

**2010-11 Budget Suggestions, Comments**

This list has been compiled from suggestions and comments sent to the District's Fiscal Advisory Committee for budget reduction consideration for the 2010-11 school year. *Note: There are no changes to original comments and suggestions. The use of \* may indicate a name deletion or word deletion. Continued input may be sent to the Fiscal Advisory Committee by email at [budget@portangelesschools.org](mailto:budget@portangelesschools.org).*

**February 1, 2010**

Budget recommendations:

- 1) Reduce music offerings - currently 6th graders attend music as much as math instruction; nothing at all against music, but our priorities and budget needs require a more realistic schedule. Offer music after school on a "pay to play" basis.
- 2) Consolidate our High School campuses - We can no longer afford to have Choice separate - this was a recommendation made years ago but ignored.
- 3) Examine how much the Skills Center is "sucking" from the rest of the district budget and address this. Please make this public; I'd like to be educated with independent facts.
- 4) How much is "running start" costing the district in lost FTE? Analyze and address - maybe we can't afford some of these things!

Thank you. . .

**February 2, 2010**

Consolidate Clallam County School District-Crescent, Sequim

Are cuts to correction (prisons get 50-\$60,000/prisoner) and other departments being equally cut? (students \$5,600/student)

Buy locally-spend every possible dollar in Port Angeles as possible-order supplies from Bay Variety & Swains locally owned stores can purchase pencils, glue sticks, paper etc (KCDA)  
King County does not need our local tax dollars. Support Port Angeles in every way possible  
Make all sports clubs~all play local teams~no traveling

Please look at the food program. So much is spent processing & transporting food, and so much food is thrown away every day. There are alternative models that cost less, reduce waste and provide more nourishing food to hungry students. It feels like the food program is a sacred cow.

Cut all sports expenses – Run community/volunteer sports

Cut all travel expenses-no per diem, meal cost, hotel, transportation, etc.

Eliminate transportation. Students can walk, take county bus, or (as so many parents already do) use private transit.

No more consultants. Do our own hiring, planning, etc.

What is set aside for the “rainy day fund”? Now is the time to tap into this fund. What else could be worse?

All after school activities/extra curricular activities need to be looked at very seriously. For example, coaches, sports game bussing, music performance bussing, DECA, including football & orchestra. We must assure all kids are academically successful. Offer early retirement “deals”  
Consolidate High School & Middle School

Remove band from elementary school. How much money would be saved by going to a 4-day school week? Close another elementary school?

After all these years of cuts & teacher RIF's why is the district still employing reading/writing & math curriculum specialists? I don't see how these positions are in the best interest of kids when classroom teachers are let go & class sizes are increased. If these positions remain, please explain the benefit & what these 4 teachers do for the district ~ Assessment person too. (\*\*\*, \*\*\*, \*\*\*, \*\*\*) This would be 4 of the "6". Cut music, sports, art before core curriculum. No sacred cow....HA!

Paper/Copier Reductions, Reduce elem. Strings (5<sup>th</sup> only)  
Benchmarks (writing only) done on student notebook paper  
Eliminate LID days, Eliminate Administrative Retreat, Reduce grade level meetings, Reduce middle school sports (less games), Freeze all professional development funds, no trainings for staff, No new curriculums, 4 day school week  
Sell Property or rent to other businesses on a year to year basis in case we need them again.

### ***February 3, 2010***

Offer early retirement. Go to a merit system for teachers and staff instead of tenured or seniority. Combine purchasing and accounts payable. Combine the Skill Center attendance secretary with the events coordinator position. Close services at 4p instead of 5p. Get rid of all the meter mail machines except at CSB. Open the Skill Center up to adult classes. Sell or rent unused land/facilities. Close Parents as Partners (one director/teacher & one para as well as the building maintenance). Stop "Visions" and "Teacher First" publications. Cut LID days. No expensive "inspirational speakers." No summer retreat.

Fix windows to be more air-tight-less heat loss, lower thermostats to 65, eliminate Timberline

Reduce the amount of administrators at the high school. Reduce the amount of benefits for administrators. Reduce the amount of professional development and travel for administrators.

How much funding support will come in to the district from federal stimulus moneys?  
With elementary sp ed numbers declining (due to Response-to-Intervention) can adjustments be made w serving elementary iep students?

Cut all Sports  
Cut all or most bus service  
All extracurricular-gone  
Reduce overhead expenses classroom by classroom  
No filling of administrative positions when vacant  
Administrative cuts. Protect the classroom

I object to this model. This pits group w/in the school and community against on another. Could we look at a different way to build community around adversity instead of creating greater strife?

Why did the district lay off teachers and yet keep people in positions like TOSA's or Communications? If you can justify keeping these positions, fill them with teachers you would laid off instead of a retire/rehire like TOSA's.

Discontinue Bus Service for football team from PAHS to Civic Field.

Renegotiate contract w/Bus Garage

Eliminate multiple coaches for 10-15 athletes to have 3-4 coaches for 1 team is expensive.

Open all of our CTE classes to the community. Allow kids and adults to take these classes. It should be about developing our local economy & this is the biggest econ developer in our county. Let's call all these classes' skill center classes

Move our Transpo boundaries & allow kids to walk- they need it and we need it.

The Dry Creek repairs seem that the contractor should pay part of. A ten year old roof that needs replaced?

We need to take a hard look at the cost for bussing

Need to change the way we pay Bus Drivers for field trips

Why are we putting a new roof on Dry Creek School that is only 10 years old?

We need to create ways for students to be successful in class and not hire credit recovery teachers for after they have failed.

Give incentive for people to be able to retire that have larger salaries and keep newer employees that make considerably less.

