

FY 2011 Budget guidelines –for Discussion

Introduction:

This section will summarize the process, the reason for the guidelines (to provide guidance during budget development), the current fiscal realities (tough economic times will mean tough choices).

Broad categories for guidelines: (based on review of goals, discussion with budget co-chairs, discussion in cabinet, feedback from Nov. 17 meeting).

First, we'll confirm the categories are acceptable – the list could be amended, shortened, or lengthened. Then, discuss what to include under each category.

I. Student Achievement

- Example: Work towards closing of achievement gaps by addressing the needs of underperforming schools and subgroups as determined by MCAS results

II. Special Education

- Example: Provide support for a process of a comprehensive external review and audit of all special education services.

III. Middle Grades

- Example: Plan for potential changes and costs from a School Committee vote pertaining to middle grades.

IV. School Climate

- Example: Evaluate effectiveness of programs designed to improve school climate and create schools that are physically and emotionally safe.

V. Program Evaluation

- Example: provide adequate support for comprehensive review of all programs.

VI. Technologies

- Example: Explore the potential for using technology more to fulfill central administration functions, in order to increase efficiency without sacrificing productivity.

VII. Operations

- Example: Address vital capital projects needed to ensure schools that are clean, safe and environmentally healthy