



## **Budget & Education Working Group**

### **Group G: School Budgeting**

#### **May Meeting Summary**

Below are notes from comments made by the Budget & Education Working Group members.

#### **Identified Obstacles:**

- Teacher recruitment & retention
  - Easier ways for teachers to transition and add fields. Add special education certificate.
  - Lack of salary compared to cost of living, housing, health insurance.
- Inflation pressures
  - Utilities & building maintenance. Property & liability insurance.
  - Safety costs: technology, safety officers...
  - Buildup of deferred maintenance costs.
  - Cost of living for teachers
- Activities cost also effected by inflation.
- School funding formula is overly complicated, needs to be simplified.
- ANB is basis of enrollment, does not take into account the teachers needed to educate students.
- Lack of flexibility to move money between funds.
- Difficult to pass levies.

#### **Discussed Solutions:**

- Quality educator payment should be increases. Funding should be tied to educators not to the ANB.
  - Fudnng based on needs to have functioning school & amount of teachers needed.
- Cost adjustment for schools based on the area and needs of area. Costs of that area.
- Inflation
  - Go beyond 3% cap, tie to actual inflation.
- Get rid of “use it of lose it”. Enable roll over when there is a good year. Roll it into general funds.
- Review what reforms Tennessee recently made.