

Budget Suggestions  
(no changes from originals, no spell check)

**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. (Freda, Hester, Krista, Gary) 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 Eve's 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 them selves. 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 they are not going to make it.

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.

My name is from Lincoln High School and 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 Mr. Schwob 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 Cindy Crumb 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 it's 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.

***Budget Suggestions after Initial List Released to Public***

***March 31, 2010***

REVENUE

Increase recruiting of students for the Skill Center (Think innovative!)

Approach Booster Clubs to help fund sports activity costs. Increase fund raisers.

Seek more grant money from private companies.

Charge tuition for students educated by the District and living out of the district.

Sale of "mothballed" unused furniture and equipment

More volunteers to save costs where possible

District-wide drive for donation of school supplies

EXPENDITURES-ALL EMPLOYEES

Postage—all employees will have paychecks and A/P checks picked up at building except those employees that work in multiple buildings or less than 5 days per week. Exception would be winterbreak and springbreak.

Eliminate Cultural Exchange trips to Japan

"Brown-bag" meetings, no food provided at any meeting

Reduce one day of vacation per employee

EXPENDITURES-Administration

Administrators Summer Institute: Hold onsite, reduced number of days, reduced number of paid consultants.

Eliminate Vacation Cashout clause in all Administrator contracts

Reduce number of trips administrators are out of the district and associated costs.

EXPENDITURES-Certificated Staff

Eliminate TOSA working in Curriculum & Instruction. Work should be done by administrators.

Superintendent should reduce workload of C&I Administrator to free up time for these tasks.

Staff should strive to eliminate abuse of sick leave and various leaves, reducing sub costs and allow students to be taught by their regular teachers consistently, resulting in quality education and financial savings to the District.

Limit number of days teachers are out of classroom for training, meetings, etc.

Reduce number of additional leave days (other than sick leave and Undisclosed Leave)

Reduce number of days in Responsibility Day and Additional Day contracts

Cut extra timesheet pay where work could be absorbed by Responsibility Day contract.

Outsource Psych and SLP services

Combine Elem. Music/Band/Orchestra Programs

Concert Supervision/Back to School Night should be part of Basic or Responsibility Contract rather than extra pay

Reduce Supplemental Activity Index positions; Eliminate Tech Coord. at all buildings

Reduce number of Dept. Chair Stipends

Increase class sizes

Reduce sub costs at MS & HS by using Administrators to substitute teach when possible.

EXPENDITURES-Unrepresented

Partner with city for campus security; fund with Safe Schools Grant

EXPENDITURES-Classified-PAEOP

Reduce hours by one day per year

EXPENDITURES-Classified-PARAS

Assign teachers on a rotating basis, or volunteers for crossing guard duties. Possible support by local police as well.

Reduction of hours or vacation days

EXPENDITURES-Classified-CUSTODIANS/MAINTENANCE

Reduce unnecessary lighting after 10 pm daily Reduction of hours

EXPENDITURES-Classified-TRANSPORTATION Fund extracurricular drivers thru sports boosters, etc.

EXPENDITURES-Extracurricular Eliminate C Teams and Coaches

Offer each sport contingent on number of students that participate

Transportation to and from games should be fully funded by the ASB/Sports Boosters, etc.

Cut MS sports to intramurals

EXPENDITURES-Miscellaneous

Remove pop machine from CSB—no revenue is received from vendor and it uses District electricity.

What about lengthening the hours in a school day 4 days a week, then either having 1/2 day school on the 5th day or stick to a 4 day a week schedule. Cut the higher up in administrations wages, seems like a certain person took a big raise to stay in PA, ask the higher up's to take a 10% cut in pay. If they really care about the children they will. It's the kids that have suffered more and more every year due to cuts at the federal and local levels.

As recommended by the budget committee a few years and approved by the board (and quietly swept under the rug and later ignored!), Choice should be moved to empty space at the High School. I believe the savings was estimated at something like \$600,000 dollars back then. We should also cut our losses with the Skills Center. Would the committee please release to the public what the district now spends for being part of the Skills Center? Many of the services are or can be duplicated at the college and high school. Thank you.

I have some concerns about some of the proposed budget cuts. I do not under any economic/financially difficult time think that it would be alright to cut music education from our children. At a time in which parents may not be able to afford to send their children to private music lessons, at a time in which children are developing who they are and sometimes with the help of music can learn to communicate their problems and ideas with others. Music should be thought of as a language class. How many PAHS grads went on to college in the last 10 years on music scholarships or auditioned into a music program at their college of choice? I believe the number may be higher than math or science majors.....