Special education students with one/on/one paras. These students do not need escorts to and from class. No one student should have a staff member assigned to them.

Can we offer job share-part time opportunities or would the benefit package negate this as a cost saving measure?

Don't cut 35 people and then hire 25 back.

Reduce postage by emailing families school information (progress reports) Mail hard copies to those families without email. Allow teachers to retire 1 year early, provided they have accumulated 180 days of sick-leave FYI: other states such as Il has a similar program  
Pay freeze for all

Therapeutic intervention services in BD program could be cut based on actual time services are provided

Decreasing number of assistant coaches

Looking into 4 day week for students

Reevaluate the need for paras who are not directly working with students (example :paras utilized for taking notes in gen. ed classes at PAHS)

Based on Lincoln's graduation rate, which is much lower than the high schools, I believe Lincoln should also be on the table.

Look at stipened positions

4 day work week?

Close Skill Ctr, move CSB there, sell current CSB property

Reduce coaching positions-not teams

Eliminate classes w/reduced enrollment-even if honors, AP, advanced, etc.

Cut Friday News & stipend & include it into leadership

Eliminate ISS @ HS to save in supervision w/para's

Have a music stipend not a stipend for each class the music teachers teach.

Close Skill Center move teachers back to HS for FTEs

Have ALL SCHOOLS w/late start on Wednesday to save transportation costs

Eliminate technology support & roll into xxxxxx job

Zero retire/rehire

Eliminate classes w/small enrollment or combine

Minimize coaching staff on sports teams to 1 per team

Go to 4 day school week

Turn off heat over weekend

Sports Friday & Saturday only

Cut advisory time at the high school, make academic or reduce

Go to 4 day school week

All sports activities are on Friday & Saturday

Friday could be the academic Saturday school

What about reducing the number of days in the school year to 170?

The music program now needs to suffer cutbacks as all other programs.

How long can Port Angeles sustain four high schools?

1 Peninsula College Running Start

2. Port Angeles High school

3. Lincoln School

4. Skill Center

(5) Insight (DLC)

Can we afford TOSA's?

If highly capable is not funded why offer it? If we can afford to fund specialty classes why offer them

Will the district come up with a strategic plan for basic education classes (i.e. what elective classes need to be dropped)

Cut football-too few kids participate to keep supporting an expensive program.

Lincoln School should NOT be "off the table" WRONG WRONG WRONG!

Lincoln and Skill Center should be returned to PAHS campus keep our FTE's and money and teachers HERE since we are providing so much of the overhead for them anyway!

Get rid of Wed AM and Advisory and give us more time back in the classroom to be more successful with students

Minimize senior culminating projects so our time and money can be better spent graduating students in a meaningful way-not a hoop-jumping waste of paper forms.

You are going to have to cut sports-maybe all let the community programs do it.

Cut knowledge bowl assistant coach

Stop offering high school classes with 10-15 kids. The master schedule must be good!

Teachers are going to have to give up extra days (administration should take same % cut)

Not much else I can do-pack my classes, cut my department budget, turn down the heat.....

I highly recommend that our administration Reach Out to the business and service community for financial and social support. For example if volunteers can go downtown and paint the core business buildings (who are for profit enterprises) why cannot the same effort be made to paint the high school? Or possible like services.

### ***February 9, 2010***

I think that art programs should be cut because you can take them at the college anyway. Also a majority of students only take art classes because it's a requirement to graduate. Not every student has artistic ability and don't take it very seriously.

I suggest that for one or two days every school district employee takes a two or three dollar pay cut.

You can try reducing prices on some food items in the long run you would make more money or you can try doing more ideas on the snack area like if you get 4 cookies you get 1 free milk or every once in awhile, you can do a buy 2 bags of chips, get 1 free.

I think we should cut art classes because it shouldn't be a requirement to graduate and you can take them in college. It wouldn't be smart to cut budget on any sop classes because they teach important skills that students can turn into careers. Sports are something our high school needs because it gives students the opportunity to get scholarships through sports.

The school should drop some classes that are pointless like science and foreign languages, there fun but were just going to forget the language and  $E=MC^2$  It's just a waste of time, brain power and money.

Drop some classes no one takes anyway like art and forgin language. If you said we wouldn't need as many credits as we do and expishly credits in art, pe and forgin language most students wouldn't take those classes anyways, most likely not everyone who takes Spanish or French is gonna go to spain or france ever so we don't need to know how to speak those languages.

I think they should cut out pe in elementary & just have their regular teachers take them out.

Cut back on all the stuff we don't need so that we spend less money.

We should sell some of the computers because there is also of times when they are not being used.

You should not pay for a lot of the music trips that aren't going to help the school.

I don't know how much money we spend on clubs at this high school but maybe we should not spend money on them.

I believe you should get rid of the water fountains because no body uses them there discusting and taste gross and the lights are using a lot of energy get solar panels or get rid of the lights just use two lights per room maybe if you like make it so when someone buys paper have like 5% go to the school.

Cut ROTC  
Cut useless sports  
Sell cheaper food  
Charge for library

Leave sports alone! Lacrosse (greatest sport ever) has already been cut from school  
Don't cut P.E. There are some kids who need the exercise and won't get it any other way.

We should drop all the security cameras our campus is small enough and there's enough teachers breathing down our backs all day that we don't need cameras.

Don't cut extra curricular activities because some kids its what keeps us away from the worse things in life instead you should raise lunch prices or cut some of the less loved classes or make the clubs earn all their own money and give them no budget from school money.

