

# 2011/2012 Budget Priorities



### Objectives



- Assess community preferences for district funding options
- Make survey accessible to the entire community
- Complete data collection in time for board use as guidelines throughout budget decision-making process
- Create tools for expanded and ongoing community engagement



### Survey Methodology



Use online survey tool to collect opinions

Inform and educate the community

about the effort

Use existing email lists

- Permit people to register on a dedicated website
- Delete duplicates
- Send three email invitations
- Share results with the community





### **Quick Facts**



- Average time to complete:
  - 12 minutes
- 929 Completed surveys
  - 75% parents
  - 24% no children in school
  - 1% students
- Gender
  - 69% female
  - 31% male
- Average age: 45 years
  - 19% 18 to 34 years
  - 36% 35 to 44 years
  - 26% 45 to 55 years
  - 19% 55+ years

- 85% community
- 15% current/former district employees
  - 52% classified
  - 48% licensed/administrator
- Area
  - 47% East
  - 27% Central
  - 26% West

WEST: Alder, Glenfair, Margaret Scott, Wilkes CENTRAL: Davis, Fairview, Hartley, Salish Ponds EAST: Sweetbriar, Troutdale, Woodland

- 10% Speak language other than English at home
  - 5 Spanish-only surveys



### Don't Forget



- It is an engagement process, not a survey
  - Rules of statistical testing do not apply
- Results are guidelines for decisionmaking





# Survey Results



▶ research ▶ marketing public relations ▶ public affairs ▶ federal lobbying ▶ state lobbying

### % Agree: Series One



The following are some areas where the Reynolds School District could cut its 2011-2012 budget. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following proposed budget choices?

■ Total disagree ■ Total agree

Contract in the private sector to provide some support services for the school district.	34%	66%
Shorten the school year by five to 10 days.	48%	52%
Eliminate school counselors at elementary school.	55%	45%
Increase student/teacher ratio. Ratios will continue to be smaller for elementary grades and increase for older students. Ratios will be relatively lower for core classes and higher for other classes.	61%	39%
Close one elementary school. Savings will be in operating costs, cuts in administrative staff, custodial staff and some teaching specialists.	63%	37%
Reduce secondary schools, including Reynolds High School, to a six-period day and reduce electives.	68%	32%



# % Agree by Group: Series One



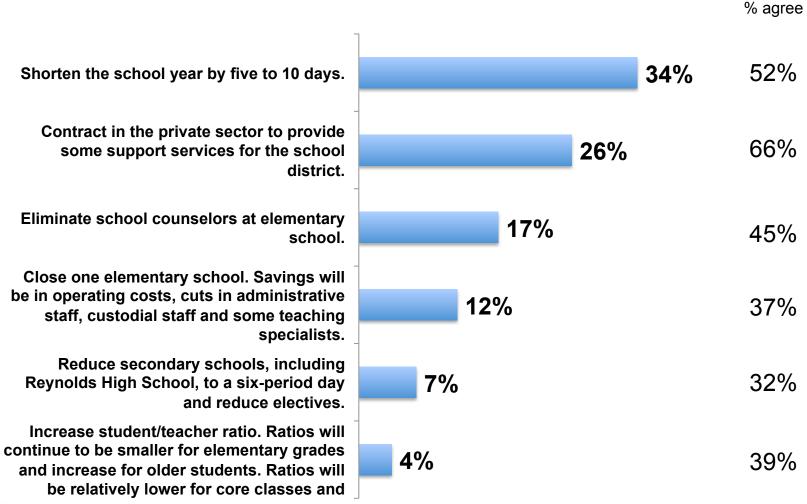
		All		Distric	t Employ	yee	Parents		
			No	Yes	Classified	Licensed/ Admin	Parents, now	Parents Past	No, never
Contract in the private sector to provide some support services for the school district.	Agree	66%	72%	43%	25%	43%	71%	57%	73%
	Disagree	34%	28%	57%	75%	57%	29%	43%	27%
Shorten the school year	Agree	52%	50%	57%	58%	57%	53%	45%	40%
by five to 10 days.	Disagree	48%	50%	43%	42%	43%	47%	55%	60%
Eliminate school	Agree	45%	46%	40%	42%	34%	46%	42%	55%
counselors at elementary school.	Disagree	55%	54%	60%	58%	66%	54%	58%	45%



### Forced Choices: Series One



And if you had to choose to cut funding for one of these areas, which one would it be?





