Update Guidesheets

March 2019 Update Guidesheet

Budget

(BP/AR revised) Policy updated to reflect NEW LAW (AB 1808) which requires districts to annually develop, adopt, and post an LCFF budget overview for parents/guardians and to file the budget overview with the county superintendent of schools. Section on "Long-Term Financial Obligations" revised to reflect NEW LAW (SB 1413) which establishes the California Employers' Pension Prefunding Trust Program to allow districts to prefund required contributions to the California Public Employees' Retirement System. Regulation updated to emphasize that any recommendations by the budget advisory committee should be consistent with the district's vision, goals, priorities, LCAP, and other comprehensive plans and to clarify that a regional budget review committee convened by the county superintendent of schools requires approval of the Superintendent of Public Instruction as well as the district board.

See BP 3100
See AR 3100

CSBA Sample
Board Policy
Budget

BP 3100
Business and Noninstructional Operations

The Governing Board recognizes its critical responsibility for adopting a sound budget each fiscal year which is aligned with and reflects the district's vision, goals, priorities, local control and accountability plan (LCAP), and other comprehensive plans. The district budget shall guide decisions and actions throughout the year and shall serve as a tool for monitoring the fiscal health of the district.

(cf. 0000 - Vision)
(cf. 0200 - Goals for the School District)
(cf. 0400 - Comprehensive Plans)
(cf. 0460 - Local Control and Accountability Plan)
(cf. 3300 - Expenditures and Purchases)
(cf. 3460 - Financial Reports and Accountability)
(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)

The district budget shall show a complete plan and itemized statement of all proposed expenditures and all estimated revenues for the following fiscal year, together with a comparison of revenues and expenditures for the current fiscal year. The budget shall also include the appropriations limit and the total annual appropriations subject to limitation as determined pursuant to Government Code 7900-7914. (Education Code 42122)

Budget Development and Adoption Process

In order to provide guidance in the development of the budget, the Board shall annually establish budget priorities based on identified district needs and goals and on realistic projections of available funds.

The Superintendent or designee shall oversee the preparation of a proposed district budget for approval by the Board and shall involve appropriate staff in the development of budget projections.

Note: Education Code 42103 and 42127 require the district to hold a public hearing prior to adoption of the budget. A public hearing on the district's local control and accountability plan (LCAP) must occur at the same meeting as the public hearing on the proposed budget. See the accompanying administrative regulation and BP 0460 - Local Control and Accountability Plan for requirements pertaining to the public hearing.

***Note: Pursuant to Education Code 52064.1, as added by AB 1808 (Ch. 32, Statutes of 2018),

districts are required, by July 1, 2019, to develop a local control funding formula (LCFF) budget overview for parents/guardians with specified information, based on a template created by the Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI). The budget overview must be developed in conjunction with, and attached as a cover to, the LCAP and annual update to the LCAP. The adoption, review, approval, and posting of the budget overview are subject to the same requirements as for the LCAP, including the requirement for a public hearing.***

The Board shall hold a public hearing on the proposed budget in accordance with Education Code 42103 and 42127. The hearing shall occur at the same meeting as the public hearing on the district's LCAP and the local control funding formula (LCFF) budget overview for parents/guardians. (Education Code 42103, 42127, 52062, 52064.1)

(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)
(cf. 9322 - Agenda/Meeting Materials)
(cf. 9323 - Meeting Conduct)

The Board shall adopt the district budget at a public meeting held after the date of the public hearing but on or before July 1 of each year. The Board shall adopt the budget following its adoption of the LCAP, or annual update to the LCAP, and the LCFF budget overview for parents/guardians. The budget shall include the expenditures necessary to implement the LCAP or the annual update to the LCAP. (Education Code 42127, 52062)

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 42126, the district budget must be in a format prescribed by the SPI. The SPI has established a requirement that districts use the Standardized Account Code Structure (SACS). SACS ensures that districts meet state and federal reporting guidelines and comply with generally accepted accounting principles prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB). The California Department of Education's (CDE) California School Accounting Manual provides guidance regarding coding of revenues and expenditures.

