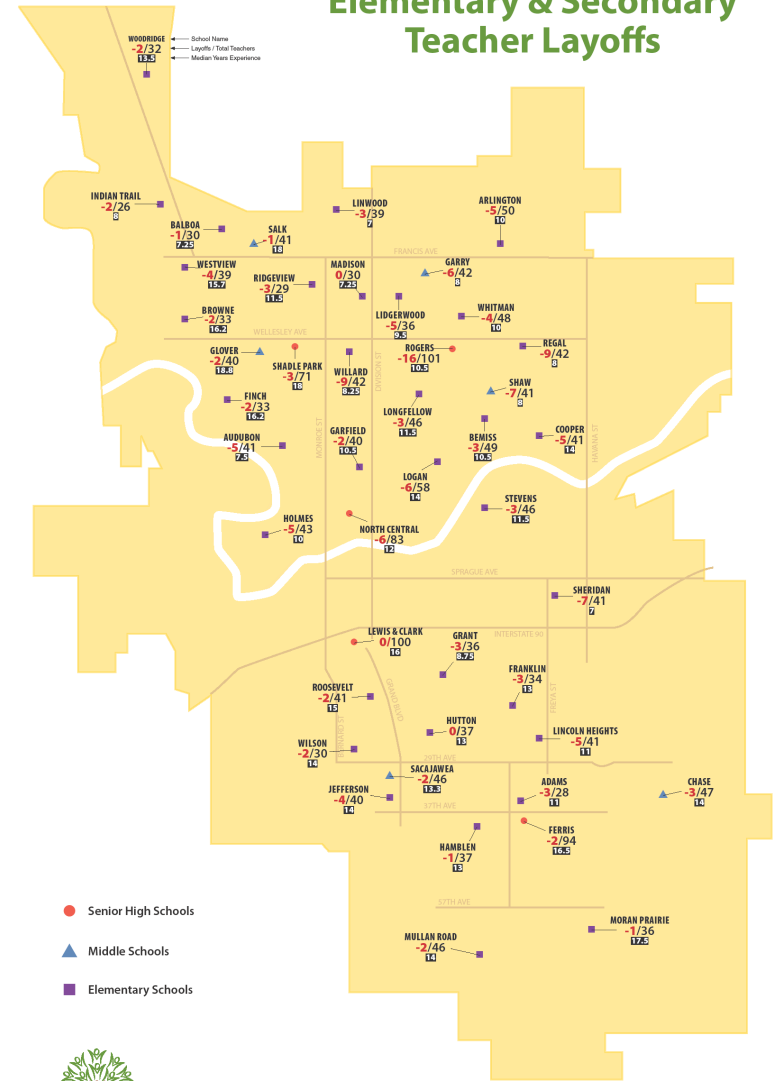
		Headcount	19-20 Salary & Benefit Reductions
Central Administration	Business Office	3	305,768
	Human Resources	1	169,765
	Public Relations	2	162,447
	Supervision	5	605,229
	Food Service Supervision	1	74,358
Central Administration Total		12	1,317,567
Other Support	Grounds Maintenance	3	67,508
	Operation of Plant	31.5	2,016,972
	Maintenance of Plant & Equip	8	776,399
	Plant Security	2	155,045
	Information Systems	3.8	374,599
	Printing	1	53,935
	Warehousing & Distributing	1	86,189
Other Support Total		50.3	3,530,648
Teaching Support	Learning Resources	3.7	207,409
	Guidance & Counseling	1	64,841
	Instructional Prof'l Developmt	3	421,407
	Curriculum	2	278,322
Teaching Support Total		9.7	971,979
Grand Total		72	5,820,194

Staffing impact

Themes

- Concerns about not having equitable loss – i.e. coaches of sports
- Appreciate the transparency

Elementary & Secondary Teacher Layoffs



Compensation

- **Themes**

- Seeking information on sustainability of compensation plans.
- Felt in the dark about funding cliff – should have shared.
- What about the years down the road?

- **Ideas**

- Parent/community rep at bargaining table – Seattle is doing it
- Transparent negotiations with unions





Themes

- Middle school advisory felt information was dumbed down.

Middle school plan

Ideas

- Show fiscal conservatism in how facilities are built.
- Perception of the expense of our new buildings.
- Lake Washington example:
 - Sand fields rather than grass fields
 - Landscaping through conservation district
 - Why isn't the district installing solar panels?

Special education

Themes

- It takes a village to raise kids, so decreasing supports impacts the whole child
- Balance to match student behavior with discipline and teacher safety.
- Staff/student ratio in the Transition Program.

Ideas

- This is an opportunity to be innovative in order to support children (go deeper than “coping”)

Other thoughts

Feedback

- Need training on how to support students.
- Feel dollars were not used wisely.
- Loss of support for students – SEL.
- Explain prototypical school model.
- Concerned about nursing support.
 - Safety for students
 - Health assessment to keeps kids in school

Ideas

- Work-placement for career focus students?
- What would a true retirement incentive do to help solve the budget gap?





Next steps

- **May 29**: Board budget work session
 - Clarify questions where needed
 - Seek school board direction on initial recommendations
- **Jun 12**: Board hosts community budget forum
- **Jun 19**: Board budget development work session
- **Jun 26**: Superintendent delivers recommended budget
- **Aug 31**: Deadline for board to adopt 2019-20 budget

Questions