

## Squire Michelle

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**From:** Dahlkemper Lesley  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 8:41 PM  
**To:** Boggs Laura; Fellman Jill; Johnson Robin; Noonan Paula E.  
**Cc:** Stevenson Cynthia M.; Neal Helen E.  
**Subject:** Update for the Board

Hi, all -

A couple of updates to share....

1) **Budget conversations.** The district recently released a list of suggested budget cuts, which was included in our board information. I know many of us want to make sure we're knowledgeable about those early suggestions, the budget process to date and next steps. We also want to ensure that the board has plenty of time in the coming weeks to discuss the budget cut options, their impact on student achievement and other board ends - plus trade-offs, consequences, etc. We have lots of information and feedback from which to build - and more to come.

To ensure that the board is well informed moving forward, I'd like to suggest that we tweak our Jan. 5 study session to build in an hour for a presentation on these items: 1) the budget process to date 2) the list of early suggestions 3) and next steps/timeframe. This initial overview conversation would then flow into a more in-depth discussion at SPAC on Jan. 12 followed by another budget conversation on Jan. 19 during our regular business meeting with community conversations rounding out the month (see item #2). All of these sessions would then culminate in the board providing its best thinking on budget priorities to the superintendent during our Feb. 2 meeting.

Back to the Jan. 5 study session for a sec.... It would now look like this: Carve out an hour for the strat comp/sustainability comt; an hour for the budget session; and an hour for Jim.

2) **Community engagement.** Please save the date: **Saturday, Jan. 28.** Community engagement - especially as we weigh budget priorities, trade-offs and consequences - is an integral part of our work as a board. We can explore - w/ staff's expertise - a model that involves richer small group conversations and report outs at multiple sites on the 28th. More to come...

3) **Committees.** Now that we have a new board in place, it's time to revisit current board committee assignments. How does this look?:

- SPAC - all board members
- PTA - Paula
- Jefferson Foundation - Jill
- NSBA - Laura
- CASB Legislative Network - Robin

4) **Jim Weigel.** A friendly reminder to fill out the information Jim requested of us and to review the PG docs and his memo before Jan. 5. Some thought-provoking recs in Jim's memo. Eager to talk more...

Thanks, everyone! As always, please send your thoughts and comments.

See you Thursday-

Les

Lesley Dahlkemper

Board of Education || Jeffco Public Schools

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**From:** Boggs Laura  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 14, 2011 9:33 AM  
**To:** Dahlkemper Lesley; Fellman Jill; Johnson Robin; Noonan Paula E.  
**Cc:** Stevenson Cynthia M.; Neal Helen E.  
**Subject:** RE: Update for the Board

Team -

1) I agree we need more time to have budget conversations but I don't think we can achieve all that is suggested in just an hour - and then be prepared for SPAC conversations - so I disagree with changing the agenda for the 5th - I suggest we look at a special study session of 2 to 3 hours for just budget conversations - as I see it we need to have conversations about the academic achievement goals first so that those drive the budget priorities not have our budget drive the priorities - I also don't think we can effectively have Jim help us with priorities and process in just one hour - In addition I hope we each brought back new thoughts on resource allocation from CASB and hope we have an opportunity to share those as we have these discussions -

So I would recommend keep the agenda as is on the 5th - with two hours we should all have a good feel for each other's priorities then schedule a 2 - 3 hour budget/achievement conversation between the 6th and the 11th - so we can take the combined thoughts to SPAC on the 12th - have more conversation on the 19th resulting in some really robust questions that we can have the community help us set priorities with on the 28th

2) OK

3) Committees - There are a couple of committees of interest missing from your list - Anchor Group and the Strategic Compensation Committee - in addition I would like to know if the board will be working with our employee associations on the legislative committees (I think Robin was looking into this)

I don't understand separating out the NSBA and CASB Legislative committee - the work of the CASB legislative committee feeds the NSBA federal legislative meeting - so I need some clarification here before I can respond

Laura

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**From:** Dahlkemper Lesley  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 8:40 PM  
**To:** Boggs Laura; Fellman Jill; Johnson Robin; Noonan Paula E.  
**Cc:** Stevenson Cynthia M.; Neal Helen E.  
**Subject:** Update for the Board

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**From:** Noonan Paula E.  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 14, 2011 8:48 PM  
**To:** Dahlkemper Lesley; Boggs Laura; Fellman Jill; Johnson Robin  
**Cc:** Stevenson Cynthia M.; Neal Helen E.  
**Subject:** RE: Update for the Board

I think having the budget people hear the questions we have about the budget premises will be helpful. I'd like for them to explain the principles behind various options - not necessarily in this meeting, but in writing so we can think about them. I also think the budget cut numbers are changing and that we should give some direction on the amount of dollars we should look at for the next two to three years. I believe they are significantly less than the \$70 mm currently anticipated, and we should make that adjustment, or perhaps tiers of cuts - \$15mm, \$20 mm, \$30mm. That way, we're being more realistic with the community - and addressing the circumstances that appear very fluid today. More budget information on Friday from the legislature. Paula

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3) **Committees.** Now that we have a new board in place, it's time to revisit current board committee assignments. How does this look?:

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**From:** Dahlkemper Lesley  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 03, 2012 10:40 PM  
**To:** Boggs Laura; Fellman Jill; Noonan Paula E.; Johnson Robin  
**Cc:** Stevenson Cynthia M.; Neal Helen E.  
**Subject:** BOE Budget Discussions

Happy New Year!