The budget that is presented at the public hearing as well as the budget formally adopted by the Board shall adhere to the state's Standardized Account Code Structure as prescribed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI). (Education Code 42126, 42127)

The Superintendent or designee may supplement this format with additional information as necessary to effectively communicate the budget to the Board, staff, and public.

Note: Education Code 42127 requires the district to file the adopted budget with the County Superintendent of Schools as described below. If the district fails to submit a budget by July 1, the County Superintendent will, at district expense, develop a budget by September 15 and transmit that budget to the Board.

No later than five days after the Board adopts the district budget or by July 1, whichever occurs first, the Board shall file the adopted district budget with the County Superintendent of Schools. The budget and supporting data shall be maintained and made available for public review. (Education Code 42127)

(cf. 1340 - Access to District Records)

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 42127, on or before September 15, the County Superintendent must approve, conditionally approve, or disapprove the district's adopted budget. Education Code 42127 requires that this determination be based on a consideration of whether the district's adopted budget complies with state standards and criteria, will allow the district to meet its current and multiyear financial obligations, includes the expenditures necessary to implement the LCAP or annual update to the LCAP, satisfies all conditions established by the County Superintendent in the case of a conditionally approved budget, and complies with the requirements pertaining to ending fund balances that exceed the state minimum recommended reserve.

Note: Education Code 42127 also requires the County Superintendent to consider other studies, reports, evaluations, or audits that may indicate that the district is in fiscal distress; see the Fiscal Crisis and Management Assistance Team's Fiscal Oversight Guide and BP 3460 - Financial Reports and Accountability.

If the County Superintendent disapproves or conditionally approves the district's budget, the Board shall review and respond to the County Superintendent's recommendations at a regular public meeting on or before October 8. The response shall include any revisions to the adopted budget and any other proposed actions to be taken as a result of those recommendations. (Education Code 42127)

Budget Advisory Committee

Note: The following optional section is for use by districts that choose to establish a budget advisory committee to provide input during the budget development process. The committee may be appointed by the Superintendent or designee (Option 1), by the Board (Option 2), or may be a Board subcommittee composed exclusively of Board members (Option 3). Committees established by Board action are subject to the Brown Act; see BP/AR 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees. Districts should delete or modify the following options as appropriate. See the accompanying administrative regulation for optional language regarding the committee's composition and duties.

Note: This committee is different from the budget review committee that is required pursuant to Education Code 42127 and 42127.1 if the County Superintendent disapproves the district's budget; see the accompanying administrative regulation.

OPTION 1: The Superintendent or designee may appoint a budget advisory committee composed of staff, Board representatives, and/or members of the community.

OPTION 2: The Board may appoint a budget advisory committee composed of staff, Board representatives, and/or members of the community.

OPTION 3: The Board may establish a budget subcommittee composed exclusively of Board members.

Note: The following paragraph is for use by districts that selected either Option 1, 2, or 3 above.

The committee shall submit recommendations during the budget development process and its duties shall be assigned each year based on district needs. All recommendations of the committee shall be advisory only and shall not be binding on the Board.

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)
(cf. 2230 - Representative and Deliberative Groups)
(cf. 3350 - Travel Expenses)
(cf. 9130 - Board Committees)
(cf. 9140 - Board Representatives)

Budget Criteria and Standards

The district budget shall be developed in accordance with state criteria and standards specified in 5 CCR 15440-15450 as they relate to projections of average daily attendance (ADA), enrollment, ratio of ADA to enrollment, LCFF revenue, salaries and benefits, other revenues and expenditures, facilities maintenance, deficit spending, fund balance, and reserves. In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall provide the supplemental information specified in 5 CCR 15451 which addresses the methodology and budget assumptions used, contingent liabilities, use of one-time revenues for ongoing expenditures, use of ongoing revenues for one-time expenditures, contingent revenues, contributions, long-term commitments, unfunded liabilities, status of collective bargaining agreements, the LCAP, and LCAP expenditures. (Education Code 33128, 33129, 42127.01; 5 CCR 15440-15451)

