

This is a fiscal relationship that is attainable. Corbett Charter School can have 350 students, anticipating 340. 240 charter students in the grade school for 225 ADMw (half ADM for kindergarten). CCS will have nine regular classrooms as opposed to ten classrooms this year. Enrollment is projected to drop in the primary grades. 7th-12th grades anticipate 337 students with 15 licensed teachers, and about 25 high school students per class. The extracurricular will be full slate.

We are in a solid fiscal position.

Expenditures Proposed - We are using \$300,000 Contingency and \$250,000 Un-appropriated Ending Fund Balance. Our Projected Fund Balance for July 2011 is \$68,168.

Structural differences for 2010-2011 with Corbett Charter School personnel out of the budget, whereas this year's \$3.5-\$3.6 million in salaries, next year's should be about \$2.5 million.

Budget Committee Discussion

Eric Stevens, Presiding Officer

Charlie O'Neil asked how much for bus.

Mr. Dunton replied about \$95,000 for a new bus. We have a good fleet presently.

Eric Stevens asked if there was a possibility of purchasing large passenger vans.

Randy Trani talked to AVIS and you can rent large vans for same price as small vans. If you rent for 29 days or less, no mechanic report needed for the State.

Mr. Dunton said there would be diminished returns if we owned.

Charlie O'Neil asked if there was consideration to staff the grade school library.

Mr. Dunton mentioned that we didn't staff this year and won't next year.

Leota Pulliam asked if the Charter School is full.

Mr. Dunton answered that yes it is with 160 students that were turned down.

Eric Stevens noted that Corbett School District budget in good shape, what about the charter budget.

Mr. Dunton announced that the Charter board had a meeting on April 6 and expects 3-4% Ending Fund Balance.

Maureen Childs added that last year the charter school helped Corbett School District survive and still will. It is remarkable we're intact with programs and extracurricular, because of this win/win relationship.

Mr. Dunton agreed that we are insulated as other districts are talking significant cuts.

Maureen Childs is looking for a job as a teacher, and it has been depressing.

Jeff Aho asked about the cost of services versus what we bring in for contract negotiations with the teachers. Are the numbers in the budget?

Mr. Dunton explained that we have increased classified salaries and increased confidential/supervisory. There are step increases for certified.

Jeff Aho surmised that if 80% of budget is employee costs, is this healthy for budget ratio.

Mr. Dunton expressed yes, it is here, with our priority going directly to classroom teachers. There are two structural events to look ahead to: two year negotiated cap on insurance so that we have a first layer of protection on inflation and adjustment for salaries in the hands of the Board yet this spring. Our staff is three years more junior than the state average of 12 years. In the funding formula this amounts to a dock of about \$25 per student. The trend is for retirement shift to replace lower salaries, so it controls growth. The other structural event is movement of payroll from Corbett School District for the Corbett Charter School staff. Nothing should ever get away from us unless we hire more personnel, as we spend proportionately less than other schools. We have no building issues.

Maureen Childs concluded that in 10 years on the Board we've been pretty spot on at the end of the budget cycle, due to the safeguards in place.

Eric Stevens reiterated that 10 classrooms down to nine in the grade school because of?

Per Mr. Dunton this is retirement and reassignment of employee.

Brad Garrett noted the PERS dilemma with variable accounts and a nine billion increase ahead or 37% increase.

Mr. Dunton said there are offsets, the portfolio took a beating. Our 14% increase was one of the lowest increases. The PERS Board tends to react and July 2011 could be 19%.

Mark Hyzer asked if the reduction in grade school classrooms also affects charter and if this is a decline in enrollment trend.

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Mr. Dunton affirmed that the charter is conservative so as to allow students to stay here. Until last year it was a fixed pattern and then we had an influx of 70+ more district students. The school has no enforcement arm but we followed up and found that some students were not living in district. We will be about 20 students down next year, but if we have more kindergarten students that may change. We have no way to know, kindergarten roundup doesn't adequately predict. We will look the same for enrollment unless Multnomah County land zoning changes.

Charlie O'Neil asked about the dynamics with moving students, another building?

