

Reductions recommended at all levels and in most functions

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outside the district. The largest class is the senior class, with 65 students; the smallest is first grade with only 45 students.

Each school examined

The BAT looked at each school in the district and at dis-

textbook adoption.

At the district level BAT recommendations include:

- Eliminate one special education teacher with services provided by qualified teachers on staff, reduce expenditures on professional services.

BAT recommendations at the high school level include:

- Reduce language arts instruction by one half-time position.
- Eliminate cheerleading, and reduce athletic transportation expense.

- Eliminate two K-6 teachers and a part-time teaching position in the junior high.

- Reduce library/media staff by one position.
- Reduce field trips.

Total reduction \$600,000

Recommendations from the Budget Assistance Team total \$601,110 less than the budget adopted for the current school year. (District \$134,700, High School \$191,910, Elementary \$274,500). Projections of the district's total expenditures for the 2002-2003 budget year show that the district will have cut more than \$890,000 from the budget adopted last June. Therefore, the BAT recommendations represent nearly \$200,000 less in reductions than the district has had to endure this fiscal year.

The reduced impact of the proposed cuts is most notable

in the return to a full school year. School is scheduled to begin September 2 and students will get out June 9. The school board previously approved early release time for students every Friday, accompanied by regular in-service for staff. One full day of in-service will occur in late September, no school is scheduled for a statewide in-service day in October (a non-paid day for teachers), and two half-days are scheduled, both associated with student conferences in November and April. Teachers will also have a work day at the end of every quarter. All other non-school days are national holidays, or winter and spring breaks.

Some impact on sports

Sports programs are still mostly intact. BAT recommends

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Vernonia schools' music program will not be cut though funds will probably be reduced.

trict-wide services. First, priorities were established for each school and for district services. Recommendations for reductions (from the 2002-2003 adopted budget) were then identified for K-8, high school, and district levels with consideration of the established priorities. As Funderburg explained the recommended reductions, it also became apparent that most of reductions represent either reductions in staff implemented during the current fiscal year, or reductions in funds historically under-spent in previous years. It should also be noted that, supporting budget goals, increases are recommended for technology and

- Eliminate the position of curriculum director.

- Reduce tuition reimbursements for teachers and usage of substitute teachers.

- Perform property accounting (needed to meet new federal guidelines) in-district.

BAT recommended that two budget areas - technology services and textbook adoptions - be transferred from school budgets to the district level. Transferring technology services would include that the media coordinator position be reduced to half-time with an increase of \$7,000 for equipment. As previously noted, BAT recommended an increase for textbooks.

- Maintain current reduction in administrative staff.

- Reduce office staff by one person and eliminate attendance clerk position.

- Reduce budgets for drama, fine arts, music, driver education, PCC tuition for students, activities, and field trips.

- Reduce budget for equipment replacement.

At the K-8 level (including Washington, Lincoln and Mist Schools) BAT recommendations included:

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