Note: The following paragraph is for use by districts that receive supplemental and concentration funding within the LCFF based on the number and concentration of "unduplicated students" (i.e., students who are eligible for free or reduced-price meals, English learners, and foster youth) pursuant to Education Code 42238.02 and 42238.03. 5 CCR 15496 addresses the method of determining the percentage by which services for unduplicated students must be increased or improved above services provided to all students in the fiscal year. Pursuant to 5 CCR 15496, the district's LCAP must include evidence demonstrating how LCFF funding apportioned on the basis of unduplicated students is used to support such students; see AR 0460 - Local Control and Accountability Plan.

The district budget shall provide for increased or improved services for unduplicated students at least in proportion to the increase in funds apportioned on the basis of the number and concentration of unduplicated students in accordance with 5 CCR 15496. Unduplicated students are students who are eligible for free or reduced-price meals, English learners, and/or foster youth. (Education Code 42238.07; 5 CCR 15496)

(cf. 3553 - Free and Reduced Price Meals)
(cf. 6173.1 - Education for Foster Youth)
(cf. 6174 - Education for English Learners)

The Board may establish other budget assumptions or parameters which may take into consideration the stability of funding sources, legal requirements and constraints on the use of funds, anticipated increases and/or decreases in the cost of services and supplies, program requirements, and any other factors necessary to ensure that the budget is a realistic plan for district revenues and expenditures.

(cf. 2210 - Administrative Discretion Regarding Board Policy)
(cf. 3110 - Transfer of Funds)

Fund Balance

Note: The following section should be revised to reflect district practice. GASB Statement 54 addresses the way fund balances (i.e., the gross differences between assets and liabilities reflected on the balance sheet) in governmental funds are reported in external financial reports. Fund balances must be classified as nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned in accordance with GASB 54 definitions; also see AR 3460 - Financial Reports and Accountability. Pursuant to GASB 54, the Board has sole authority to specify purposes of funds classified as "committed" and also must express, or delegate the authority to express, intended purposes of resources that result in the "assigned" fund balance. The Board may modify the following section to reflect its fund balance policy or may adopt a formal resolution containing the required components.

The district shall classify fund balances in compliance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement 54, as follows:

1. Nonspendable fund balance includes amounts that are not expected to be converted to cash, such as resources that are not in a spendable form (e.g., inventories and prepaids) or that are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.

2. Restricted fund balance includes amounts constrained to specific purposes by their providers or by law.

Note: For purposes of the committed fund balance, GASB 54 requires that the Board commit funds no later than the end of the reporting period. In New Requirements for Reporting Fund Balance in Governmental Funds, the CDE clarifies that for districts the end of the reporting period is June 30.

3. Committed fund balance includes amounts constrained to specific purposes by the Board.

For this purpose, all commitments of funds shall be approved by a majority vote of the Board. The constraints shall be imposed no later than the end of the reporting period (June 30), although the actual amounts may be determined subsequent to that date but prior to the issuance of the financial statements.

4. Assigned fund balance includes amounts which are intended for a specific purpose but do

not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed.

The Board delegates authority to assign funds to the assigned fund balance to the Superintendent and authorizes the assignment of such funds to be made any time prior to the issuance of the financial statements. The Superintendent shall have discretion to further delegate the authority to assign funds.

5. Unassigned fund balance includes amounts that are available for any purpose.

When multiple types of funds are available for an expenditure, the district shall first utilize funds from the restricted fund balance as appropriate, then from the committed fund balance, then from the assigned fund balance, and lastly from the unassigned fund balance.

