

Approved by Arlington School Committee 3/11/08

In favor: Mr. Spangler, Ms. Sheffler, Mr. Thielman, Mr. Garballey, Ms. Lovelace

Opposed: Mr. Curran, Ms. Burns

MOVED: That the School Committee adopt as its Fiscal Year 2009 budget:

- The Draft Proposal submitted to us by the Superintendent on February 12, with
- The changes described in the “Second Priority” category of the Budget Proposal, Draft 2, dated March 6.

These changes reflect Arlington’s priorities as a community that values its children.

COMMENTS:

The changes to the February 12th Draft include the following “**add-backs**” and other additions. Among the choices in Draft 2, these are the essential components of a budget that enables us to continue moving the district forward.

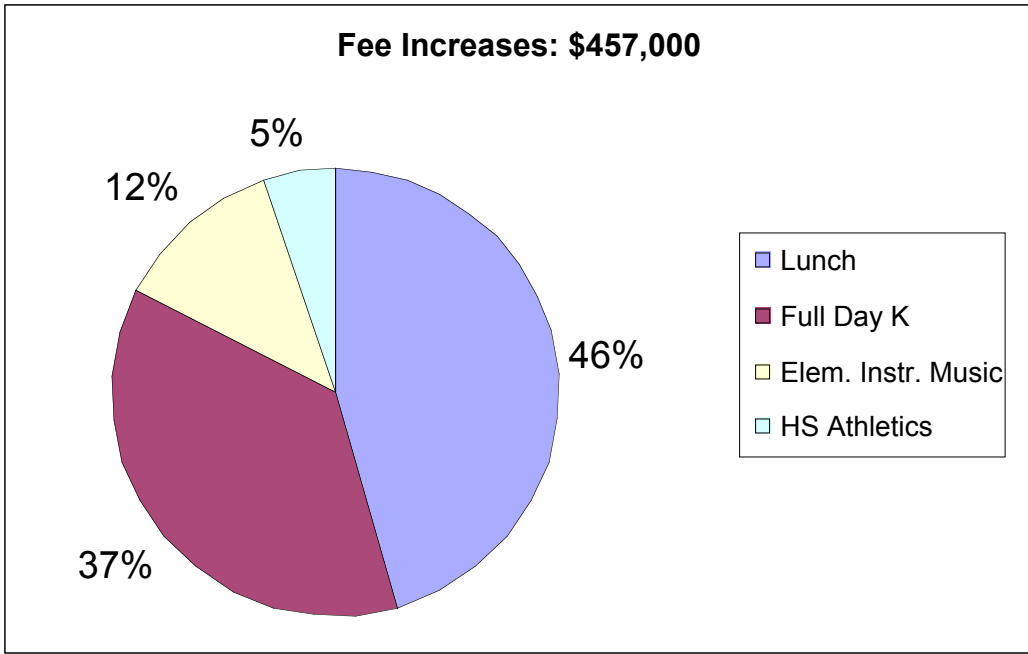
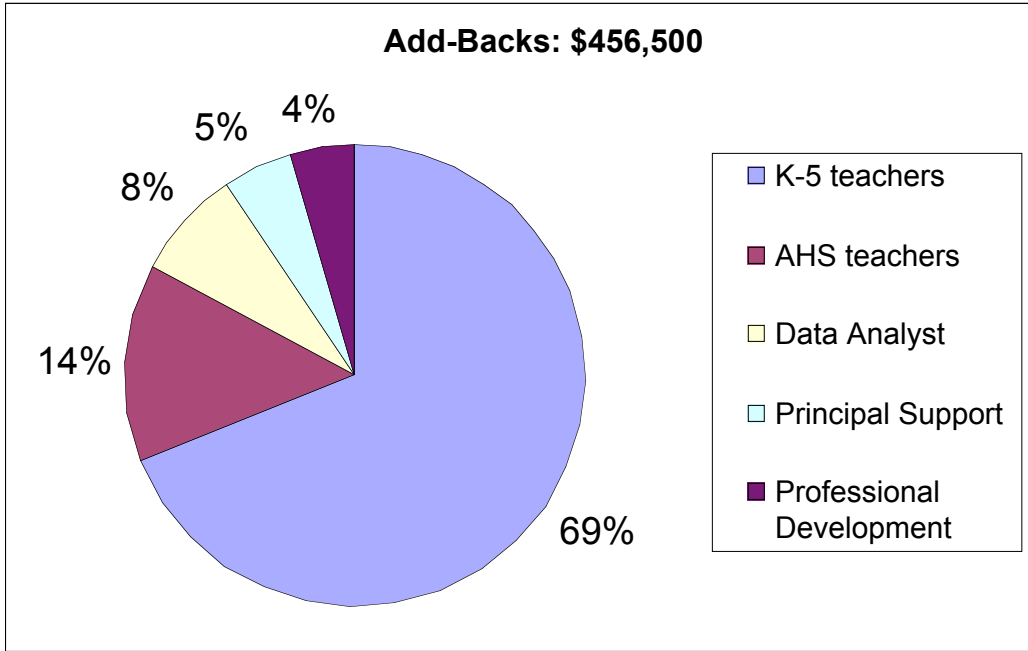
1. Restore five (5) elementary teachers at Brackett, Hardy, Stratton, Thompson and Bishop, add one (1) elementary teacher at Dallin, and add one (1) new kindergarten teacher, based on projected enrollment.
2. Restore one (1) English teacher and 0.4 Math teacher at Arlington High School.
3. Restore 1/2 of the cuts to professional development for teachers, which is our “R&D investment” in the future success of our district.
4. Restore 1/2 of the data analyst position, to continue making data easier for teachers to use to improve student learning.
5. Restore 1/2 of the Principal support.

These changes also include the following **fee increases** (in addition to the across-the-board 5% inflation adjustment factored into the February 12th Draft Proposal). These increases are in line with the community input we’ve received, and they distribute the burden equitably.

1. A 30% increase in the lunch fee to, for example, \$3 at the elementary level
2. An increase in the full-day kindergarten fee to \$2,400
3. An increase in the elementary instrumental music fee to \$425
4. An increase in the high school athletics fee of \$25 for each of the first two sports

Along with these changes, the per-family cap on fees (exclusive of lunch, full day kindergarten, and the Bishop bus) will be raised to \$850 if this Motion is adopted.

The School Committee remains firmly committed to our policy that no student will ever be denied access to programs or activities because of an inability to pay.



The impact of the fee cap and waivers is included in the \$457K estimate above. (Note that for FY08 about 100 waivers have been granted for the athletic programs alone.)