First of all the amount of school students here is a little ridiculous. When my parents were in school they actually had time after school to live life or do homework, help out around the house, go to movie, etc. But now kids are getting up at 5:55-6:10am just so they can catch the school bus and then get home around 3:00-3:40pm. That is really neive working the kids all day at school from dusk till dawn. You wonder why kids don't wanna go to school? It's not because they have to learn and are "too lazy" it's because they are overwhelmed with school, its their whole life. School hours need to be shortened. PERIOD. And maybe some bigger classes would help.

We should put solar panels on the roofs of all the schools so we don't have to always use city electricity because it must cost a lot to power all the schools all the time.

If the schools cut sports and made them clubs the same people could coach but everything would be payed for by the students. Schools pay way to much money on some sports, if they were made clubs then the financial responsibility would taken off the school.

I do not have a suggestion to what we could cut to save money but one thing that you should not cut is the music program.

There are many things that can be taken away but there are a few things that absolutely can not be taken away. Those things are sports and music Studies show that students in music classes are

smarter and obviously sports are good for you and give you exercise. Also music and sports help you get in to better colleges and allow you to get scholarships.

Do Not touch the art and music programs. Do Not, Do Not, Do Not, if you only focus on Reading, Writing and arithmetic and remove the arts students have nothing to read and write about. Also, stop pointless spending, the school did not need a new digital display sign, the old was just fine.

Stop building expensive parks and doing things to pretty up the town like those fake brick sidewalks. Its pointless and on one uses them. P.A. is pretty enough without it so take those thousands of dollars that lets face it you are throwing away and give it to the school that could use it.

I don't have an idea what you should cut but definitely Don't Cut Sports. You may say, "Oh they can play City sports." But no, we can't. If you cut sports then you may be making it even harder to get a scholarship. Which is actually pretty hard to get in the first place.

I think we should make school only run when the sun is up so that we never have to use the lights thus saving electricity.

If there's one thing our ridiculous school should NOT touch during budget cuts it's sports. Sports provide an outlet and escape for so many students that it'll be a crime to take them away. Being a student athlete teaches you time management & how to work as a team. Sports teach you life lessons. Cut music, they can take lessons @ home. I did that for years.

Teachers should not be fired because of Budget cuts. If there are less teachers that means there has to be more kids in a class. Having more kids in one class cuts back on their one on one time with the teacher. It would really cut down on their learning experience. So not only are you making Budget cuts your cutting learning. Don't fire the teachers.

Cutting unpopular sports would really help out the school. Important classes such as medical and art classes help benefit the students to run the future.

Do Not cut any music, dance or sports. Don't allow failing kids to participate in sports because that brings the whole school down. Make less bus routes. Have children walk to bus stops so to save gas. Turn ½ of the classroom lights off and heaters/ air conditioners down. That would save school district energy costs. Don't cut teacher salaries or teachers. That would make the quality of teaching go down. Raise property tax to supplement the budget.

I believe sports program should not be cut in any way. Having sports keeps students in a healthy condition. They are extra activities and they look good for a student applying for college. Also do not touch the music programs. It is a way to express your feelings and it is very enjoyable. Those who are involved in music are usually the best students in the school. Both of these programs help students set goals and they learn how to work together to create something bigger.

There may need to be some budget cuts but I think the worst possible thing to cut would be the music program. Music is a way to let kids express themselves. If you want to cut anything cut

the football team. They seem to win about once a season. That's something to not be proud of. The music program is something to be proud of. The orchestra gets to go to New York the band goes to D.C. which are all paid by themselves.

I am a student, I am an athlete and I am a musician. If anything was going to be cut, cut or reduce sports funds. I love sports and I strongly believe that they are a huge part of a person's young life. But realistically, how far are sports going to get you in life? The percentage of athletes that turn professional after attending Port Angeles High School is 0%. Sports don't make you smarter. Class time and music programs do. It's scientifically proven. The music program is wonderful and it's the best class of my day. Port Angeles doesn't boast about sports, Port Angeles boasts about their music program and the percentage of those who turn music into a career is around 7-10%. It's amazing and it gets you further in life than sports. Do not cut or reduce funds to the music program. Cut and reduce funds from sports.

The sports programs at PAHS should not be cut or any high school for that matter. Sports are one of the few things that keep kids in school and help them work through their day. The high school sports programs should not be touched. Some may say that sports don't help you learn but they do help you get up every morning and go to school because they have something to look forward to. So what's better having something not contribute to learning or not learning at all?

Don't live by seniority live by merit

Generate our own power through solar, wind and hydro electric power. That way leaving the lights on all day then we aren't being as wasteful or we can turn the main lights off when we aren't using them. What an idea!

Cut the music program. Also all C teams should be cut. If you don't make Varsity or JV then you \*\*\*\* at the sport and shouldn't be on a team. C team is like 'sorry you couldn't make it, so here is this team!' Also cut choir and ROTC \*\*\*\*\*.

We should get rid of foreign language classes. You don't have to learn a foreign language to be successful in life. Also there are many other ways you can learn a language on your own.

The people that create our budget is ridiculous. By cutting the schools budget you are basically saying I don't care if they are going to be my doctor one day they don't need education for that.  
**DON'T CUT SPORTS**

I think the teachers that get the most complaints should be taken out. Don't cut sports!

Do NOT CUT: Music programs, sports, electives like language, newspaper, yearbook.  
Many students get to college on sports or music scholarships, and if these programs get cut students will go elsewhere and enrollment will go down.  
4 day school weeks?

If the budget cuts involve firing teachers, let the student vote on who stays  
Do not cut sports, music or business classes  
Cut art because people can do it on their own time

Cut clubs with least amount of members

The music program is something that everyone enjoys, I'm sure everyone enjoys music. Port Angeles High school has one of the greatest music programs in the Northwest, I mean look at all the hard work, the trophy's, certificates and inspired people we have outside supporting us. It gives students an experience of a life time! Going to Carnegie Hall with the Orchestra Program changed my life for the better, changing my perspective, my way of playing with emotion. If there is anything cut I'm wishing you don't cut the music program.