Note: Although not required by GASB 54, the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) recommends that public agencies adopt a minimum fund balance policy that establishes an appropriate level of unrestricted fund balance that will be maintained in the general fund. The GFOA's Best Practice: Fund Balance Guidelines for the General Fund describes a variety of factors that should be considered when developing a minimum fund balance policy, such as the predictability of its revenue and volatility of its expenditures, perceived exposure to significant one-time outlays, potential drain upon the general fund from other funds as well as the availability of resources in other funds, potential impact on bond ratings and the corresponding increased cost of borrowed funds, and portion of unrestricted fund balance already committed or assigned for a specific purpose.

The Board intends to maintain a minimum assigned and unassigned fund balance in an amount the Board deems sufficient to maintain fiscal solvency and stability and to protect the district against unforeseen circumstances.

Note: The GFOA recommends that the minimum fund policy address both the circumstances under which the unrestricted fund balance can be spent down and the procedure for replenishing deficiencies. The district may revise the following optional paragraph to specify the rate at which the district will attempt to recover the fund balance (e.g., the Board shall develop a plan to recover the fund balance at a rate of at least one percent each year).

If the assigned and unassigned fund balance falls below the level set by the Board due to an emergency situation, unexpected expenditures, or revenue shortfalls, the Board shall develop a plan to recover the fund balance which may include dedicating new unrestricted revenues, reducing expenditures, and/or increasing revenues or pursuing other funding sources.

Reserve Balance

***Note: 5 CCR 15450 establishes a minimum local reserve balance for economic uncertainties based on the district's average daily attendance (ADA). The minimum reserve balance is the greater of five percent or $55,000 for districts with 0-300 ADA; the greater of four percent or $55,000 for districts with 301-1,000 ADA; three percent for districts with 1,001-30,000 ADA; two percent for districts with 30,001-400,000 ADA; and one percent for districts with over 400,000

ADA. The following paragraph may be revised to reflect the minimum reserve applicable to the district's ADA.***

The district budget shall include a minimum reserve balance for economic uncertainties that is consistent with the percentage or amount specified in 5 CCR 15450.

Note: Education Code 42127.01 establishes, under certain conditions, a maximum amount of local reserve balance for economic uncertainties. Pursuant to Education Code 42127.01, if the amount of monies in the state Public School System Stabilization Account is three percent or more of the combined total of general fund revenues appropriated for school districts and allocated local proceeds of taxes, the district's combined assigned or unassigned ending general fund balance must not exceed 10 percent of those funds in the immediately following fiscal year.

Note: Basic aid districts, as described in Education Code 42238.02, and districts with 2,500 or less ADA are exempted from this requirement and may delete the following paragraph. Other districts may also be exempted from this requirement by the County Superintendent for up to two consecutive fiscal years within a three-year period upon providing documentation of extraordinary fiscal circumstances (e.g., multiyear infrastructure or technology projects) that substantiate the need for a reserve in excess of the limit specified in Education Code 42127.01.

In any year following the fiscal year in which the district is notified by the SPI that the amount of monies in the state Public School System Stabilization Account equals or exceeds three percent of the combined total of general fund revenues appropriated for school districts and allocated local proceeds of taxes, the district budget shall not contain a combined assigned or unassigned ending general fund balance that is in excess of 10 percent of these funds, unless the requirement is waived in accordance with Education Code 42127.01. (Education Code 42127.01)

Long-Term Financial Obligations

The district's current-year budget and multiyear projections shall include adequate provisions for addressing the district's long-term financial obligations, including, but not limited to, long-term obligations resulting from collective bargaining agreements, financing of facilities projects, unfunded or future liability for retiree benefits, and accrued workers' compensation claims.

(cf. 4141/4241 - Collective Bargaining Agreement)
(cf. 4154/4254/4354 - Health and Welfare Benefits)
(cf. 7210 - Facilities Financing)
(cf. 9250 - Remuneration, Reimbursement and Other Benefits)

Note: The following paragraph is optional. Government Code 21710-21716, as added by SB 1413 (Ch. 665, Statutes of 2018), establish the California Employers' Pension Prefunding Trust Program and related Trust Fund, allowing districts that provide a defined benefit pension plan to their employees to prefund required pension contributions to the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS). Districts may elect to participate in the Prefunding Trust Program for the purpose of investing payments toward their required CalPERS pension contributions.

