

Are there other items not mentioned here you can do without?

Bearfield

Again, speaking specifically about Bearfield, it is my opinion that we already work under the "slimmest" guidelines. It is very likely that other schools have many things they can do without, they just don't see it that way. Have them walk a mile in our shoes!

Benton

work day before school begins

We have one computer in the classroom for 20 students. When I check out books for my reading groups I often can't find more than 3 books and I have groups of 4 and 5. The parents supply the glue, scissors, crayons, markers. What do you want to get rid of?

Head of building and grounds, project coordinator, some assistant sup. at the board office.

I could spend more time focused on instruction, communicating with parents and improving achievement if I didn't have to spend so much time at the computer putting in data such as scores for each question for each child on math tests. Cost to get rid of this--zero. Saving teachers time--priceless.

CPS Staff Directory, lunches for committees, some stipends for people who are not working directly with students during that stipend time, brochures, paid travel time within district

Do with the STAFF Directory - it could be on-line and printed if need be.... Do with out any publication that goes out of the Columbia Public School District that has mistyped or grammar errors and they must be re-printed What does the Director of Building Services really do? Has the "Model" school really made significant progress to put all this "extra" money in to it?

Meals provided for all the district level meetings.

Early release days...especially when we are forced to stay until 6:15 p.m. Collaboration days. Meetings that take teaching time and serve no real purpose (except to look good on paper)

one work day (I come in anyway) AFL program

PBS, AFL, Math coach programs, Model School, early release days, career ladder

Benton, Blue Ridge, West Blvd.

I think most people would be willing to take any necessary measures to ensure that jobs are not cut in significant ways. Lessening workdays, small increases to class size, specialists taking on more schools would all be possible solutions to save money.

Blue Ridge

I believe that our maintenance "system" needs to be overhauled for efficiency and probably great savings. I routinely have to have the same thing fixed over and over again, year after year. If there was a computer program that tracked these type of things, it would be a huge cost saving. Everytime I have maintenance, it requires two men in a district truck to come and temporarily fix. If this was tracked, someone would know when the temporary fixes are more costly than a real fix. (replacement). I am not faulting the maintenance workers. They are usually prompt, always courteous and friendly, and appear knowledgeable. There just needs to be a tracking system that says "This is a repeating problem" and someone to think about other possibilities. This could even be a programming class project.

I know technology is a priority, but we can teach and kids can learn without it. How did teachers teach twenty years ago. We rely too much on technology.

Blue Ridge, Ridgeway

Food at professional development inservices. Small schools.

Building Services

You name it, we need more of it to care for all the infrastructure and grounds of the district in the fashion we believe the tax payers of this district expect it to be.

We have been without and making due with what we have. It makes the job harder then need's to be. With the proper man power and equipment, we could do a better job of suporting our students.

Just a comment. There seems to large volume of paper being used by our buildings. I see books being copied for classroom use and other waste. How many people make personal copies? Should everyone have a code to use the copiers and track usage by individuals/departments/buildings?

Building Services, Fairview

none

Career Center

I'd like to see money spent on fixing leaks in our buildings which are ruining the integrity of the building, ruining employee's work, and creating mold and mildew which harms the health of everyone.

I'm thrifty

However, salaries could be frozen for one year while we get back into fiscal shape.

pay increase. just freeze everyones salary for one year

Arden runs a very tight ship; there isn't anything we can "do without."

Athletic teams for students all the way down to 6th grade. We need to have school teams starting in 9th grade and leave the other grade levels to Parks and Rec. or other organizations. They certainly could use our facilities, but we don't need to be paying coaching stipends, pay for travel, purchase uniforms, purchase supplies, and many other necessary items in order to have formal school district teams at grades 6-8. When we have school teams that have tryouts we are also limiting the number of students who participate and discourage students from continuing on if they get cut from a team at the lower grades.

Derby Ridge

not sure

color printer is not a high priority

Maybe not waste so much paper! All of the things that are sent home to parents (reminders about days off etc) Try to go more "paperless" **We don't always use all of the Today's Math books. These are like homework pages and could do without ordering. The student workbooks could also be eliminated if it would be easier to just copy the pages from our book. **We get a class set of folders and other highlighters etc. Parents normally provide these so maybe not give those out to teachers.

