

BUDGET TOWN HALL MEETING FEEDBACK/QUESTIONS

Please note that numbers indicate the number of “green dots” that town hall attendees placed on the ideas.

1. Ensure members of the Budget Committee are published. (1)
2. Preserve intervention and support services for students. (4)
3. No cuts to Special Education. (4)
4. Give more budget to Special Education (3)
5. Continue funding clubs and electives (2)
6. Raise awareness for lack of budget/budget problems amongst the community
7. Consider staggered year-round school.
8. Confirm enrollment earlier in the year and consider adding a second phase later if necessary (2)
9. Smaller class sizes are important and attractive to parents searching for a school. Larger classes discourage parents from sending kids to Albany schools. (7)
10. Bring in out of district students only to the level of prior years and problem solved.
11. Stabilize enrollment with out of district transfers if necessary (2)
12. Equity for all staff at ACC.
13. 2:1 paras better for kids.
14. 200 students not enrolled compared from 2014 to now.
15. Minimize provided food for special events.
16. Furlough all staff for 1-3 days.
17. Cancel staff development days. *“A day off is as good as teacher training, really.”*
18. Across the board temporary pay cut, but leave programs untouched.
19. Prioritize teaching positions over admin positions (12)
20. Reduce admin salaries. (1)
21. Continue intervention and support services at high level at all schools and levels (2)
22. Ensure adequate funding for athletics. This is an equity and safety issue.
23. Encourage fundraising amongst staff and students for upcoming special events.
24. Reconsider Holiday Schedule to increase ADA (2)
25. Consider retirement incentives (SERP, Golden Handshake) (3)
26. Keep remedial services at K-6 reading and math.
27. Explore what other school districts are doing.
28. List what can be cut.
29. List what cannot be cut.
30. Hiring freeze.

31. Reasonable class sizes, interdistrict transfers led to crowded Albany schools in the past. Only Albany taxpayers are paying for the new school construction for our currently “overcrowded” schools.
32. If personnel needs to be cut, let the public know now.
33. Start a teacher academy with high school and college students.(1)
34. If increase class size, put aides in class.
35. Look into sponsorship/partnerships with local companies. (5)
36. Need a big letter writing campaign to legislators. (2)
37. Organized state level political pressure and accountable - state and local. (2)
38. Renew and increase parcel tax (1)
39. Use LTPA (least technical price acceptable) Principles for effective construction contract management (saves bond dollars). Federal Procurement Model - it has teeth.
40. Let families know what is an ideal yearly contribution to maintain revenues. Families may give in multiple amounts but good to know total for the year. (1)
41. Music is very cost efficient. Only 4 FTE for 1000 kids. Important for AUSD reputation. It changes kids lives and builds community. (8)
42. Keep class size low.
43. Lengthen school year to get more ADA.
44. Read California Dreaming (behind the AUSD Board table - at the town hall meeting)
45. Don't limit which 5th graders can study a band instrument (happening now).
46. Keep choir, band, and orchestra (3)
47. We need music and art. I worked at AMS/AHS and watching struggling kids find drama, art and music thrive. (7)
48. Instead of looking at where we can cut, can we look long-term, more global? (1)
49. Yes, Increase taxes at state level, especially on businesses wrongly benefitting from Prop 13.
50. Expand basketball camp in summer - rent the space (4)
51. Expand rental for academic classes - programs in summer (6)
52. Provide ideas on opportunities for revenue. (3)
53. Reach out to rich celebrity alumni.
54. Partner with silicon valley company (use/advertise product in exchange for funding).
55. What about UCB funding AUSD? (3)
56. Aquatic Center? Has to be self funding.
57. Open AUSD to inter-district transfers to raise revenue (8)
58. You must communicate re-build plans so we stop losing students who are afraid because of totally poor communication.
59. Ask parents to pay ADA for absences of child (loss of \$700K). (1)
60. Brainstorm ways to increase revenue (1)
61. Increase revenue through power purchase agreement for electricity (7)

62. Lease out Solano site to commercial - maximize the potential of AUSD properties. (1)
63. Lease ACC site to commercial (1)
64. Rent out other schools during summer (2)
65. Rent out school gyms, pool for rental (13)
66. Raise my taxes.
67. Try to automate some processes to save.
68. Don't throw Special Education under the bus. (1)
69. Please include more teachers on the budget committee (8)
- 70.

Questions Asked:

1. Can the district hire contractors instead of offering tenure?
2. What is the difference in total dollars between UCV and Albany residents who pay parcel taxes?
3. What are some revenue options?
4. How much would each family need to contribute to fill the budget gap?
5. What sources of revenue can we look at? Interdistrict transfers? Solar power to reduce utility costs? (1)
6. Can we join districts (joint USD)?
7. How much do we pay UCB for district office? If we add district office space into school construction projects, does this save money?
8. Can we share services with another district? (i.e. food services)
9. Can we charge for foreign language immersion options?
10. How much can we reduce the district office? (12)
11. Are we top-heavy related to other larger districts?
12. What is the breakdown/percentage of attorney fees?
13. Can we increase the Chinese school to K-5 and charge more?