The Board may approve a plan for meeting the district's long-term obligations to fund contributions to the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) which, to the extent possible, minimizes significant increases in annual general fund expenditures towards pension obligations. The plan may include prefunding required pension contributions through the California Employers' Pension Prefunding Trust Program pursuant to Government Code 21710-21716.

Note: The following two optional paragraphs are for use by districts that provide "other postemployment benefits" (OPEBs) (i.e., medical, dental, vision, hearing, life insurance, long-term care, long-term disability, and other nonpension benefits to retired employees or Board members) and should be revised to reflect district practice; see BP/AR 4154/4254/4354 - Health and Welfare Benefits and BB 9250 - Remuneration, Reimbursement and Other Benefits. CSBA recommends that districts adopt a specific funding strategy for addressing their OPEB obligations. The district may pay the premiums as they fall due ("pay-as-you-go"), but in such a case the district would then accrue a deficit with respect to future retirees which can be expected to grow as a result of an increasing retiree population and increases in benefit costs. Therefore, it is recommended that the district prefund the debt to the extent possible using a method and level to be determined by the Board. For example, the district may contribute a set amount or percentage of the actuarially determined "annual required contributions" to an irrevocable trust or designated fund each year.

Note: GASB Statement 75 requires districts that do not provide OPEB through a trust to report the total unfunded liability (i.e., OPEBs that are not prefunded) in the district's financial statements; see AR 3460 - Financial Reports and Accountability.

Note: CSBA's OPEB Solutions Program provides access to a trusted source of analysis and a GASB 75-compliant trust to prefund future obligations. See CSBA's web site for further information.

The Board shall approve a plan for meeting the district's long-term obligations to fund nonpension, other postemployment benefits (OPEBs). This plan shall include a specific funding strategy and the method that will be used to finance the district's annual fiscal obligations for such benefits in a manner that continually reduces the deficit to the district to the extent possible. The Board reserves the authority to review and amend the funding strategy as necessary to ensure that it continues to serve the best interests of the district and maintains flexibility to adjust for changing budgetary considerations.

The Superintendent or designee shall annually present a report to the Board on the estimated accrued but unfunded cost of OPEBs. As a separate agenda item at the same meeting, the Board shall disclose whether or not it will reserve a sufficient amount of money in its budget to fund the present value of the benefits of existing retirees and/or the future cost of employees who are eligible for benefits in the current fiscal year. (Education Code 42140)

***Note: The following optional paragraph is for use by districts that are self-insured for workers' compensation claims, either individually or as part of a joint powers agency. See AR 3460 - Financial Reports and Accountability for provisions related to reporting the estimated

accrued but unfunded cost of workers' compensation claims based on an actuarial report.***

The Superintendent or designee shall annually present a report to the Board on the estimated accrued but unfunded cost of workers' compensation claims and the actuarial reports upon which the estimated costs are based. As a separate agenda item at the same meeting, the Board shall disclose whether it will reserve in the budget sufficient amounts to fund the present value of accrued but unfunded workers' compensation claims or if it is otherwise decreasing the amount in its workers' compensation reserve fund. The Board shall annually certify to the County Superintendent the amount, if any, that it has decided to reserve in the budget for these costs. The Board shall submit to the County Superintendent any budget revisions that may be necessary to account for this budget reserve. (Education Code 42141)

Budget Amendments

Note: The following section is optional and should be revised to reflect district practice.

No later than 45 days after the Governor signs the annual Budget Act, the Superintendent or designee shall make available for public review any revisions in budgeted revenues and expenditures which occur as a result of the funding made available by that Budget Act. (Education Code 42127)

Whenever revenues and expenditures change significantly throughout the year, the Superintendent or designee shall recommend budget amendments to ensure accurate projections of the district's net ending balance. When final figures for the prior-year budget are available, this information shall be used as soon as possible to update the current-year budget's beginning balance and projected revenues and expenditures.