While I do not have a full scope of every program that exists in CPS, I have been employed here enough to get a layman's view of the cost vs. benefit in a lot of areas and in a lot of buildings. The public is demanding more "bang for their buck" and we have to show them we are listening. Some of the items I suggest in this list would be beneficial twofold: 1. to demonstrate a seriousness of the CPS and its 'customers' 2. to provide a public awareness of REAL size and scope to the public of just how much impact CPS is providing to the community and to the students who receive 12 years of service. By eliminating harshly, the scope of it will raise awareness and help CPS gauge the public need. The public needs to know that CPS is fiscally responsible in a tight budget area and while it might not cover a long term short fall, all extra or unused land should be sold immediately as a demonstration of our commitment to trim. Personal Preface – why I feel this way and why I said these things: I see predominantly vacant areas used less than 25% of the time but may employ faculty and staff support. Classrooms should be places of learning, enlightenment and exploration, not storage for staff collections, curios and an accumulation of unnecessary teaching materials. I see a lot of waste as teachers and students alike treat supplies and facilities as disposable. Additionally, some infrastructure should be shored up with elective funds to ensure the essentials are funded in addition to improving the public image and usability of the schools. Ideas for budget reduction: Pay scales: • a 2.0% reduction across the board of all salaried positions above the top tier teaching salary scale (67K) • A 1.8% reduction of administrative and support staff earning 40K - \$67K • A 1.5% reduction of salary of all teaching positions salaries Approx savings: \$1.6million Personnel • Consolidation of ELL classrooms at the elementary schools increase kids/classroom, subsequent eliminate extra ELL positions (magnet model) • Consolidation of special needs kids classrooms to collector schools / (magnet model) • Elimination of various part-time para-professional positions at the upper grades • Elimination / consolidation of positions of extremely special needs • Consolidation of various part-time positions into full time positions. (note: elimination of part positions which receive benefits will have a double-savings). Approximate savings 60 full and part time positions \$\$ Savings: hard to know because the positions are not known on the public record Transportation Elimination of drive-by pickups of first student bus route to collector streets only Elimination of most sub-urb/neighborhood bus pickups which only assist in crossing one major roadway especially if assisted by a crossing guard. Technology Elimination of CPS funding for expensive computers, desktop student computers need to be basic models and no screen larger than 15" Curriculum varies from class to class in the computer labs. In some areas, kids spend little time on education and more time on games. Teachers even call them games. Way too much time is spent coaching kids on touch typing tests instead of actual instruction. Athletics Funding freeze and 5 year elimination of CPS funding of all secondary school athletic field improvements, playground equipment purchases, grandstand builds and turf replacement Funding freeze of all elementary and middle school gymnasium maintenance. Special projects Eliminate school to work programs (keep kids in school full days) Eliminate full funding of some vocational-career track programs at one high school or the other. Landscaping and beautification project monies (except mowing and hedging) should be frozen for a 2 year period and remaining money shifted into parking lot, school drive improvement, painting and marking. Revenue Increase of parking fees of all High schools student tags to \$100 a year. New Revenue opportunities To fill in the gap on spending which might be cut: additional revenue streams might include business sponsorships. Some ideas: purchases of new library books and new text books with a sponsorship label on the inside cover of these materials. Patronage of teaching materials should be on non-consumable/non-disposable materials and retained for no less than 5 years. Outright sales of extra land for market value – dumping this property while may be regrettable in the future is downright necessary to demonstrate our stern serious outlook at the current paradigm. Looking to the future: One way to retain staff is to reduce the cost of living of our staff. One method would be to shore up our CPS relationships is with retail partnerships. A no-cost program would include giving businesses the ability to get listed as a "friend of CPS" on the CPS website. provide significant discounted services to CPS employees with an ID. Commentary on class time and discipline programs: ("is our kids learning?" [sic]) I see a lot of wasted "out of classroom" time spent by kids going to the nurse or in various staging areas for the PBS discipline experiment. I see a lot of children out of the learning circle by sitting out because of the safe seat and much too much time in angry or resentful isolation. I see a lot of time spent waiting for students to "calm down" and much too much placating for what ought to be standard behavior. Instead of driving students towards excellence, teachers are wasting time on poor performing students. Mediocrity is the norm and only students with natural ability are excelling on their own. Poor performing students and bad actors are keeping our instructors from sending home well-educated kids. Too much time and attention is spent on the "achievement" gap and the MAP TEST instead of challenging the fundamental teaching. Thanks for your thoughtful attention and consideration to my ideas. While they might not be in same mindset of where you are considering, they are within the spirit of preserving CORE INSTRUCTION and CORE support. Pain sharing on salary is essential at all levels to reduce animosity and provide a "we're in this together" mentality.

Eliminate a work day before school. Make the last day a half-day and eliminate the extra contract day at the end of the year

I believe that maybe some of the benefits we receive on the first day of work could be held out to 90 days and that would save a lot.

Take away the additional collaboration days for teachers at the beginning of the year (8/14 & 8/15. Have teachers start on Aug.18 and students start on 8/20. Also, let out early on the last day of school and have teachers check out on the same day. Elimiate the extra day teachers have after the students are gone. This would be three less days in the school calendar.

Professional development money

District Directory Maybe the number of professional development money for subs can be more limited. While I know that many teachers don't enjoy after school meetings (even for inservice credit), I also know that I don't enjoy writing sub plans. I also never know the quality of the substitutes instruction and don't feel safe leaving teaching to be done, but more practice things. Having after school meetings for inservice credit would save some sub money and help the sub crisis.

Derby Ridge, Hickman

Would rather give up a "work" day to avoid cutting staff

Derby Ridge, Paxton Keeley

I cannot think of any right now.