# Choice by Group: Series One



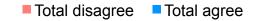
	All	[	Distric	t Emplo	P	Parents			
		No	Yes	Classified	Licensed/ Admin	Parents, now	Parents Past	No, never	
Shorten the school year by five to 10 days.	34%	34%	35%	42%	35%	37%	28%	16%	
Contract in the private sector to provide some support services for the school district.	26%	28%	16%	11%	18%	28%	20%	36%	
Eliminate school counselors at elementary school.	17%	18%	12%	14%	5%	17%	14%	19%	
Close one elementary school. Savings will be in operating costs, cuts in administrative staff, custodial staff and some teaching specialists	12%	10%	21%	17%	25%	9%	20%	12%	



### % Agree: Series Two



The following are some areas where the Reynolds School District could cut its 2011-2012 budget. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following proposed budget choices?



Delay purchasing new science textbooks for one year. This will be a one-time savings.

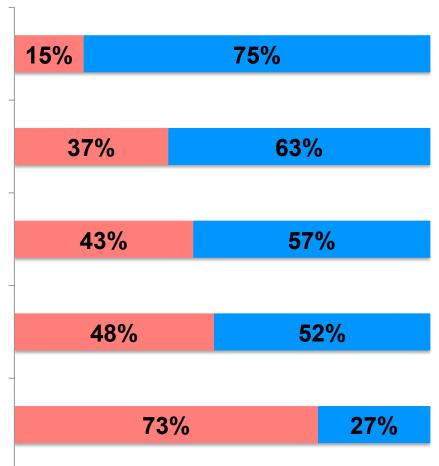
Eliminate elementary pull out class for Talented and Gifted (TAG) students. Students would be served by their classroom teacher.

Delay purchase of new technology (hardware and software) for classrooms.

Change from a five-day to four-day school week. Increase the school day by two hours.

Savings will result from lower bus transportation and utilities.

Delay building maintenance such as roof repair, heating and air conditioning systems, waterproofing and floor replacement.





# % Agree by Group: Series 2



		All		Distric	t Emplo	yee	P	arents	
			No	Yes	Classified	Licensed/ Admin	Parents, now	Parents Past	No, never
Delay purchasing new science textbooks for one	Agree	75%	74%	82%	77%	86%	74%	80%	73%
year. This will be a one- time savings.	Disagree	25%	26%	18%	23%	14%	26%	20%	27%
Eliminate elementary pull	Agree	63%	59%	79%	77%	83%	60%	72%	64%
out class for Talented and Gifted (TAG) students.	Disagree	37%	41%	21%	23%	17%	40%	28%	36%
Delay purchase of new	Agree	57%	56%	63%	63%	66%	55%	65%	55%
technology (hardware and software) for classrooms.	Disagree	43%	44%	37%	37%	34%	45%	35%	45%
Change from a five-day to four-day school week. Increase the school day by	Agree	52%	49%	66%	66%	63%	52%	53%	45%
two hours. Savings will result from lower bus transportation and utilities.	Disagree	48%	51%	34%	34%	37%	48%	47%	55%

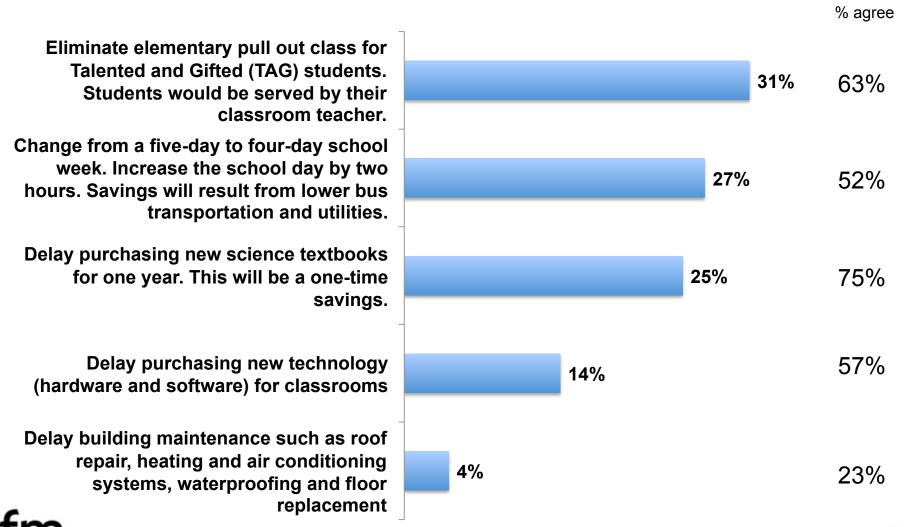


### Forced Choice: Series Two



And if you had to choose to cut funding for one of these areas, which one would it be?

strategic communications, inc



# Choice by Group Series Two



	All		Distric	t Emplo	Parents			
		No	Yes	Classified	Licensed/ Admin	Parents, now	Parents Past	No, never
Eliminate elementary pull out class for Talented and Gifted (TAG) students. Students would be served by their classroom teacher.	31%	31%	31%	44%	18%	31%	36%	30%
Change from a five-day to four-day school week. Increase the school day by two hours. Savings will result from lower bus transportation and utilities.	27%	25% (	35%	35%	32%	26%	26%	22%
Delay buying new science textbooks for one year. This will be a one-time savings.	25%	26%	18%	8%	28%	25%	21%	25%



### % Agree: Series Three



The following are some areas where the Reynolds School District could cut its 2011-2012 budget. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following proposed budget choices?