In addition, budget amendments shall be submitted for Board approval as necessary when collective bargaining agreements are accepted, district income declines, increased revenues or unanticipated savings are made available to the district, program proposals are significantly different from those approved during budget adoption, interfund transfers are needed to meet actual program expenditures, and/or other significant changes occur that impact budget projections.

Legal Reference:
EDUCATION CODE
1240 Duties of county superintendent of schools
33127-33131 Standards and criteria for local budgets and expenditures
41202 Determination of minimum level of education funding
42103 Public hearing on proposed budget; requirements for content of proposed budget
42122-42129 Budget requirements
42130-42134 Financial certifications
42140-42142 Disclosure of fiscal obligations
42238-42251 Apportionments to districts, especially:

42238.01-42238.07 Local control funding formula
42602 Use of unbudgeted funds
42610 Appropriation of excess funds and limitation thereon
45253 Annual budget of personnel commission
45254 First year budget of personnel commission
52060-52077 Local control and accountability plan
GOVERNMENT CODE
7900-7914 Appropriations limit
21710-21716 California Employer's Pension Prefunding Trust Program
CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5
15060 Standardized account code structure
15440-15451 Criteria and standards for school district budgets
15494-15497 Local control funding formula, supplemental and concentration grant expenditures

Management Resources:
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS
California School Accounting Manual
New Requirements for Reporting Fund Balance in Governmental Funds, January 7, 2011
FISCAL CRISIS AND MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE TEAM PUBLICATIONS
Fiscal Oversight Guide for AB 1200, AB 2756 and Subsequent Related Legislation, December 2015 GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION
Best Practice: Fund Balance Guidelines for the General Fund, September 2015
GOVERNMENTAL ACCOUNTING STANDARDS BOARD STATEMENTS
Statement 75, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Post-employment Benefits Other Than Pensions, June 2015
Statement 54, Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions, February 2009
WEB SITES
CSBA: http://www.csba.org
Association of California School Administrators: http://www.acsa.org
California Department of Education, Finance and Grants: http://www.cde.ca.gov/fg
California Department of Finance: http://www.dof.ca.gov
Fiscal Crisis and Management Assistance Team: http://www.fcmat.org
Government Finance Officers Association: http://www.gfoa.org
Governmental Accounting Standards Board: http://www.gasb.org
School Services of California, Inc.: http://www.sscal.com

CSBA Sample
Administrative Regulation
Budget

AR 3100
Business and Noninstructional Operations

Budget Advisory Committee

Note: The following optional section is for use by districts that have established a budget advisory committee and have selected either Option 1 or 2 in the "Budget Advisory Committee" section of the accompanying Board policy.

Membership of the district's budget advisory committee may include representatives of each of the following groups:

1. Governing Board members, provided that less than a majority of the Board serves on the committee

(cf. 9140 - Board Representatives)

2. District and school site administrators

3. Representatives of bargaining units

4. Certificated and/or classified staff

5. Parents/guardians

6. Representatives of the business community and/or other community members

7. Students

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)
(cf. 2230 - Representative and Deliberative Groups)
(cf. 9130 - Board Committees)

Note: The remainder of this section details the duties of the budget advisory committee and is for use by districts that selected either Option 1, 2, or 3 in the "Budget Advisory Committee" section of the accompanying Board policy.

The committee's duties may include, but are not necessarily limited to:

1. Making recommendations regarding budget priorities which align with the district's vision,

goals, priorities, local control and accountability plan (LCAP), and other comprehensive plans

2. Recommending cost reduction strategies, such as identifying services that may be reduced, made more efficient, or discontinued

3. Reviewing the clarity and effectiveness of budget documents and communications

4. Presenting progress reports on the committee's work and a final report of recommendations to the Superintendent or designee and to the Board

The specific duties of the committee shall be clearly defined and presented to each member in writing, along with any background information necessary for the successful completion of the committee's charges, the timelines for reporting the committee's progress, and timelines for completion of each task.

