

KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
AGENDA STATEMENT

No. 11a

MEETING OF September 11, 2024

Item Title: DISCUSSION:
FORMATION OF BUDGET COMMITTEE

SUBMITTED BY Stephen Bradford, Board President

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

The Board will be discussing the possible formation of a special budget committee or task force to consider, review and seek input on matters impacting future budgets, including holding public forums; budget development timelines; and creative ideas to save money.

ISSUE/BACKGROUND:

As part of the discussion with the Assembly during the approval process for the FY25 budget, it was mentioned that the District could save significant funds by consolidating elementary schools in a manner where K-3 would be in one building, while 4-6 would be in another, with possible geographic limits placed on the third elementary building. It was acknowledged that such a significant change would impact families, and so careful consideration with input from the community over several months would be necessary prior to implementation.

As a result, the Board will discuss and consider the formation of a budget task force to consider all ideas to save costs with the likelihood of the state continuing to underfund schools, even those ideas that at first blush appear controversial. The discussion will include the make-up of that task force, the frequency of its meetings, and possible topics for consideration.

This discussion will be a follow up to its last meeting in which the Board discussed giving direction to staff on a timeline for bringing to the Board draft FY26 budgets; accelerating the process in early public meetings to provide information to the Board, the public and the Assembly; ensure the problems encountered this past May with the issuance of notices of layoffs are avoided; and the information the Board desires from staff to keep the public and the Assembly well-informed.

ATTACHMENTS:

None

POSSIBLE ACTION:

The Board might consider the formation of either an internal Board budget committee of members, or a task force including members of the public, along with possible direction to staff regarding FY26 and future budget matters.