Douglass

pathways program

Just want to re-iterate, I think there are way too many meetings for all these different committees and departments. Somebody needs to take a look at the big picture a put a limit to it.

We are not exactly swimming in luxuries

Fairview

Implementation of any new programs

At the elementary level we are not given the chance of having an extra stipend for being a lead teacher, and don't understand why they are needed in the first place. Also, don't know why West Blvd. should be receiving a \$6,556 stipend for planning, which we all do, but don't get paid extra for. I think we give people \$500-\$1000 for extra duties entirely too much.

According to the Tribune Feb. 14th issue, XXXXX receives \$600 a month for vehicle related expenses. With her salary she should be able to afford to make her own car payments. She is able to take expenses for business travel off of her taxes. I do not believe that she racks up 3ven \$300 in gas and maintenance on her car when it is used strictly for school purposes. The District also needs to put into writing what are "reasonable expenses" occurred on the job. I think that XXXXXX has done a reasonably good job with the District, but not to the extent of what she is getting paid along with all of the "perks". If she is serious about reining in costs, then she needs to be willing to sacrifice also. Even Arnold Schwarzeneger does not take a salary because he states that California budget requires sacrifice from all. It's a matter of principle!

I'm wondering if we could save a lot of money by going to a 4 day work week. We could extend the other 4 days. This would cut gas, electric, staff paym etc.

I am against the extra stipend for National Board Certified teachers. They already get the \$5000 career ladder money without having to do any of the preliminary paperwork or documentation. To add an additional stipend on top of that is a slap in the face of the teachers who do the work. Also, we can cut the number of training days. Although it will affect everyone's yearly pay, the District has increased the number of days from 5 to 15 in the 20 years I have taught in Columbia Public Schools. We could cut 2-3 days a year from the contract and still have plenty of time to meet as a faculty, as teams, and to do assessment scoring. Administrators salaries also need to be frozen if teachers are frozen, and that includes XXXXX and the Board agreeing on a freeze for her. The amount of increase that she has received in her time at CPS helm is disproportionate to her value. I commend our District's support of technology but to replace computers every three years is ridiculous. We are spending resources unnecesarily and demonstrating to our students that we, as a District, are not an advocate of long-term use but of disposability of products, which increases trash and decreases our world's resources.

Take away teacher contract days/some of the busy work. Could do without the collaboration days. Need 2 days before school starts, 2 days to work on grades, 2 days for conferences. Give us those six days in contracted pay, remove the other days and the pay for them. Save 7 days of pay for each teacher.

Lengthen the distance to 2 to 3 miles for bus riders.

Let's take a look at items besides in the schools. For example, let's look at why the superintendent should get unlimited cell phone calling and the large mileage stipend. I drive all over town to do job related things, buy items for lessons, etc., and I pay for my own gas. I have made NUMEROUS phone calls to parents on my OWN cell phone. I have made cell phone calls during field trips to fix situations caused by our bus company. In each case, I have willingly paid for those calls. If "everything is on the table" then EVERYONE should be willing to make cuts.

I have heard that cutting down on contract days, and thus pay, is an option being considered. As a teacher I am VERY much against this idea to save money. Teachers already donate many, many hours to their job, and cutting down on the days they actually get paid is not a good idea. All the teachers that I have talked to about this idea are very much against it as well. We are all willing to do our part to help cut down on expenses and help our district through this difficult time. Thank you very much.

Do away with the doctorate stipend.

I think the Phd. stipend should be cut as well as other stipends. All money should be put into the salary schedule to equalize and strengthen the schedule. Also, secondary counselors and principals should be on a 10 month contract like elementary.

I think we really need to reevaluate some hiring practices in the district. There are many people that are getting paid more than others that are simply not pulling their weight in the classroom or school. I think that we have GREAT ideas with student growth and learning, but they are not always implemented the best way. We live in a town with many qualified individuals, but we tend to hire people that don't fill the shoes completely.

Fairview, Shepard

District position - The extra communication staff can be eliminated

Field

What about reducing our calendar by the 2 - 4 days that were added the past two years?

Some of the paid extra days before school for certain teachers--industrial tech, media specialists, etc. All teachers work extra days before the start of school, most w/out pay.

I am sure that there are areas we can cut back in, just not sure at this time what they would be.

Extra microwaves, refrigerators for teachers. A way to regulate heat. We could be more energy efficient. Lunch could be two choices, hot and cold, with food put on the plate. There is a lot of waste here! Technology is important but do some of the schools really need personal computers for kids? Grants could be written to get more of these things.

Gentry

Drop 2 staff development days that we added a few years ago.

I noticed today that the custodians had placed several paper towel rolls that were about 1/4 full out for teachers. Our paper towel machines do not work once the rolls are this low. That's a waste of resources, if all machines operate that way. There is a great waste of paper in my building.

Extra workdays for teachers at the beginning of the year

Giving benefits to employees after a 90 day waiting period could save the district some money.