(cf. 3350 - Travel Expenses)

Public Hearing

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 52062, the public hearing on the budget must be at the same meeting as the public hearing on the local control and accountability plan (LCAP). In addition, pursuant to Education Code 52064.1, as added by AB 1808 (Ch. 32, Statutes of 2018), districts are required to develop a local control funding formula budget overview for parents/guardians through a process that meets the requirements of Education Code 52062, including the requirement for a public hearing. See the accompanying Board policy and BP 0460 - Local Control and Accountability Plan.

The agenda for the public hearing on the district budget shall be posted at least 72 hours before the hearing and shall indicate the location where the budget may be inspected. The proposed budget shall be available for public inspection at least three working days before this hearing. (Education Code 42103, 42127, 52062)

(cf. 0460 - Local Control and Accountability Plan)
(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)
(cf. 9322 - Agenda/Meeting Materials)

The Superintendent or designee shall notify the County Superintendent of Schools of the location and dates at which the proposed budget may be inspected, as well as the location, date, and time of the public hearing, in sufficient time for the County Superintendent to publish such information in a newspaper of general circulation at least 10 days but not more than 45 days before the hearing, as required by Education Code 42103.

Whenever the proposed district budget includes a combined assigned and unassigned ending fund balance that exceeds the minimum recommended reserve for economic uncertainties adopted by the State Board of Education, the district shall provide, for each fiscal year included in the budget, the following information for public review and discussion at the public hearing: (Education

Code 42127; 5 CCR 15450)

1. The minimum recommended reserve for economic uncertainties

2. The combined assigned and unassigned ending fund balances that are in excess of the minimum recommended reserve

3. A statement of reasons substantiating the need for the combined assigned and unassigned ending balances that are in excess of the minimum recommended reserve

During the hearing, any district resident may appear and object to the proposed budget or to any item in the budget. The hearing may conclude when all residents who have requested to be heard have had the opportunity to speak. (Education Code 42103)

(cf. 9323 - Meeting Conduct)

Budget Review Committee for Disapproved Budgets

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 42127, if the County Superintendent conditionally approves or disapproves the district's initial budget, the district must respond to the County Superintendent's recommendations by October 8; see the accompanying Board policy. If the County Superintendent then disapproves that revised budget, Education Code 42127 and 42127.1 require the County Superintendent to call for the formation of a budget review committee unless the Governing Board and the County Superintendent agree to waive the committee requirement and the California Department of Education agrees to the waiver. See BP 1431 - Waivers. The formation, convening procedures, and timelines of the budget review committee are set forth in Education Code 42127.1-42127.3.

Note: Education Code 42127 provides that the County Superintendent cannot call for the formation of a budget review committee if the sole reason for disapproving the district's budget is disapproval of the district's LCAP or the annual update to the LCAP.

If the district's budget is disapproved by the County Superintendent for any reason other than disapproval of the district's LCAP or annual update to the LCAP, the budget shall be reviewed by a budget review committee, unless the Board and County Superintendent agree to waive the requirement and the California Department of Education accepts the waiver. (Education Code 42127)

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 42127.2, if the Board fails to select the budget review committee from a list of candidates provided by the Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI) within five working days of receiving the list, as provided in item #1 below, the SPI will select and convene the committee no later than 10 working days after the district's receipt of the candidate list.

This committee shall consist of either: (Education Code 42127.1, 42127.2)

1. Three persons selected by the Board from a list of candidates provided by the Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI), who shall be selected within five working days after receiving the list of candidates

2. A regional review committee selected and convened by the County Superintendent with the approval of the Board and SPI

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 42127.2, the budget review committee is required to submit, by November 30, its recommendation as to whether the district's budget should be approved or disapproved and, if the recommendation is for disapproval, its recommended revisions to the budget. The SPI may extend this deadline for up to 15 working days.