I hope you had a wonderful holiday break.

Paula, Cindy and I held our weekly meeting today. Our main goal was to build in more time over the next month for meaningful, substantive board conversations about budget priorities, student achievement goals and stakeholder input (on budget issues). On Feb. 2, the board will provide direction to the staff on budget priorities.

To that end, I'd like to propose the following design over the next month so we're well informed for the Feb. 2 conversation:

**Jan. 5:**

- Budget Review (process to date; feedback from stakeholders so far; proposed cuts; scenarios; board considerations/decisions) - 1 hour
- BOE's student achievement priorities - 1 hour

(We also will hear from Strategic Comp.)

**Jan. 12:**

- SPAC provides feedback to the board on proposed cuts, funding priorities, trade-offs, etc.

**Jan. 19:**

- FOC provides its feedback to the board on proposed budget cuts - 30 minutes

(We will have several other agenda items to tackle inc. Mt Phoenix renewal, monitoring reports, etc. but we wanted to build in time for FOC.)

**Jan. 26:**

- Student achievement in Jeffco (what's working; challenges; how are we addressing them; implications for the board's budget goals from Jan. 5 and the board's funding priorities for Feb. 2) - 2 hours
- Facilities summary plan update (an assessment of current facilities; budget implications for the board) - 1 hour

(This entire meeting will focus on BOE budget work. We moved the legislative update originally scheduled on the 26th to Feb.)

**Jan. 28:**

- Community engagement session on budget cuts (more to come) - time TBD

**Feb. 2:**

- Board budget priorities discussion (staff presents Jan. 28 community eng. findings/themes; board reaction; board shares budget priorities with staff) - 2 hours

(Plus a monitoring report and Collegiate Academy renewal)

Please let me know what you think... my thanks to all of you for your input and help along the way! I think the conversations in the coming weeks are critical.

Best,

Les

Lesley Dahlkemper  
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## Squire Michelle

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**From:** Fellman Jill  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 04, 2012 10:41 AM  
**To:** Dahlkemper Lesley  
**Cc:** Boggs Laura; Noonan Paula E.; Johnson Robin; Stevenson Cynthia M.; Neal Helen E.  
**Subject:** Re: BOE Budget Discussions

I think this looks good. My thoughts:

1. On January 26 -- it's absolutely critical for me to have student achievement guide the budget work!
2. Curious to know when the legislative update will be in February. I think it's critical for us to stay on top of the legislation -- if we get too far behind, we might lose key opportunities...

Thanks to Les, Paula, and Cindy for their work in building meaningful and timely agendas for our meetings! Look forward to seeing you all on Thursday (which is tomorrow, huh!).

*Jill*

On Jan 3, 2012, at 10:39 PM, Dahlkemper Lesley wrote:

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**From:** Boggs Laura  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 04, 2012 1:31 PM  
**To:** Dahlkemper Lesley; Fellman Jill; Noonan Paula E.; Johnson Robin  
**Cc:** Stevenson Cynthia M.; Neal Helen E.  
**Subject:** RE: BOE Budget Discussions

Team -

I agree with Jill that I want Student Achievement goals to drive budget conversations not the other way around -

It is curious to me that we are getting an email two days before a board study session that proposes changes to our agenda that seem to take the focus away from achievement conversations and put them on budget priorities - and I see no connection on the proposed topics to the way we are to govern using policy governance - so I disagree with a Budget conversation this week - if we need a review of the process that is certainly easy to get in writing - All of us attended many of the CBA meetings and the budget work groups - We need to spend our time setting priorities and goals not understanding process - and my understanding was it took the whole board to change the agenda - so no I don't want the agenda changed -

I assume by the Board's student achievement priorities Lesley is referring to our time with Jim - which if that is true it seems interesting to me to suggest that we know each other's priorities for the year before that conversation - my understanding of Jim's request was that we each provide him with our requests and he would be working with us to show us how to govern using Policy Governance to have the conversations important to each of us -

I see nothing on this list about conversation around renewing the superintendents contract or conversing about priorities before negotiations begin - and what that process will look like -

We need time to discuss each other's priorities have meaningful conversations - I don't see that in the recommendations - of course these conversations in the coming weeks are critical - I look forward to having them -  
Laura

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**From:** Dahlkemper Lesley  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 03, 2012 10:39 PM  
**To:** Boggs Laura; Fellman Jill; Noonan Paula E.; Johnson Robin  
**Cc:** Stevenson Cynthia M.; Neal Helen E.  
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**To:** Boggs Laura  
**Cc:** Fellman Jill; Noonan Paula E.; Johnson Robin; Stevenson Cynthia M.; Neal Helen E.  
**Subject:** Re: BOE Budget Discussions

Thanks, Laura. You'll recall that I sent an email on Dec. 13 suggesting that we add a budget component to tomorrow's study session. You were the only board member who voiced concern. Other board members, myself included, want an update on the latest budget numbers, proposed cuts, etc.

We are all in agreement that student achievement is critical to both informing and driving BOE budget priorities. We will have conversations about student achievement during Jim's session; Jan. 26 (in-depth); and, again, on Feb. 2.

Best,

Les

Lesley Dahlkemper  
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On Jan 4, 2012, at 1:30 PM, Boggs Laura wrote:

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