

Table of Contents

Using Desired Outcomes of the Bellingham Promise and Priorities for Progress to Make Budget Decisions

the Bellingham Promise.....	2
Philosophy and Criteria Used in Budget Decisions.....	4
Contingency Plan for Budget Reductions.....	4

Budget Decision-Making Process

Process Flow Chart.....	5
Above Baseline Requests	

Our central mission is to improve student learning. To that end, the Bellingham Promise, our strategic plan created collaboratively with our community and adopted by the Board of Directors, will serve as the primary guide for making budget decisions.

In addition, we will use the following philosophy and criteria to assist in making budget decisions that:

- Advance and support the Bellingham Promise, our strategic plan;
- Do not violate the law or negotiated agreements;
- Protect the safety of students, staff and community;
- Take stakeholder input into account;
- Align with actions of the state Legislature;
- Identify strategic savings rather than across-the-board reductions;
- Promote additional operational efficiencies;
- Consider nonemployee-related expense reductions before personnel reductions;
- Consider reducing local subsidies of state and federal categorical programs;
- Continue to work with our community to pursue alternative or additional revenue sources;
- Continue to support Project Free Education whereby families are not asked to pay towards school supplies and some activities; and
- Support the One Schoolhouse approach by differentiating resources to support all schools.

In the event of state and/or federal revenue reductions, we may want to enhance programs, staff or items in exchange for implementing other reductions.

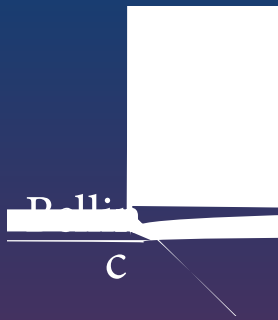
In these cases, we will:

- Be strategic and intentional in the enhancement of programs, staff or items based upon their value-added to achieving the previously identified targets. (10 en) Tm() Tar 2014 Sp 4 (17) (en) US 14610 BDC

is budget reflects investment of resources aligned with the Bellingham Promise. The resources and spending sustain current programs and services in addition to program enhancements and recommendations coming from our budget process and district committees.



All Central Services leaders who have responsibility for a program budget will meet with the superintendent and executive team to review their current budget and recommend projected reductions or above-baseline requests for 2021-22 as aligned with the academic achievement ends and priorities.



(360) 676-6400
bellingshamschools.org