If the budget review committee recommends disapproval of the district budget, the Board may submit a response to the SPI no later than five working days after receipt of the committee's report. The response may include any revisions to the adopted final budget and any other proposed actions to be taken as a result of the committee's recommendations. (Education Code 42127.3)

If the SPI disapproves the district budget after reviewing the committee's report and the district's response, the Board shall consult with the County Superintendent to develop and adopt, by December 31, a fiscal plan and budget that will allow the district to meet its current fiscal year and multiyear financial obligations. For the current fiscal year, the district shall operate in accordance with the budget adopted by the County Superintendent. (Education Code 42127.3)

Until the district receives approval of its budget, it shall continue to operate either on the basis of the prior year's budget or on the basis of the current year's unapproved budget as adopted and revised by the Board, whichever budget contains a lower total spending authority. (Education Code 42127.4)

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BUDGET

The Board of Trustees accepts responsibility for adopting a sound budget that is compatible with the district's vision and goals. The Board shall establish and maintain a reserve that meets or exceeds the requirements of law.

(cf. 3300 - Expenditures/Expending Authority)

The Board encourages public input in the budget development process and shall hold public hearings in accordance with law.

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)

The Superintendent or designee shall determine the manner in which the budget is developed and shall schedule the budget adoption process in accordance with the single budget adoption process.

(cf. 3460 - Financial Reports and Accountability)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE
33127 Development of standards and criteria for local budgets and expenditures
33128 Standards and criteria
33129 Standards and criteria; use by local agencies
35035 Powers and duties of superintendent
35161 Powers and duties, generally, of governing boards
42103 Public hearing on proposed budget; requirements for content of proposed budget; publication of notice of hearing
42103.3 Public budget information; CDE sampling and suggested improvements
42120-42129 Budget requirements
42132 Resolutions identifying estimated appropriations limit
42602 Use of unbudgeted funds
42610 Appropriation of excess funds and limitation thereon
45253 Annual budget of personnel commission
45254 First year budget of personnel commission
GOVERNMENT CODE
7900-7914 Expenditure limitations
CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5
15440-15452 Criteria and standards for school district budgets

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS
Maximizing School Board Leadership: Finance, 1996
WEB SITES
CSBA: http://www.csba.org
CDE, School Fiscal Services Division: http://www.cde.ca.gov/fiscal
California Department of Finance: http://www.dof.ca.gov
Legislative Analyst's Office: http://www.lao.ca.gov
Association of California School Administrators: http://www.acsa.org
School Services of California: http://www.sscal.com

BUDGET

The district budget shall be prepared annually from the best possible estimates that individual schools and district administrative staff can provide. Appropriate consolidation shall occur as the budget progresses through the various levels of review.

The district budget shall be developed in accordance with standards and criteria for fiscal accountability adopted by the State Board of Education. (Education Code 33129)

(cf. 3460 - Financial Reports and Accountability)

Before adopting the budget, the Board of Trustees shall hold a public hearing. The proposed budget shall be available for public inspection at least three working days before this hearing. (Education Code 42103, 42127)

An agenda for this hearing shall be posted at least 72 hours before the hearing and shall indicate the location where the budget may be inspected. (Education Code 42127)

Any district resident may appear at the public hearing and speak to the proposed budget or any item on the budget. The hearing may conclude when all residents who so desire have had the opportunity to be heard. (Education Code 42103) Sufficient time shall be allowed so that the budget can still be adopted by July 1.

(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)
(cf. 9323 - Meeting Conduct)

The Superintendent or designee shall file the adopted budget with the County Superintendent no later than five days after adoption or by July 1, whichever occurs first. The budget and supporting data shall be maintained and made available for public review. (Education Code 42127)

No later than 45 days after the Governor signs the annual Budget Act, the Superintendent or designee shall make available for public review any revisions in budgeted revenues and expenditures which are consequently necessary. (Education Code 42127)

If the County Superintendent disapproves the district's budget, the Board shall review and respond to his/her recommendations at a public meeting on or before September 8. (Education Code 42127)