None that I can think of.

early-release days and collaboration days

I would do without my classroom budget if that would help to be able to keep teaching positions instead.

Gentry, Lange

Air conditioning and heating inside the schools can be adjusted-students and teachers should not need to wear long sleeves during the summer and short sleeves in winter. This wastes A LOT of energy and money. Stop investing in new and extremely expensive computer programs such as ESchool and Curriculum Tracker until the district is back on it's feet. Mow/maintain the empty areas near schools less often.

Gifted Center

The following cuts don't apply specifically to our program but I don't know where to include my comments on the survey. My recommendations for cost-cutting measures in the district include the following cuts: 1. Eliminate the positions hired last year with the 10 million dollars 2. Eliminate Curriculum Tracker 3. Eliminate anything associated with Assessment for Learning. 4. Delay technology upgrades. 5. Eliminate stipends for board certified teachers. (What research supports these teachers are better?)

Bussing students to Ridgeway. Reconsider math and literacy coaches. Restructure some of the directorships.

Our program is cut to the bear bones, not even having space for most of our programs.

Board Certified Teacher stipends. Because not every teacher has an opportunity to take advantage of this program (no certification for several areas), I do not feel that these stipends should remain in place. Cut out curriculum tracker which is not used and has cost the district a fortune, and cut AFL.

Hickman

Budget cuts need to be made as far away from the classroom as possible.

Need to cap the superintendent, asst. supt., directors, principals, etc. salaries. Hard to justify what they do for the money they receive. Little contact with teachers and students in many cases.

I am sure that we have areas that could be streamlined and a responsible evaluation of everything should be done. Without a chance to see what we are doing, I can't really pinpoint the areas of excess.

I think, if necessary, we could forgo some of the conferences that people attend, particularly those that are out of town.

Automatic free breakfast AND lunch to ALL students are not necessary for a 4-hour long ESY summer school day. The students don't even arrive until 9:45 and almost all have eaten breakfast already.

Programs that affect 20 or less students should definitely be looked at hard. (GED option, for example. I think it's a great program, but that's a lot of FTE to spend on such a small group.)

We may be able to cut back on some additional supervision pieces like after-school community service and extra supervision at sporting events

I think the literacy lab could be eliminated and used as a computer lab for students. Staffing the lab with two FTE's each hour is not cost effective at this point.

Can't think of any

I personally do not need to do without them, but I believe everyone in the district should receive the same food and mileage allowance. If I, as a teacher, am only allowed to claim \$30 per day for meals, then every other person in the district should have to abide by those guidelines.

The board office could quit spending money sending paper copies of newsletters. Quit spending money on gifted programs and transporting groups and teams to events and competitions. Get rid of the football program in all CPS if it's that or pay teachers.

Centralize all GED, Plato, Credit Recovery services to one building (maybe Douglass because that is the alternative credit building or maybe the new high school where space can be created specifically for that purpose). Curriculum days are not necessary and most teachers would prefer the time to work in their room at their convenience...maybe those two days that were added last year should be removed.

We could give up the 2 professional development days that were added last year.

\$2000 stipends for PhDs that do not improve primary/secondary teachers/administrators

Splitting summer school does seem to be too cost effective in creating two buildings and staffing that could duplicate with uneven numbers

Jefferson Jr.

I do not think we need the PBS coaches. We've started our program, and should be able to keep it up. I also think literacy/math coaches should be teaching at least half the day in addition to their coaching duties.

I have read in tonight's newspaper that part-time benefits will possibly be cut. I am a part-time teacher not by choice but by enrollment. My teaching part-time allows students to have a choice. The Jr. High enrollment does not \$\$\$ to afford 2 teachers in many critical elective areas. By agreeing to teach part-time I help to give students choices they want. I already am not paid for full work days but often have to attend etc. Cutting benefits will unjustly target the part-time teachers who already are making huge sacrifices (not paid for before or after school but are required to perform supervision etc. on our own time). If this benefit is cut - I can't afford to teach. After 5 years I make less than half of a new teacher hired off the street. We have been penalized by having our years of service truncated and already have endured enough cuts - yet by our very position of being part-time we have saved the district \$\$\$\$ while providing an important student choice.

Perhaps one of the professional development days should be cut as well. These 2 days already contribute into creating what makes the CPS school calendar the lengthiest in the state of Missouri. Are all-day Kindergarten's necessary?

There were positions mentioned in last night's paper of the 70 added last year that I couldn't even identify what the position might be--I've been in the district more than 30 years!

moving 9th grade sports to the high schools full size busses transporting a few students around- maybe some big vans instead

What can YOU do without? Why is this all on us????

Lange

PBS Math Coaches

We do not need to purchase individual student supplies. We already supply teachers and equipment. Parent should supply students with what they need. Notebooks, paper, pens, pencils, etc. These need to be supplied even if a specific item is needed such as a composition book rather than a spiral notebook.