Even though as a country we are going through an economic down fall there are things that should not be touched. One thing we as students deserve to have are sports. When must kids think budget cuts mean cutting sports that is a bad idea! I know that sports are expensive but we can fund raise to help out. So if you are planning on cutting sports you should definitely reconsider it. Even if you decrease the budget allowed for each sport that would be better than actually cutting.

If you cut school sports and made them club sports would be a great way to save loads of money. The City is obligated to have sports in the community so either way we will have sports. We can still have competitions with other schools in the area and have football games in Civic Field. For some sports like soccer we could play year round at a select league which would be better than the 2 and a half months we have now.

If you cut anything exclude music being a 10<sup>th</sup> grader in orchestra for 9 years I can not imagine the amount of players to go down. We always get awarded if we cut anything it should be the performances in the assemblies.

### ***February 10, 2010***

I would like to suggest three ways to help save monies

First : I would like to see the late start Wednesday dropped. Put the time back into the classroom where we can use the time more wisely.

Second: Drop advisory class at high school doing this would put time back into the classroom and give teachers time to work with students since we are cutting instructors we need as much time as possible in the classroom.

Third: Take a hard look at the cost for bussing. If we take students on a trip whether in town or out of town we are nailed by the cost. An example would be taking a buss to Bremerton once there a van brings another drive since the one who started the trip is at the max of there clock time. We get charged for the buss two drivers the van trip to replace the driver and mean while the driver who relieves the other is on the clock for the ride down to relive the other. We need to be spending our monies wisely and this is not what I would call wise.

RTI-not necessary in classroom, people and material expensive to implement.

Early Release/Late Start-does it cost \$ in transportation?

CSB-further cuts to administration. Less FTE=less bodies to administrate to.

Services Contracted-SubOnline, Skyward, Achievement Services Professional Development folks coming in-use OUR members instead.

Look at creating a unified School District with other Districts on the Peninsula-One CSB and reduce duplications of Admin Services.

I'd like to offer some suggestions that were talked about at our staff meetings:

1. Move to a 4 day work week.
  2. Shorten student/teacher work days from current ?180/183? days to a few less. Get rid of LID/Collaboration, etc days.
  3. Do not close Lincoln High School next year either - we do a great job of retaining students that would normally drop out and getting them to graduate, even if it takes a little bit longer. The school actually adds to the district budget by retaining these students.
  4. Move LHS to the Skills Center building - many of the classrooms aren't used in the morning or early afternoon. This would also help build continuing support and crossover/retention/graduation of students between the Skills Center and LHS.
  5. Offer more credit recovery/general ed classes at non-traditional times @ LHS/Skills Center to help retain students that have increasing responsibilities (jobs, family issues, etc) outside the regular school day. This would increase enrollment and graduation rates.
- Y'all have a hard job, which we understand. We're looking forward to working with everyone involved to find the best possible solutions so that our students can continue to be successful.

Please make public how much money could be saved by not holding grade level meetings periodically which require large numbers of guest teachers. Perhaps grade level info. could be shared during LID's or at early release times. I would be interested to hear what the savings might be for this and the other items I've submitted. Thank you. . .

***Printed February 10, 2010- 2:30pm for Committee meeting.***

***February 12, 2010***

I believe that approximately \$50,000 a year can be saved from the Annual Budget with these two suggestions. Our Business Manager can confirm my approximate figures.

- A) Eliminate the 2 days of Grade Level meetings that are currently held for teachers in grades K-6 during the year. Each of these teachers gets a full day substitute, when you add up all these days for the substitutes, I think it approximates \$25,000.00. These K-6 teachers already have Early Release every Tuesday, these Grade Level meetings can be held then and the money saved.
- B) Implement District-wide Early Release every Tuesday, and eliminate the late morning starts for the middle school and the high school. The bus costs savings with a District wide early release, I believe, approximates \$25,000.00. Plus, on Tuesdays, the athletes who must travel to out of town games will miss less class time and the coaches who need substitutes will not need them, a small additional cost saving.

I think the first thing that needs to be looked at, trimming some of the administration. Just positions that aren't absolutely necessary. Then look at trimming the pay of the Principle and Vice-principle. Also trim the pay scale of the School Superintendent. She is way over paid anyway. Last but not least, cut the sports. Our kids don't go to school to play sports. They are supposed to be getting an education.

I drove school buses in Oregon for several years for both a private bus company and for a school district. The school district has since placed student transportation out to bid and sold their buses. The bottom line was that it gave the school district a source of funds in selling their bus fleet and the ongoing savings in student transportation. The theory was that the school district was in the business of educating the students, they were not in the transportation business. I recommend that the school board check the feasibility of outsourcing student bussing for Port Angeles.

Freeze all salaries in the PASD.

Eliminate all professional travel outside of the district unless absolutely necessary

Limit travel by sports teams to the North Olympic Peninsula, even if this means withdrawing from Leagues

Reduce the costs of the central administration by at least 50% by

Reducing the number of Superintendents in the District by two. Get rid of the two assistant Supt positions. They do not provide any direct service to students.

Eliminate the Business Manager position and use one of the many excellent executive secretaries to fill that overpriced position as well as the communication director position.

Ask the teachers union and all of the district administrators to take a voluntary 15% salary cut to avoid more teacher cuts

Sell Fairview, Monroe and the central district office properties downtown to reduce overhead and generate needed capital reserves.