	Total disagree	Total agree
Eliminate district-matching funds for outdoor school.	55%	45%
Eliminate district funding for student clubs		
such as leadership, honor society and	57%	43%
journalism.		
Reduce the number of high school varsity athletic teams supported by the district.	62%	38%
-		
Eliminate student field trips for all grades.	67%	33%
-		
Eliminate competitive music programs.	77%	23%



# % Agree by Group: Series Three



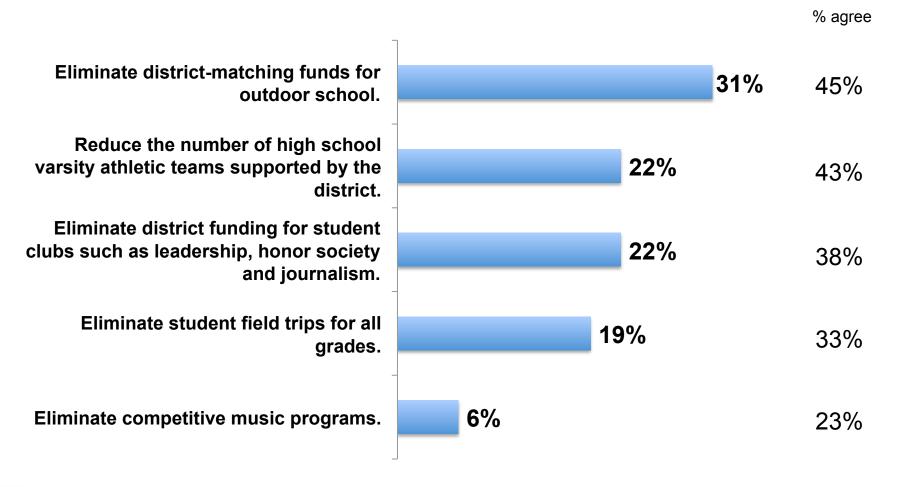
		All	[	Distric	t Emplo	yee	P	arents	
			No	Yes	Classified	Licensed/ Admin	Parents, now	Parents Past	No, never
Eliminate district-matching	Agree	45%	44%	52%	54%	49%	41%	55%	60%
funds for outdoor school.	Disagree	55%	56%	48%	46%	51%	59%	45%	40%
Eliminate district funding for student clubs such as	Agree	43%	43%	46%	45%	48%	40%	57%	51%
leadership, honor society and journalism.	Disagree	57%	57%	54%	55%	52%	60%	43%	49%
Reduce the number of high school varsity athletic	Agree	38%	36%	45%	39%	52%	35%	45%	45%
teams supported by the district.	Disagree	62%	64%	55%	61%	48%	65%	55%	55%
Eliminate student field trips	Agree	33%	32%	41%	44%	37%	29%	53%	37%
for all grades.	Disagree	67%	68%	59%	56%	63%	71%	47%	63%



### Forced Choice: Series Three



And if you had to choose to cut funding for one of these areas, which one would it be?





# Choice by Group: Series Three



	All		Distric	t Emplo	Parents			
		No	Yes	Classified	Licensed/ Admin	Parents, now	Parents Past	No, never
Eliminate district-matching funds for outdoor school.	31%	29%	38%	39%	35%	29%	35%	36%
Reduce the number of high school varsity athletic teams supported by the district.	22%	21%	25%	20%	29%	22%	13%	19%
Eliminate district funding for student clubs such as leadership, honor society and journalism.	22%	23%	14%	18%	11%	23%	19%	16%
Eliminate student field trips for all grades.	19%	20%	18%	18%	15%	19%	26%	27%



### **Out of District Transfers**



The following are some areas where the Reynolds School District could cut its 2011-2012 budget. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following proposed budget choices?