The 70 or so positions created last year that required us to deficit spend this year are the ones that should go first. Not that we can "live without them" but last in/first out seems to be a fair way to cut staff.

we do not need to decorate the offices, teacher's lounge, etc. save the money for materials

probably, but I am not sure what they would be.

We may be able to save money on copies if there were more non-consumable items used in the classroom.

Meetings in general. Don't have as many and then you don't have to pay us for them.

Eliminate some of the extra teacher days (at the beginning of the year).

Shorten the school year to save on operating costs. For example; costs of operating during excessive heat due to early August start dates.

Lights that are CONSTANTLY on. Our team hallway light is on from 6am to 11pm. It doesn't need to be! Our kiddos don't need it during the day when they are in the actual classrooms. We can save some money simply by being more mindful of our energy consumption AND it will help the environment! What a great lesson for the kiddos.

District newsletters

I don't actually think doing without is the right question. As a district, we have not been fiscally responsible in our spending. There are many things, positions, and whatever that could be purchased more cheaply and used more frugally.

Lee

We could put off for one year ordering new books for elementary book rooms.

I feel we need to look at the top administration and see where there can be combined positions and cuts in that area. I do not feel we are heavy on any teachers. We always need more teacher support in the area of aides.

Midway Heights

I don't think there's enough supplies. There are definitely not items we could live without.

Mill Creek

It does seem that there are too many janitors in the buildings in the evenings. They are often found in the office, not working. Also there seems to be a tremendous amount of electricity used in the buildings.

extra pay for doctoral degree is not needed...would save 70K pay scale is 75 hours or doctoral, why give extra 2K... most receiving doctoral stipend already make over 100K

I am sure there are.

I could definitely unplug a few things in my room that I have brought in. We had a memo about that a while ago and it made me realize the energy some teachers use for lamps, microwaves, small fridges etc. that are not necessary. A few things helps to make it more cozy but some go way overboard. I could definitely cut back.

Curriculum Tracker New programs that cost money (for personnel, subscriptions, or paid work days)...work with what we have Maybe some of our internet subscriptions...I use united streaming a lot, but that's about it. Travel and workshop budgets for everyone...not just teachers...again they are valuable, but if we're short money then things that immediately impact kids should be priority.

New Haven

I'm not sure that this comment goes here, but there's nowhere else to make comments. I believe that if this district needs to tighten its belt and make these deep budget cuts, and teachers need to take little or no salary increase, that administrators from the top down need to show their commitment by taking pay cuts. Some of their rashes are more than a teacher's entire annual salary. They also need to decide what programs, positions, equipment and materials THEY can do without.

Oakland

I think the district should stop funding benefits 100%. I certainly would be willing to pay \$25-\$50 for my benefits. Also dental could be an optional benefit that could be purchased for \$10 a month.

No textbook adoptions.

None that I can readily think of.

Text book revisions need to be looked at. Perhaps all textbook revisions need to be on hold for 1-2 years. It's not the textbook that makes good teaching or provides for meaningful learning but rather the teacher behind the instruction. I strongly encourage and recommend looking at freezing all new textbook adoptions for the upcoming year and perhaps the following 2 years.

The survey should also address programs/positions/etc. that we CAN'T do without; very few faculty members, for example, might be in a position to understand the statistical positive effect support programs like Success Centers or Reading/Math coaches have on students, while those in those positions know such information and can "make a case" for their programs

N/A to my position

It is not so much doing without, it's doing more effectively and efficiently. Faculty meetings, specialty area meetings, and other information-providing avenues could be streamlined to take up less time and use fewer resources. Communication within the district could be more effective.

district "collaboration days" especially the 2 at the very beginning of the year

Oakland, West Junior

I've heard rumors about increasing class size, but I really think that is a huge mistake. I already have class sizes of around 30, and the students are not benefiting from that in any way. So, we need to take a look at that as well. Before we start adding more students to each class, what ELSE can we cut?

Other

pd

I think the district will have to think about eliminating all special activities and transportation (football, basketball, band etc.) before to eliminates teaching positions. Usually this becomes only a select few by the time the children reach high school, so money spent on these programs could be put into an extensive intrumural sports league where most children could benefit._

I could live with less heat in winter. Wearing layers in winter is a sensible and healthful alternative for students and staff. I could also live with less air-conditioning. As it is, I often raise the thermostat from the automatic setting in warm weather.

If the school gyms are used by outside groups for basketball or volleyball, a usage charge should be paid by the outside groups. We have lights, electrical, janitorial, etc. being paid during these non-educational, non-school events. The community might need to be made aware of monies spend to be friendly to the community that we can not afford to spend any longer.

I think we could easily cut 2-4 days from teacher contracts. Some other districts around us have less contract days a year. I've heard that each work day costs \$1 million. Maybe that's incorrect information but that seems like an easy way to gain back some money. I think teachers could do some of the scoring and things after school or on weekends if offered inservice credit or a stipend too.

