

The Communications Exploratory Committee, we have determined that there is valuable work that we can do to help move the board's vision forward, and would like the board's approval to become a standing committee for the purpose of doing work on behalf of the board. **[THIS IS BASIS OF MOTION #1]**

More specifically, we would like to organize and implement two engagement activities for this December. **[THIS IS BASIS OF MOTION #2]** The two activities are:

1. A forum/event Dec 18, Library, 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm
2. An online survey

The main topic to be covered for both will be the budget, but as you will see from the questions there is also an opportunity for the community to give other kinds of feedback.

The agenda for the event would be VERY light on the board projecting out, but rather focus on taking in ideas, thoughts, feelings, experiences of the public. We can give a short overview of the process that we are going through to develop this year's budget, as well as the 5 goals... but then we want to just open up to hear from the community. We believe there is good reason to minimize the information being presented in order to provide ample time for the community to talk. Although administrators would be welcome to come, it may be better for them not to be there so that there is less pressure to respond and defend (board members have the benefit of not knowing enough to give a thorough answer or explanation).

The event and the survey would focus on these questions (borrowed almost verbatim from CVU budget survey):

1. What do you value most about the school experiences of your children, or children that you know? (feel free to name the school)
2. Given the statewide climate for education spending and an outlook which indicate that budgeting in the unified district will become increasingly difficult, what current assets (programming, extracurricular activities, buildings and grounds, etc.), and new possibilities would you like the board to protect or prioritize?
3. As the new Unified District transitions to the model of budgeting for all schools with one budget that aims to reflect the board's adopted goals, what do you want the board to know or keep in mind?
4. What other thoughts would you like to share about the HUUSD budget, your school, or anything related to the school district?

#### Paper Exit survey

1. Did you think this activity was a valuable use of your time?
2. Do you feel like board members heard you?
3. Was the time convenient?
4. Do you plan to fill out the survey too?
5. Do you plan to tell others about the survey?
6. Do you have suggestions for other ways that the school board can engage with the community?
7. Do you have suggestions for future topics we should consider for similar events?
8. What else do you want to say to us?

#### EVENT INFO / DETAILS:

- Desired tenor: Not so formal that it will shut down communication
- Cookies baked goods and drinks (donated by Maureen and Alycia and Lorraine)
- Nametags (have people write name/town)
- Need to have official minutes. Notetaker would be ideal (so members can focus on engaging. But Maureen will do as backup)
- Sign in sheet (like other board meetings)
- Not all board members need be present, but all are welcome
- Three definitive board representatives: Lorraine as facilitator, Alycia, Maureen, and maybe 1 other "up front" – other members should be co-mingled in to minimize the feeling of formality
- Ground rules:
  - Be courteous
  - Be Kind
  - Be Respectful
  - Disagree without being disagreeable.
  - we expect many of the same guidelines for public comment at board meetings to apply throughout the evening.

**Open Item:** How are the board members going to handle requests for information and answering questions? This is more a question for the actual evening of the forum, but I think there needs to be a strategy and agreement upon that strategy. For example, would it be best to refer people to documents housed on the website when that might be the best and most consistent place to find answers?