Consider a four day school week, with classes from 7:30-4:30 PM four days a week.

Apply for some of the \$42 million already allocated to Washington through the School Improvement Act. This could provide up to 4 million over three years for either the middle or high school which are already on NCLB plan for improvement.

### ***February 16, 2010***

Cut back expensive speakers who come in usually in August. Those days could be used for teacher work days.

4-day per week!

No Retire/Rehire staff

Eliminate LID days + very expensive presentation programs

Suspend grade level days (pull-outs-or days with substitutes)

Eliminate early Release Day ?? is this costly?

“Charge” groups for using school facilities?

Would like you to discuss + consider a 4-day school week. It has been proven in other states to help with the budget

Sell Monroe proper

Cancel grade level meetings – can be done on Tues. early release in smaller increments of time  
4 day work week

We have to keep extended day. This program makes (gives) opportunities for students to be successful in life. It's our best intervention because it's early.

Cuts need to be across multiple areas, not just sports, etc... music needs to be looked at as well.

***February 17, 2010***

Consider a four day work week- check other districts who have chosen this option as a financial recovery option.

It is time to think out side the box-having a standard middle school classroom of 30+ (32+) is outrageous.

Not have heat on when no school (heat was on at Stevens Monday Feb 15<sup>th</sup>)

Reduce Para Ed-COI it is more important to have classroom teacher /student ratio smaller

Weatherize existing buildings. Due to lack of weather stripping we are essentially heating tents during the winter costing potentially hundreds of thousands. Also we need programmable thermostats so the temps can be lowered during times of non building use.

***February 18, 2010***

Get rid of early release

Cut music-Last rounds of cuts hardly touched music-compared to other extra curricular activities-No Strings in Elementary- It is not essential- general music is good.

Special Ed-Implement more RTI programs to reduce SpecEd many EA's one on one (for children under 5 yrs of age) Is there someway to economize

Get rid of math workbooks-expensive and not useful/But Allocate For Copying

Cut down # of science kits-do 2 web not 4 or 3

5<sup>th</sup> grade-get rid of space & chemistry

Even out class loads for grade levels

Eliminate Rehire of expensive retirees (testing facilitators coaches)

Eliminate-Reading/Writing/Math coaches

Discontinue 6<sup>th</sup> grade band & 4, 5<sup>th</sup> grade strings

Eliminate 1 middle school sport-ask YMCA or Parks & Rec to pick it up

Cut 1-2 high school sports

Cut high school music and art programs to basis only

Cut back to 2 science kits per grade level and keep them long enough to do a really good job

Eliminate the math workbooks-put some of the money to schools for necessary copy costs.

Eliminate half time coach positions

Get rid of late start and early release

Return high dollar high needs SpecEd students to their home districts

Review year-round classified positions & adjust to 10-1/2 month contract. Coordinate schedules so office(s) covered year round.

Decrease 40 hr classified wee employees to 37.5 hr/wk coordinate schedules so offices covered "full time" (Clallam County has done this)

Summer Schedule: Change CSB positions to 4 day work week close CSB on Fridays (Peninsula College has 4 day work week in summer)

Review accounting positions: Can payables/receivable be combined to one position?  
Review whether CSB Supervisor Business & Operations position can be “changed” to Supervisor Business & Human resources. Then hire a Classified Level III to assist above with data input.

Hold off on new elementary curriculums  
Revert to old email system  
Increase class size before implementing more split/multiage classes

### ***February 19, 2010***

Sequim has late start Monday for all students making a smoother transition into the week for students and parents. At transportation we see the complication for parents/students that early out Tuesday for elementary and late start Wednesday causes (lots of questions regarding times and/or missing buses). I don't know how much transportation money it would save, but it would be significant if Port Angeles followed the Sequim plan.

Last year my suggestions for minimizing cuts that did not impact instruction or student support programs were ignored.

If the Board continues to make cuts in teachers, the quality of instruction will continue to deteriorate in the district.

This district needs to downsize in a hurry, from the TOP DOWN, not the bottom up.

These suggestions will not hurt the instruction as much as teacher cuts.

Freeze all salaries in the PASD.

Eliminate all professional travel outside of the district unless absolutely necessary

Limit travel by sports teams to the North Olympic Peninsula, even if this means withdrawing from Leagues

Reduce the costs of the central administration by at least 50% by: reducing the number of Superintendents in the District by two. Get rid of the two assistant Supt positions. They do not provide any direct service to students. Eliminate the two asst supt secretaries and any other central administration staff position that are not absolutely essential to running the district.

Eliminate the Business Manager position and use one of the executive secretaries to fill that position as well as the communication director position.

Combine the Supt and Special Ed director position and have the Supt of the ESD assist the Supt with the oversight of the special education program in the PASD

Ask the teachers union and all of the district administrators to take a voluntary 15% salary cut to avoid more teacher/administrator cuts

Sell or lease Fairview, Monroe and the central district office properties downtown to reduce overhead and generate needed capital reserves.

Consider a four day school week, with classes from 7:30-4:30 PM four days a week.

Apply for some of the \$42 million already allocated to Washington through the School Improvement Act. This could provide up to 4 million over three years for either the middle or high school which are already on NCLB plan for improvement.

If you want to learn more details about any of these proven budget reduction measures that will not hurt the quality of instruction, please call me.

How many professional days have been added in the past 9 years? How does our district stack up against other comparable districts? How much would we save if we cut 5? Since we used I-728 money for prof dev, should it all go away?

We need to cut TOSAs from the budget. Despite the good work they do, we need the FTEs in the classroom more. Don't we have 4 currently?

If we cut grade level meetings during the school day, how much would we save in prof dev and in substitute teacher costs?