I think we could have a shorter school year for students by a few days. Keep teacher days the same. This gives teachers time for beginnin, middle, or end of year business or planning, and cuts student trans. and lunch costs those days. Staff directory could be on line rather than paper copy. Parent newsletters could be sent via e-mail for those who have e-mail available, paper copies only to others. Superintendent, admin, construction supervisors, etc. raises and salaries could be more in line with teacher raises and salaries.

Parkade

Large classes! - Students work better in a smaller classroom environment. More help will be provided for those students who are struggling when classes are smaller.

With this school being the only one "on the list", I think it would be a damaging message for the district to remove anything/anyone from this school.

Additional refrigerators, microwaves

We don't need all of the Central Office Positions...especially "heads" of curricular areas and their secretaries...etc. I hope that more of the cuts focus on those persons not in direct contact with students. We could also do without the PBS people...

Don't start school so early and cut out the cost of electricity to try to cool the buildings to a tolerable temperature. Cut out the animal program. Those poor creatures are mistreated.

Home school communicator position is used primarily to escort out-of-control students from the classroom. It seems there could be a better use for this position, or if not, perhaps that specific duty could be provided by the student advocate, administration, or help by available teachers/counselors or others.

We should teach our students not to waste so much food. We can have the cafeteria staff serve all food because so much gets thrown away when students serve themselves. We should go back to using real trays and spoons and forks. This would save money and be good for the environment.

Classroom refrigerators and microwaves.

No. I would say that we need to increase funding to allow special ed students to have the same learning opportunities as other students without disabilities.

IF it would save a significant amount of money, we could do without microwaves and refrigerators in our individual classrooms.

Paxton Keeley

a work day

I could give up an extra day at the end of the year

the district wide professional development day (teacher contracted day) before school starts is something I think can be changed. First, having that much professional development days before school starts is overwhelming. I think it would be better to spread it out over the year after school.

I feel that I need all of the Language Arts papers and supplies I receive. I presently spend 75.00 - 100.00 per month to supplement the materials in the classroom.

THE MODEL SCHOOL ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS ATHLETIC COORDINATORS ENERGY GUYS

The collaboration days in August, that were put on teachers. We need that time to be in our rooms, getting ready for our students and families the following week, not in meetings!

I would hope that the school board would be looking at the huge increase in district level positions over the past few years. I am very concerned that resource dollars are being siphoned away from the classroom and placed in district positions with the idea that the benefit will "trickle down" to each student.

I think that teachers could do without travel money. If the district continues to provide a wide range of inservices for free then anything extra (out-of-district) that we wanted to do we could pay for out of pocket. Also, we could look at cutting some of the work days. If everyone would give up a little then maybe we would not have to take away programs and people that are positively impacting our students.

could reduce contracts by 1 day

field trips

1. Last year, 2 additional collaboration days were added. We lived for many years without them and could do so again. They are a luxury. 2. Also, teachers are out of there classrooms several times a year for meetings and subs need to be paid. Perhaps these meetings could be offered after school for in-service/Career Ladder credit.

None that I can think of.

Take 2 days of district-wide contracts (maybe the days before beginning of school or collaboration days. Take a look at extended contracts-do we need all the current days allotted for certain positions.

Field trips although they do greatly enhance a program, they are not necessary.

To reduce the budget we could reduce the number of contracted days for the school year by one.

Paxton Keeley, Vandiver

Cut all support positions by a percentage. This puts more work on each teacher, but does it evenly and allows us to keep class sizes small.

Transportation is a big expense. I think it would be wise to evaluate who we transport and why, possibly putting more responsibility on families.

Ridgeway

The two extra days that were added to the calendar this year!!

The broad spectrum between educational facilities and technology available to students and teachers at the different schools in this district is unconscionable. I am appalled at the non-academic spending such as \$685,804 from the district's capital funds spent on artificial turf, but many schools STILL have no air conditioning, peeling, crumbling paint, no SMARTBOARDS, and only one classroom computer/20+ students despite the spin on these issues when putting out info to the public.

All of the new positions created by extra programs - technology trainers (not media specialists - they train us) math coaches, lit coaches, AFL (costing us a lot of money with release time and the amount of work is seriously diverting teachers - while it's good - it's too much) and perhaps biggest of all are the cohort monies and days we are spending.

PIE AFL PDC MATH coaches PIE after hour meetings food at after hour meetings rent paid for meetings off campus travel expenses for PDC PDC

Rock Bridge Elementary

Special Ed Coordinators

What about cutting some of the number of school days? teacher collaboration days? We already go more days than required. This would help save the district money for electricity, teacher pay etc.

cohort meetings food at meetings

Rock Bridge High

Special education is working on a low budget anyway. We don't have any money, in fact I have been trying to think of ways that we can raise money to get the things (i.e., more computers for ac lab) we actually do need.

Don't need PBS coordination at secondary level. We can analyze our own data and have active PLT's. Have district coordinators teach half time. We pay for a lot of after school supervision of detention. Perhaps students will just need out of school suspension for behavior if budget cuts.

