2009-10 District Budget Advisory Committee
March 26, 2009
Minutes

Attendees:	Dennis Angell	Jody Benjamin	Pam Behee
	Ron Cowan	Mike Dobbins	Jaylani Evans
	Roxanna Parise	Laurie Anderson	Sherrie Brown
	Brett Greenwood	Tammy Ross	Heidi Sherman
	John Van Haalen	Tom Venable	Peggy Shepherd

Brett Greenwood, Committee Chair, welcomed members back for the first meeting since we spent time together working on the Budget Savings Plan. The Committee members then introduced themselves.

Minutes from the February 11 meeting were read and approved.

Brett explained that the Committee's role is to learn about district programs, their related budgets and how they further the district's mission and goals, and to act in an advisory capacity to the Superintendent. He discussed the foundation of the Committee, which was initiated to make the budget process transparent and to educate and seek input from a wide variety of stakeholders.

Brett explained that the Committee will review the various revenue and expenditure components which shape the General Fund budget and then make two recommendations to the Superintendent: (1) an overall General Fund budget (similar to the green sheet handout) and, if funds are available, (2) an Above Baseline budget. The Committee will make the recommendations on above baseline requests after receiving information from 4 budget sub-committees outlined in the Budget Model. These sub-committees have more expertise in their area and can streamline the process by filtering the requests.

During this process, the Committee will also review the "Housekeeping Budget." This budget includes mandatory operational expenditures for the district.

Brett gave a Power Point presentation providing an overview of funding for districts in Washington State and the Bellingham School District. This presentation explained the primary revenue and expenditure components associated with a school district budget and the funding methodology used by the state and federal governments. He also provided data related to the 2008-09 General Fund Budget. Committee members asked several questions which Brett answered.

Ron gave an update on the state budget.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Next Meeting: **April 16**
3:45 p.m.
Board Room, Central Services