Children learn culture, diversity, language, social skills, life skills, history, math, rhythm, and so much more by attending a general music class. How many curriculum items need to be covered in one class to keep it off the cutting block.

I graduated from PAHS 10 years ago. I was a music honors student that *didn't* get a music scholarship to college but *did* go to college to become a music teacher. It was all thanks to my music teacher in high school. I was able to have private piano lessons at a young age, and

attended a private elementary/middle school. I had all the opportunities I could possibly have; however it was at public school, in a freshman band class that I found my identity and began learning who I was. I don't know what I would have done without that program, it truly molded the adult I am today. (thank you Mr. Gailey)

My understanding of budget cuts are real. I am currently a small business owner in Pt. Angeles. I own my own learning center and teach pre-school 4 days a week. Money is always an issue and always on the front of our minds. My suggestion for this is to not cut the program but possibly offer it before or after school? no charge to parents. Kids should get to choose this art, this language, this opportunity to experience what may be their path in life. Parents cant afford it, We all know that. If it is choosing music or dinner; dinner wins ( as it should) .... Lets find the pennies to make this work! ask the teachers who could help once a week, maybe they can team teach a class, mixed ages? general music ed. A chance for the kids to make a choice. Even if 1 out of 10 kids choose the path; it's a life path that has endless opportunities.

Thank you for listening to my opinions, passion, emotions, , , I hope that children still have the opportunities now as they did when I was in school . I hope that teachers everywhere can continue their passion of music with children, and children can continue to have an opportunity to choose their dreams.

#### ***April 1, 2010***

Has a 4-day school week been proposed. It is a huge money saver.

I am amazed that one of the budget cut possibilities is to "eliminate" elementary physical education, not just reduce it. The RCW requires that students in grades 1-8 receive 100 minutes of "instructional" physical education per week...not just 100 minutes of physical activity. Many people believe that the classroom teachers can teach PE themselves. Classroom teachers are overwhelmed with their workloads already and I can pretty much guarantee that there will be only a handful of teachers that would actually provide PE for their students, let alone instructional PE.

The PASD Nutrition and Fitness policy includes that students will receive at least 60 minutes per week from a physical education specialist.

Elementary physical education has already been hit with staffing cuts in the past year. I would suggest that, if necessary, the board/committee look at a reduction not an elimination.

Kindergarten is not included in the RCW and thus would not need PE legally.

Please reconsider the proposal of eliminating elementary PE. This is not what is best for our kids!

#### ***April 2, 2010***

I've been a full-time secretary at \*\*\*\*\* for about 7 years. Recently\*\*\*\*\* had a medical emergency situation with a diabetic 2<sup>nd</sup> grader. I literally "flew" down to the classroom to help this 7 year-old who was so lethargic and ready to go unconscious at any moment from dangerously low blood sugars. Fortunately the diabetic training that I received from our school nurse and with a medical plan in place, I was able to assist the student out of a dangerous situation. This is only one of the many examples of what can happen in a school with students who have diagnosed medical conditions and injuries.

Our nurses conduct hearing and vision screenings, maturation education, health

referrals, scoliosis screenings, create medical plans and provide us with valuable health information for parents, students and staff via in person, phone or email.

At the present time the districts' two registered nurses are supervising over 3000 students in 8 schools, only hired to spend minimal time in each school each week. With limited time in each school, our nurses are doing an exceptional job, going "above and beyond" keeping our students and staff healthy and educated.

Please keep our nurses employed in our school district. It would be neglectful to eliminate school nurses from our schools; their knowledge and resources are vital for student safety!

*April 5, 2010*

I am a parent of 2 children in Port Angeles schools. With all the difficult cuts to be made, I implore you to **not sacrifice general music or school band at the elementary level**. Further, I hope that if the proposed partial cuts are made to athletics, that some measures be put in place for students to only participate in one school funded sport per year. This would allow greater opportunity for more of the student body to participate in sports, rather than the most skilled athletes dominating the sports teams all year.

Thank you for your consideration.

As the elementary Physical Education teachers for the district, we are obviously concerned about the budget proposal to completely eliminate elementary physical education. We strongly believe this proposal is not in the best interest of kids.