Well, I am sure that there are things like new uniforms that wouldn't have to be purchased next year... so don't. I am not sure that we really need colored paper for copies.... delete it.

Russell

I think it is grossly unfair to spend an extra \$2mil on WBE! I know the plan is working but is it financially responsible? Also what about other struggling schools, where is there extra \$\$.

District Curriculum Day (cut this day off of teacher contract time)

All the extra stipends. We have stipends for committee work (PBS & AFL), for after school gym and car duty, for SB319 tutoring, safety patrol, choir, drama club, student council, etc. These items should be required of career ladder teachers and stipends should be eliminated.

All the collaboration days. We all have our own specialty areas. Taking some of these out/switching with work days, or allowing more individual prof. leave time would be MUCH more valuable use of resources than collab. days which are often less applicable (or often less important) to each position/teacher/etc. individually. I feel less helpful to students.

Inservice time within the school day - would reduce substitute cost.

Curriculum Days- take them off the schedule to and not have to pay staff

Reduce the additional contract time for collaboration days. I would prefer to have work days to plan for children and instruction and not have additional meetings to attend.

Transportation within one mile of schools.

Shepard

colored copy paper

Cohort meetings for staff development are wonderful. It has been very beneficial for teachers to collaborate, but we are talking about teachers positions being cut. People need their jobs. Creating extras is not essential.

Field trip budget, cohort collaboration

Nothing comes to mind at the present time. A book and supply inventory is conducted on a regular basis to make sure I have only the needed number.

Classrooms didn't need painting this year, MANY sinks and toilets did not need replacing last year.

We have also cut our field trip budget and will be asking PTA and parents to support that more next year.

Upper level administration. This district is too top heavy. We need to trim the fat from the upper administration. Consolidate positions, eliminate extra secretarial staff, and cut the budget from the top first.

I can't think of any.

Smithton

field trips

Fewer central office staff and administrators (at the district level NOT at the building level).

Personal devices like heaters and refrigerators are nice to have around, but I know they increase electrical costs. If employees want to have these extra items, how about having a yearly charge to cover costs? Find out how much it takes to run a small frig. or a heater and then have those who wish to have these extra conveniences pay a fee.

The District can regulate the temperature A LOT better. For example, I have attended summer workshops at RBHS a literally froze because the temperatures were so cold. Even wearing long pants, a long sleeve shirt, and a fleece top I was cold. My son also attends HHS and has had the same problem. I even have that situation in my own building. So, when we are asked to turn off lights and computers, I have to laugh because of all the other inadequacies.

Paraprofessionals who are hired to follow ONE student around! Students who are that severe should not attend public school.

The health insurance needs to be looked at for those that are covered by spouse's insurance

Two Mile Prairie

Some committees could be moved to after school times to free up substitute money and in-service credit be offered in place (AFL, math committee meetings, Great Expectations, DRA scoring days)

Our building is the most economical building per student in the district. I don't feel we can cut back anywhere else.

Adding any new Faculty

Vandiver

Extra days given to the model school faculty

I don't think we need to always provide food and drink for every meeting we have. Most of it goes to waste. This is a huge expense. Unfortunately we don't have enough meeting space in the district and we have to use outside sources to meet and this drives the cost up because we have to pay for room rental fees. Some venues require you to cater with them which leaves you no options to save costs. Another thing and this may be a petty thing, but I don't think we need to print name tags for every meeting as well. Isn't everyone in the district issued a name badge?

I wonder if math coaches are really helping teachers.

I do have some ideas that the Board can think about in order to save the District money: 1) Although I think it is a worthwhile program to get children writing, the Critter Program would be an easy program to cut. Don't know though how much the district would really save by cutting it. 2) I feel parents of students at Ridgeway should have to provide transportation. My reasoning for this is because if I want my child to go to a school outside the school he is assigned to then I have to provide transportation or pay First Student. It is MY choice to have my child attend a school other than the one he/she should attend (if my Request for Transfer is approved). To me, parents wanting their child to attend Ridgeway are seeking special permission and they, too, should have to provide transportation. How much does the District pay for transportation to Ridgeway? I wonder how many parents would transport their child to Ridgeway if they had to provide transportation? 3) I think the District should freeze top administrators' salaries (including the majority of those whose names appeared in the 2/3/08 Tribune). Many of us are underpaid (according to the MAG survey) and it would be a moral booster for us if that were to happen plus I think the public would be more apt to pass the tax levy IF they saw that the administrators were willing to do this for the teachers and support staff. 4) I think IITS is top heavy. Are the three managers making the same amount as what XXXXX did? My guess is they are making much more than he did. I don't know what the Instructional Technology Specialists do that the building techs couldn't do but maybe I just don't understand the different positions. What's the difference between a Web Developer and a Web Administrator Specialist? Are both positions really necessary? Perhaps they have one too many wiring persons. I think one person can do that job and if two are needed then let the building tech help the wiring person or hire it out. In the old days only one person did it and yes, there are more buildings but there are also more techs. 5) Have new employees be hired on like a 6 month probationary period before implementing them on the insurance plan and vacation plan. They could earn sick days and have their personal days (maybe just one personal day).

expensive conferences, increase highest paid administrators pay at a lower percentage than others

Would like to see the district combine the number of administrative buildings that we have within the district. I feel that too much money is being wasted on rent, utilities, custodial services, etc on these buildings when they could be combined and reduce the amount of overhead.