Either we eliminate late start for middle/high school or we change it to early release consistent with the elementary schools. I am less concerned about unsupervised middle/high school students than unsupervised elementary students. It would be a hardship on working parents to have to provide day care on both ends of the day and, as a taxpayer, I would be angry if the schools provided para educators to oversee children on a late start day. We do not have the money to provide free child care.

Could \*\*\*\*\* add to her duties the skill center and we eliminate the skill ctr director FTE?

Need to evaluate the quantity and size of stipends.

Consider eliminating MAC program at Franklin. It is considered by most people throughout the district to be an elitist program. My concern is how does it benefit the district given that due to curriculum changes, all grades have more specific guidelines that must be followed. Given that we are going to have major class size issues going forward, does this program cause Franklin to be too inflexible for the needs of the district? I don't think it costs the district any money to run - only inflexible use of space. Right?

Should we request another waiver from the state and reduce the number of days of school to 178 next year? What would be the savings?

Reduction of the music programs (which is a major plus for recruitment in our district) would not save a significant amount of money. I do not think you would be able to keep the strings program going if you cut 4/5th grade strings, and I do not know how you could teach everyone how to play a band instrument if you cut 6th grade band. I know that the 7th grade band is currently around 150 students, split between two classes at Stevens. I cannot imagine how you would teach 75 beginning band students how to play all the instruments if you started in 7th grade.

Lastly, should there be any consideration to reconfiguring our 5 elementary schools to a format other than all K-6? If we were to leave Roosevelt as a K-6 with the special ed programs there, change Franklin to a K-3, Jefferson to a 4-6, Hamilton to a K-2 and Dry Creek to a 3-6 it would allow the district to better control class sizes and planning for more of the same grades.

Currently, we have several split grades and the potential of having very uncontrollable class sizes going forward with the reduction in funding.

I just wanted to say what a great job Stevens Middle school is doing and the wonderful success my daughter has had there over the last 2 years. I suggest we start looking at what is working in our schools and move forward with those systems as a model. The block system with 2 electives does work. Students at Stevens are engaged in learning with Teachers who have the time in each core subject to mold and nurture our children and add their own personal style to the subject. Creating an atmosphere of positive learning. So as you move forward to budget cuts, please keep in mind that the student and Teacher is the core of great education. Maintaining great Teachers who can motivate our children and ready them for the 21st century should be our most important goal. Our children can live without multiple electives, but they cannot reach their goals without strong basic skills (Math, Science, LA/ History) and Teachers who are ready for the 21st century

of learning! We all need to work together, Community, Business, Public Education and Parents finding assets that can be shared to help our children develop their assets.

Thank you for presenting the state of the budget last night. I have a couple of thoughts.

**1) Get rid of surplus property.** While my question was brushed off, I still question why the district isn't doing more to get rid of unused property. Fairview, Monroe and the old Dry Creek properties are sitting there, unused and presumably still in need of maintenance and resources. I understand the money needs to go back into district property but a quick look around shows that is just where it's needed.

**2) Eliminate all middle school athletics.** My son is currently a student at Stevens and participates in three sports so this idea doesn't make me popular at home but I think there are enough athletics offered by other organizations in this community (baseball, soccer, basketball, etc.). The middle school programs are redundant. Additionally, the transportation costs to take teams to the same two venues (Sequim, P.T., Forks) week after week and compete against the same people week after week is ridiculous.

**3) Require high school students to pay 1/2 of the costs of any extracurricular activity.** This extends from the football team to the debate club to the band. Figure out how much a program will cost (salary, equipment, transportation, insurance, etc.) and make the participants responsible for a fair share.

**4) Eliminate all-day kindergarten.** This is nothing but taxpayer subsidized daycare. Five year olds cannot maintain attention for 6-7 hours.

**5) Stop cutting programs directed at high achieving students.** I've heard Dr. Pryne's description of three tiers of students; those who are having no problems, those with few and those who won't graduate. This school district is currently focused on increasing the graduation rate of the most at-risk group and I think that's an admirable goal. However, I look around and see a minimal number of advanced level courses being offered and these are perpetually at risk of being cut. Meanwhile program after program tries to bring "at-risk" students through their senior year, most of the time by offering watered-down versions of the same classes already being taught. The cost vs. benefit of these programs is dubious at best.

The district has an obligation to make sure it's college-bound students are competitive with their cohorts. If it continues to place them off the corner and let them take care of themselves, I think you will find more and more parents pulling their children out of school and teaching them at home through on-line high schools, adding to your loss of FTE. Additionally, any prospective employer bringing a highly educated work force (i.e. NOAA) is going to have a tough time convincing its staff that Port Angeles is a good choice if the schools offer a high graduation rate but low achievement levels.

These are my own personal views and I realize they sound harsh but if this district doesn't show that it is committed to remaining solvent while at the same time providing a quality product, I think it risks losing the support of many parents who place a high value on education.

I appreciate the fact that you are soliciting input on budget cuts however, I feel that this community has had its emotions tugged at for too many years regarding this very issue. This will not be an easy job but to pretend the community at large will be able to come up with the solution is absurd. That's what we pay the administration as a whole to do. I think you will have better results and more educated input if you first publish a list of feasible options including dollars saved before looking for community input. You may also have a better turn out to a community forum if it is scheduled at a time other than the family dinner hour, which is exactly

when they are currently scheduled.

I appreciate the job you are all doing and the fact that you have to make decisions that are not going to make everyone happy. I know you have our kids best interest at heart.

***February 22, 2010***

The idea I have to cut back on costs is to have the shop classes fix and repair the schools. This would give real life problems for their education and also give them a sense of pride in there school. I know you would still need a qualified maintence team to fix and repair major problems, but this may eliminate a position.

