# The APC's Fiduciary Responsibility

Lon Garrison, AASB



#### What is fiduciary responsibility?

(Discuss with your elbow partner)



#### What is required of your APC?

- Develop & approve an annual budget
- Regular oversight of the budget
- Approval of budget adjustments
- Approval of purchases and transfers
- Accountability to the public and the district



# What is a budget?

- An estimate of Revenue & Expense
- A guide for you and your stakeholders



#### The Budget is:

Detail of all Revenue and Expenditures for a **future period of time** 



# The Budget is Dynamic

- Living, flexible management tool
- Based on best information at time of development
- Variance from original document is not necessarily negative



# What is a oversight?



## What is a Budget?

- A budget represents a plan of how money will be spent
- City and Borough districts must submit budget to assembly for approval of local amount by May 1<sup>st</sup>.
- District must submit a balanced budget to EED NLT July 15
- District must submit to an annual audit of its budget

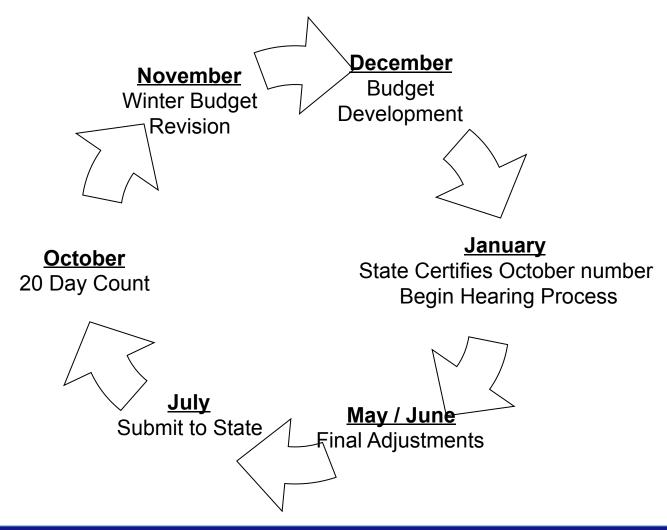


#### Who are your Stakeholders?

- Parents and Students
- Staff
- Taxpayers
- District administrators
- School Board
- Cities and Boroughs
- Alaska Department of Education



#### **Budget Cycle**





#### What is a budget adjustment?

- Budgets are our best estimate
- An adjustment is a change to a previously approved budgeted amount



#### What is a budget adjustment?

- Budget adjustments are initiated by the principal and require the approval of the APC.
- Usually occur about twice per year (mid year, end of year)



#### Monthly Financial Reports

Ask your elbow partner if your reports are timely and understandable

- Your principal or business manager should submit monthly Reports to the APC
- These reports are a snapshot in time
- Show monthly revenue/expenditure
- Understandable to all?



### **Monthly Financial Reports**

An example:



# Monthly Financial Reports What to look for

- Is the revenue side living up to expectations?
  - Revenue at or above projection?
  - Attendance rates at or above projection? State funding estimate still good?
- Are the expenditures following the budget?
  - Any significant variances between budget and actual revenues and expenditures?



#### **Annual Audit**

• What is it?

• Required?

• Best practice?

• For who is it intended?



#### **Annual Audit**

- Snap shot data & practices
- Budget to Actual
  - General Fund
  - Special Revenue Fund(s)
  - Capital Project Fund
- Management letter
  - Findings material vs significant
- Fund Balance



#### **Fund Balance**

A financial goal of the District shall be to have a sufficient balance in the operating fund to be able to maintain fiscal independence in case of a financial need or crisis. The District shall strive to maintain a yearly unreserved/ undesignated fund balance of 8-10 percent of the total operating expenditures.

# Questions