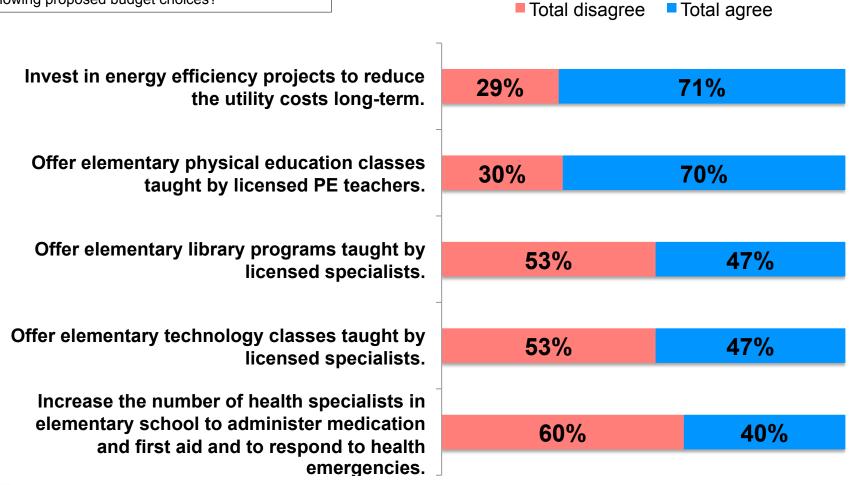
	Total agree	Total disagree
Tighten rules to limit student transfers to other school districts.	50%	50%
District employee, No	46%	54%
District employee, yes	69%	31%
Classified	77%	23%
Licensed/Admin	71%	29%
Parent, now	46%	54%
Parent, past	67%	33%
No, never	52%	48%



### **Funding Programs**



The following are some areas where the Reynolds School District could cut its 2011-2012 budget. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following proposed budget choices?





# % Agree Funding by Group



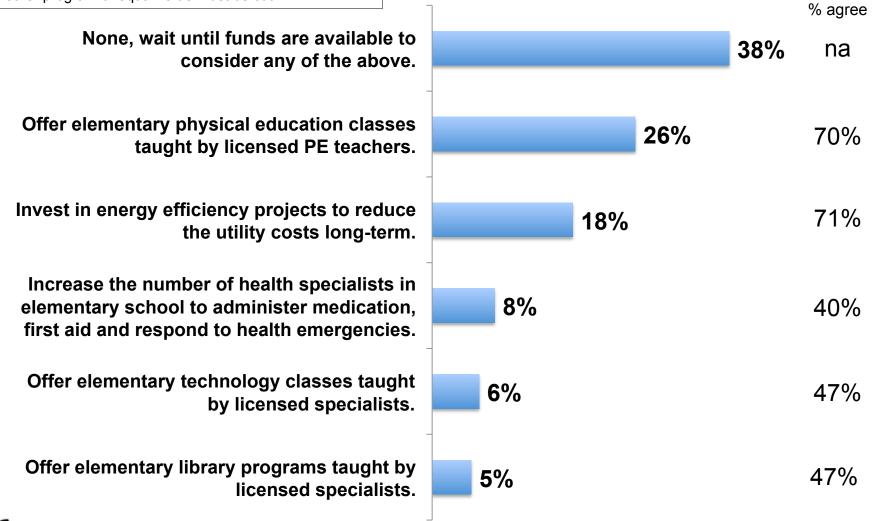
		All		District	Employ	Parents			
			No	Yes	Classified	Licensed/ Admin	Parents, now	Parents Past	No, never
Invest in energy efficiency projects to reduce the utility costs long-term.	Agree	71%	73%	63%	61%	71%	72%	64%	69%
	Disagree	29%	27%	37%	39%	29%	28%	36%	31%
Offer elementary physical education classes taught by licensed PE teachers.	Agree	70%	68%	77%	73%	78%	70%	66%	70%
	Disagree	30%	32%	23%	27%	22%	30%	34%	30%



### Forced Choice Funding Programs



Which of the following should be funded, if any, knowing another program of equal value must be cut?





# Preference by Group



	All		District	t Employ	yee	Parents			
		No	Yes	Classified	Licensed/ Admin	Parents, now	Parents Past	No, never	
None, wait until funds are available to consider any of the above.	38%	39%	35%	44%	28%	37%	40%	36%	
Offer elementary physical education classes taught by licensed PE teachers.	26%	23%	36%	24%	45%	27%	26%	22%	
Invest in energy efficiency projects to reduce the utility costs long-term.	18%	19%	10%	14%	8%	16%	20%	25%	





# **Key Findings**



### Key Findings



- Online engagement works
  - 927 people provided opinions
  - Responses were thoughtful, 12 minutes to complete
- Opinions vary
  - Differences between the community and employees
  - Differences between parents and non-parents
- Choices are difficult
  - But preference for some choices is stronger than others





# 2011/2012 Budget Priorities