Another idea is to rent out the school gyms and auditorium. This would generate income that could go towards books, music or sports programs.

My last suggestion is to turn down the temperture in the class rooms one degree at the high school. This might make the students put on proper clothing and cover up a little more!

I hope my ideas help and /or give you other ideas.

Copy Rooms/paper/machines

Freeze teacher salaries

hire out transportation/private company

retire out Expensive OLD Teachers not RIFing newer teachers

work as a team to change

Scores of schools attract homebuyers and cost of homes

There are families moving here but home schooling again , attracting families

cut para professionals and make teachers take duties

Eliminate any expensive team sports such as football. Focus on lifelong healthy sport activities such as hiking, calisthenics and jogging.

Move the administration offices on 4<sup>th</sup> street to empty classrooms eliminating office space in an expensively priced area.

Totally restructure education for juniors and seniors-using home study, internet, personal advisors and teachers plus volunteer work experience to replace classroom study.

Go to 4 day school week for all students – using homework study programs including internet opportunities for grade 5 through 10.

Review the need for middle management positions with the realization of a declining student population.

We understand that none of these are popular suggestions. But we feel that these types of changes are necessary to improve education priorities in a reduced economy.

A few suggestions, some to revisit:

4 day school week (extend school day by 1 hr per day, no late starts

Cut out physical therapy “swimming” for students, cut out OT services in school

“Back to basics”-schools have been increasingly assuming parenting & community service roles.

Cut out those services (homework club, school dances, counseling services)

While I will continue to advocate for sports in school I think we should limit travel to only

within the county & eliminate some areas of sports (track & field, crosscountry, lacrosse, tennis, golf, equestrian) eliminate dance team

Incorporate Crescent School District into PASD

Hire & utilize a court authorized truancy officer to enforce truancy laws  
 Sell off Monroe & Fairview School/Property  
 Reduce # of para educators used to Xerox/grade papers- there are some in this district who don't work w/kids at all!  
 Utilize para educators to run the libraries- free up teacher to teach.  
 Eliminate "Seminar" program @ middle school  
 Eliminate "shop" @ middle school, move media tech into shop class, free up a classroom for teachers!

Sell CSB. Put administration at a school in one of the empty wings- perhaps the high school. There is a perceptive of them being out of touch and too far removed from students and staff.

Eliminate LID days  
 Eliminate School District Security Officer at PAHS (keep resource officer)  
 Eliminate non-union staff members at PAHS (attendance office)  
 Eliminate all middle school sports  
 Eliminate all high school "C" teams- keep only varsity and junior varsity  
 Eliminate assistant principal at high school  
 Move Lincoln to PAHS- use empty classrooms and buildings at high school  
 Eliminate the school district public relations personnel  
 Do not hire back retired personnel  
 Too many coaches for 1 team- have head coach and assistant only  
 No band and strings for elementary students  
 Have 12 month secretaries at high school and middle school become 11 month secretaries  
 Eliminate paid safety person at Roosevelt Elementary

### ***February 23, 2010***

Job sharing  
 Early retirement – buyouts?  
 Get people to go on spouses insurance- help cover co-pays

I would suggest that you not cut band, orchestra or choir at middle school. We can run a higher number of students in these classes. If they are dropped, it takes two teachers to fill in slots for those students. For example 7th grade band (our largest sections of any class) has two sections - one with 47 and one with 51 students.

4-day school week  
 cancel buses – parents get their kids to school like in the old days  
 go back to cold lunch- just like the old days  
 combine HS, Lincoln School and Skill Center  
 \* anyone not directly working with kids is expendable  
 move the CSB tp HS-sell CSB building for maintenance

Gain back home school fte  
 Eliminate elementary strings fully or partially by grade  
 Fourth grade students gain little and dislike strings. How many 4<sup>th</sup> graders continue with strings?

*February 24, 2010*

Let's get some press and palm-pressing working for us-  
positive reinforcement- names used and organizations names to praise  
City council members, business people, Pen people, church leaders-who participate in supporting  
PASD

It needs to be more than "please tell us your ideas" and more like "take a place at the table."

Let's create a scenario to see what kind of savings we'd have years down the line if PASD  
consolidated with other small districts on the peninsula. We need to plan beyond our current  
crisis

What legal steps are being taken to change high-density housing laws?

How can we get home-schoolers back as FTE's?

How can we stop any high school student from dropping out, beyond what we are doing now?

How do the retire/rehire employees affect our budget?

How many do we have in our district?

As a parent of a strings student, I would have been fine with paying to play to save money-or cut  
4<sup>th</sup> grade strings

Loose early release time.

No Learning improvement day.

4 Day Week?

Cut strings and band programs in the elementary schools

Get rid of Grade Level meetings

cut some of the extra teacher days added last year-LID days

Make strings/band pay to play

cut literary/math coaches

get rid of Late Start/early release

Cut all benchmark testing and related support

cut all grade level team days

Free principals up to substitute at least one day per week (less out of building time)

Prioritize any personnel cuts so that those who work with kids or programs are last to be  
impacted

We cannot continue to cut programs that impact students and lessen the likely-hood of student  
success (clubs, sports, etc..)

Go after the home school students I know of a # of students who do on-line schooling through  
Bellingham & Meridian (?) school districts & get \$ from those districts.

Many of my PA friends do parents as partners though Crescent SD Does that \$ affect PASD?

Maybe you could survey parents who choose to home school & find out what would bring them  
back to our school or at least to our district. "Tuesday School" through Crescent SD takes place  
at Fairview Bible Church. This program is convenient to PASD families due to location & is

wildly popular among our home school families. Can we compete with this?  
4 Day School Weeks!!