These are some suggestions the District can cut back to help reduce our deficit is: 1) Either make Ridgeway parents provide transportation to Ridgeway since they are choosing to attend that school rather than attend the school in their attendance area or turn it into a neighborhood school. How much does the district pay for transporting the kids who live 1 mile from Ridgeway to that school? If a parent requests a transfer for their child to attend a different school then they either have to provide transportation to that school or pay First Student to provide it. I feel that parents choosing Ridgeway are making that same choice (they are requesting that their child attend Ridgeway) and therefore should provide transportation or pay First Student. It shouldn't be a district expense. Give them notice now that they will need to be providing transportation or pay First Student. I wonder how many parents would still keep their child at Ridgeway?? 2) I think that administrators' salaries, including principals, directors, coordinators, etc. should be frozen for at least one year. I think that would show a sign of good faith to not only other CPS employees but also to the public. 3) I think that IITS is overstaffed. Is there a way to combine jobs? Ideas - 1 wiring person instead of 2. If the job happens to be a two person job then have the building tech help the wiring person. Or hire it out. I think there is a lot of stuff the wiring people handle that the building techs could do but it just gives the wiring people something to do to look busy. - what's the difference between a web developer and a web administrator specialist? Can one person do both jobs? - I also think they are top-heavy. How could XXXXX do it all and now it takes 3 people to be him? And I'm guessing that the total of their 3 salaries is more than what XXXXX was making? -what's the difference between what the instructional technology specialists do and the building techs' job?

West Blvd.

I am thinking more in terms of energy costs. As a teacher, I often walk into a building at night (7-8 PM) when there are no programs going on, but LOADS of lights on EVERYWHERE. Custodial staff need to turn lights off when they leave rooms. I see this happening almost constantly. Also, staff choose to leave computers running after school hours when they have left the building. They need to be shut down. Monitors could be turned off when not in use, and this is an easy fix. Many teachers DO have refrigerators and microwaves in their classroom for almost exclusively personal use. I have one in my room, but we serve snack to our students two times during the day (preschool). Refrigerators that are plugged in are a constant drag on the electric bill. I also see times when THREE building services guys will come to fix extremely simple things. Often, one guy is working and the others are just talking. Even if something has to be held or supported while another works, couldn't two people do most jobs? FOR that matter--one?

Anyone in the district who uses CPS money to travel to any conferences. Usually the same people travel each year and they are often those who do not work directly with students. Place a ban on any travel money as this could be better spent on students.

Some of the Model School extra days and time

There is a lot of energy waste. Lights are on all over the buildings in the evenings. I know it may be a safety issue but there should be a way to cut down on electrical usage.

Model school money for extra time each week

West Junior

Some of the positions that are away from the students and buildings.

Maybe not feeding people for meetings, such as AFL. In their evaluation, I suggested that they save that money and not feed us. They took our suggestion, let us out earlier so we could go home to families, and saved the money or used it on other resources.

Changing the number of days that teachers work and are paid for. I think the district can lower the number of contracted days for teachers.

Supervision could be spread out and divided equally among faculty and fall under general duties in a contract. This would benefit the school district financially and the overall climate of each building as optimal participation is attained.

Artificial turf

Busing to Ridgeway. That's just ridiculous. If you chose to go to that school - Get a ride or drive your kids there. It shouldn't be free to want to send your kid outside their boundary area. We have good schools and I don't even know why we still have that. We should just make it a neighborhood school or a gifted center and get rid of the other gifted center we have. That center is inadequate anyway. Same thought with Lee. Seriously, an arts school? All our schools should have arts in them not just a special place for them.

The four extra days of "meetings" that have been added to our contracts.

orienteering for 8th grade science why bus students who live within a mile or so from school - cut transportation costs - construction manager for 85,000 - why so much?

Work days prior to first day of school

Realistically, education can be cut in several ways without losing teachers and programs necessary to support all teachers. First, we can teach less days. When I moved to Columbia, schools were being recognized constantly as Blue Ribbon Schools, etc., and they were operating on less days. We had great national merit scholars and creative teachers and students. More does not necessarily mean better. We could do this by eliminating some of the half-day collaboration days, or two before school starts. It is great to collaborate, but we can do that after school, as we have for many, many years. Money can be saved in this area. Less days would save quite a bit of money.

Get rid of the 2 days at the beginning of school. Assistant Principals shorter contract. Do all the assistant secondary principals need 12 month contracts? Scale back to 10 1/2 or 11 month.

Taking teachers out of the buildings for meetings and having to pay subs. There are too many meetings that take teachers out of the building during the school day.