Mr. Dunton replied that there has to be an empty capacity and clear path, and two empty classrooms is not enough.

Annette Calcagno asked what we are anticipating for kindergarten.

Mr. Dunton said we won't increase class size; we'd fill up another classroom.

Eric Stevens asked if staffing the libraries again is a consideration.

Mr. Dunton said no, it is a teacher/class size question and libraries are not an engine of this. It's been five years since the high school library was staffed with a librarian. This is now a study hall for 40 students.

Mr. Trani added that there will be 40 plus computer work stations.

Leota Pulliam asked what happens to the library books and why the computers. Do teachers buy books?

Mr. Dunton replied that computers are for research and the shift with fiction and books being put into the classrooms about eight years ago. We are literature rich now, with shift of resources. The middle school teachers have nice libraries and even high school students use their resources.

Maureen Childs commented that she has seen this in other schools because of budgets.

Mr. Dunton concurred that budgets did drive the shift.

Mike Wilson asked how then the libraries are utilized and is the space underutilized.

Mr. Dunton answered that teachers manage the process and volunteers help. In the grade school the area is used for computers, SPED, Intervention Specialist and meetings. In the high school the students write down the books they check out, about 10 per month.

Randy Trani noted that we buy the library books for the classrooms as well as the PTA who gives \$150 per year allocation to each teacher.

Jeff Aho surmised that cost of classrooms going down from \$30,000 to \$20,000 for charter school rent, how does it affect the financial situation and concerned that may need 30% more to buildings for increased wear and tear.

Maureen Childs answered that costs offset by staff of Corbett School District going to Corbett Charter School, so the bottom line is what needs to be looked at.

Jeff Aho appreciates foresight of good relations. Where would we spend more money in SPED, library to benefit both sides, and no grant money?

Charlie O'Neil expressed that at the charter school meeting they found it to be a better number for rents and it is still higher than other schools get from their charter schools. Corbett Charter School has \$80,000 Carry Forward on the bottom end. Corbett School District still has massive benefit and CCS can now survive. We don't want it to be out of balance and it appears we're good on both sides.

Randy Trani added that the grant got us through.

Jeff Aho said we're unique to work decisions together as Corbett School District and Corbett Charter School.

Randy Trani also noted that it is covering wear and tear and what we pay for building in rent money.

Bob Buttke commented that it is a balanced system.

Annette Calcagno asked who pays for charter school, the state of Oregon.

Mr. Dunton replied yes.

Maureen Childs said the advantage to the charter is that it is not at the mercy of outside districts and we can control numbers.

Charlie O'Neil mentioned that educationally less subjective for lottery whereas with inter-district transfers not as fair.

Maureen Childs added that it is labor intensive on inter-district transfers.

Annette Calcagno asked how students would come in on transfers.

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Mr. Dunton answered by space availability as the main reason; but then budgets can't be planned as well. We know in January who will be here, so it is predictable. Students know they can come here grades 3rd – 10th in the charter. A home district can pull the plug whenever they want on inter-district transfers.

Annette Calcagno summed up that it is balance and gambles.

Charlie O'Neil concluded that funding is the issue. With keeping rent in line there is less hard feelings.

Maureen Childs championed Imaginative Education philosophy of Corbett Charter School as one of the best ways to educate – it's phenomenal.

Annette Calcagno said that all students/parents should feel valued and enjoy a thriving Corbett community and teamwork.

Mr. Dunton commented that another advantage is the value of athletics being funded because of the meshing of CSD and CCS.

Mike Wilson asked if the teachers on Corbett Charter School are in negotiations.

Mr. Dunton replied that the CCS is absolutely flexible, not unionized, and not governed by Corbett School District.

Mike Wilson asked if they participate in PERS.

Mr. Dunton said yes.

Brad Garrett pointed out that they only exist because of each other (district/charter). Discussion about unions is another dynamic of relationships.

Charlie O'Neil rebutted that a charter can go to the state for approval. We are unique because we have our own administration and are working together.

Jeff Aho said that increased information from charter, less transparency is good.

Bob Dunton announced that he is resigning from CSD after June.

Audience Comments

None

8:46 p.m.

Adjournment

Committee

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