Secretaries-there is no need for three secretaries at Stevens-when one is gone the other two cover now

Para Eds

Vice Principals at the middle level-one administrator is enough!

***Printed February 24, 2010 for Advisory Committee meeting.***

***February 24, 2010***

- 1) Sports and transportation: Instead of taking big busses for our smaller teams, drive school vans piloted by school employees who are attending the event anyway (ie coaches and parents employed by the district) with no pay for those drivers. A waiver can be obtained for school employees to drive our vans.
- 2) Charge admission for ALL sports, not just basketball/football/volleyball/wrestling, have parent volunteers work the gate
- 3) Charge pay to play for music
- 4) Have grade level meetings occur on already scheduled LID days to save on the costs of substitutes

Perhaps we should consider charging the YMCA for facility usage.

I've been told that they don't pay a Facility Usage fee. Is that true?

If that's the case they should have to pay to help off-set expenses incurred by the School District. In this time of financial dearth we cannot afford to give away our resources to any entity that will benefit financially as a result.

***February 26, 2010***

Appoint specific people to be in charge of shutting off all computers and lights at the end of the each day. Do not use heaters. If people are cold they can put on more clothing. We should have more fundraisers to raise money for budget.

Early Release & Late Start- get rid of them & we save \$ on busing.

Weatherize all Buildings change single pane windows to double pane, weather strip all doors!

Get rid of unmandated busing-have students use public transportation.

Utilize public transportation for bussing

Advertise on sides of busses

Cut string and band program at elementary schools

Discontinue Early Release

Discontinue Writing support staff

Discontinue LID Days

Discontinue late start Wednesdays.

***March 1, 2010***

The former PASD teacher suggested that we eliminate 12<sup>th</sup> grade! At first I laughed, and then I felt it was a legitimate suggestion. Could we do a pilot program to test this idea? Other school districts are considering this.

Eliminating 12<sup>th</sup> Grade would:

- Drastically reduce the number of teachers and admin personnel paid for by the school district.
- Provide an incentive to excel for those students who normally perform well in 12<sup>th</sup> grade and probably have very few core classes to complete in senior year. Students could then spend a good bit of the former senior year in Peninsula College, as they do now. Remaining core classes could be done on-line freeing the students perhaps to earn college dollars, to experience a “gap” year and discover who they want to be, or to do internships as TA’s for HS students in need of coaching.
- Provide an accepted path for students who normally don’t do well by allowing them to drop from the traditional high school and enter vocational schools at the expense of their own parents, thus eliminating the need for expensive “trades” equipment in the school district.
- Recognize what is futile. Students, who are failing, are just that, failing and should be allowed to go their own ways as they attempt to do anyway. If a student doesn’t know how to read, write, and do basic math by the time he is 16 years of age and doesn’t want to attend school, he should not be forced to remain on the public education dollar.
- Teachers who become unemployed can run on-line or in-person tutoring classes – a whole new field of endeavor. This idea was good enough for our respected founding fathers.

It is time to rethink the role of teacher and the scope of education for young people. In the United States, we complain about our students’ trailing behind those of Europe or Asia. The ideas stated above are the essence of the European and Asian school systems – universal education up to a decision point.

It has been proven time and time again that something which is in limited supply is more high valued. Sadly, today’s American education system is overly nanny-stated and poorly valued by the students. Let’s be realistic. A family will pay for what it perceives to be to its advantage, but will not be willing to pay for everyone else’s dream. Basics are basic and to be paid for by all citizens, but frills beyond that should be paid for by the individual benefitting from the particular frill. This goes for 12<sup>th</sup> Grade, sports (anything beyond daily calisthenics), computer frills (our students already have better equipment at home than can be economically provided in our schools), hot lunch facilities, and full day kindergarten. It’s time to strip out all but the basics in our school system!

Rehiring teachers that chosen to retire while those with less seniority get RIF’d is offensive to many of us.

***Printed March 3, 2010 for Committee***

***March 5, 2010***

\*Consolidate Lincoln School to the High School campus

\*Sell Property owned by PASD

- \*Charge rent for Headstart programs using our campus, custodians, busses etc...
- \*Cancel Running Start Program so we can claim full FTE of high school students.

Look at the duties and responsibilities of the unrepresented secretaries/staff in the district and see if those positions can be absorbed by represented secretaries/staff

***March 10, 2010***

After I have thought for awhile about how to help our district's budget I came up with multiple ideas. One, reduce the amount of salary paid to teachers and administrators. Two, reduce the number of administrators. Three, rent out the unused facilities to generate some income. Four, discontinue serving food in the cafeteria. Five make all extra curricular activities use fee based.

***Printed March 10, 2010 for Committee***

***March 16, 2010***

Eliminate positions of math adoption specialist and writing adoption specialist  
eliminate elementary strings and 6<sup>th</sup> grade band  
eliminate K-6 grade level meetings  
if teacher salaries are reduced, all district employees should have salaries reduced by an equal percentage

***March 22, 2010***

This is not a joke~ Cut all positions except for: custodians, school secretaries, teachers  
Quit cutting things for our students. Keep the people who do the important work. We don't need the others.

- 1) Cut elementary strings and band-just keep general music
- 2) eliminate kindergarten P.E. and music
- 3) reduce elementary PE and music to one 30 minute class per week (keep 2 PE teachers and 2 music teachers)
- 4) eliminate all middle school sports
- 5) eliminate All CSB administration
- 6) stop providing lunch and breakfast
- 7) charge all outside groups to use school facilities
- 8) eliminate all copy machines, computers and textbooks

***Printed March 24 2010 for Committee***