In February 2007, the board adopted the Policy No. 6700 on Nutrition and Fitness. It starts out with the following:

The board recognizes that childhood obesity has reached epidemic levels in Washington and throughout the country. Overweight children are at a higher risk for developing severe long-term health problems, and overweight children are affected by discrimination, psychological stress, and low self-esteem. However, research indicates that obesity and subsequent diseases are largely preventable through diet and regular physical activity. Research also indicates that becoming physically active and maintaining a regular physical activity program significantly reduces the risk of some obesity and some cancers, diabetes and other chronic diseases.

We applaud the board for taking this stance on the importance of physical activity. We hope that the board will continue to support the physical education program at the elementary level to ensure that our young students are not denied the opportunity to develop life-long habits for maintaining a physically active lifestyle.

In addition to the obvious health benefits that students receive from participating in physical education, there are many other benefits that are equally as important. Many of the qualities that are valued by our community and in the worlds of business and education are strongly emphasized in a physical education program: cooperation, teamwork, following rules, strategic thinking, and a sense of fair play, to name just a few. As young students develop skills to do so many different physical activities, they develop a unique sense of accomplishment, which builds

self-confidence. We know there are many students who struggle academically and excel in physical activities, and they really thrive on the opportunity to express themselves in physical ways.

According to WAC 392-410-135 (see Appendix), all students in grades 1-8 shall receive 100 minutes of instruction in physical education each week. Physical education is a mandatory instructional program; it is not optional. Board Policy No. 6700 recognizes this fact, and goes on to state: "This includes instruction and practice in basic movement and fine motor skills, progressive physical fitness, and wellness activities through age-appropriate activities." (p.3). As physical educators, we are trained to provide this instruction to our students. Board Procedure 6700P acknowledges that proper training in the instruction of physical education is important, and states, "All certificated teachers who are requested to teach physical education will receive annual professional development." (p.5).

Under our current staffing, elementary students are receiving between 60-90 minutes of PE instruction per week with a dedicated PE teacher. The expectation is that the balance will be picked up by the classroom teachers to meet the 100 minute requirement. With very few exceptions district-wide, this is not happening. And the reason is simple: most elementary classroom teachers are not comfortable teaching physical education for even as little as 10 minutes per week. Additionally, with all of the expectations put on classroom teachers to meet state standards in reading, math, writing, science, and social studies, they are already feeling overwhelmed with their workload. It is likely they will not welcome the prospect of taking on the teaching of physical education and the Health and Fitness GLEs that are required by the state. A realistic scenario is that without dedicated physical education teachers at the elementary level, many if not most kids will not receive any PE instruction at all.

We understand that you face difficult decisions in making reductions to meet the budget. We feel strongly that if you are truly going to make those decisions based on what is best for kids, you will not eliminate the elementary physical education program. Thank you for your consideration of our concerns on this issue.

#### *April 12, 2010*

Thank you for all the time and effort being put into this difficult task! My question is: Is relocating a school the same as closing a school? The report mentions Choice cannot be considered because it takes a longer process to close a school. No one has proposed closing the alternative school; the proposal has been (for years), to relocate it to vacant space at the high school. It could still retain it's own identity. Can you clarify this for me? Thank you. . .

#### *April 14, 2010*

Thank you for the information about the current budget cuts. As a veteran teacher and a Port Angeles native I have a life long concern about the welfare of our citizens and community. First of all I would like to invite each board member to spend a full day in my classroom. I begin work at 7:15 and it is now 5:20 and am not home yet. This is a typical day for me. With 28 students and 35 lessons to plan for in a week-- the job can't be done in a 7.5 hour day. The expectation to bring students to standard in academic subjects is more than a full time job. My observation of elementary teachers in this district is that they go above and beyond what they are paid for-- I would like to you see first hand what that looks like on a daily basis.

Now about the cuts. I was frankly appalled that strings and band for elementary students seems to be a high priority on your list of keeps. They are currently rated as 51 and 52 on your list. The expenditure each year is \$182,467!!!! Why is this such a priority for you? Have you considered running 6th grade band fewer days a week? Have you looked at having 4th and 5th grade fewer days a week? Have you looked at having these programs after school? Have you considered cutting them? As a parent I had to pay fees for club sports. Can strings be offered outside the school day as many enrichment activities are?

This is one of many concerns about your list - but it was the one that was the most glaring to me. I realize you have difficult decisions ahead -- there are no great answers. My job is to teach 5th graders- I am doing everything I can to get them to academic standards. Again I invite you to take a long day and walk in my shoes.