

School Business Officials: It's More than Counting Numbers

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What is the value of a school business official?



Provide Important Budget Leadership

- Provide strategic guidance
- Align limited resources with district goals
- Identify budgetary savings to protect important resources
- Work with board, superintendent, and community to enact budgets that work for children, teachers, and communities

But It's More than Just the Budget

School business officials lead or support:

- Accounting
- Payroll and human resources
- Cash management
- Collective bargaining
- Facility operations and maintenance
- Food service and transportation
- Technology infrastructure
- Investments and debt management



Is There Budgetary Savings to be had in the Business Office?

- Can retiring business leaders be replaced with less experienced staff to save money?
- Risky to gamble with the position responsible for budget, accounting, debt management, etc.

Documenting the Benefits

- Public Sector Consultants (PSC) is working with Michigan School Business Officials (MSBO) to document the benefits of school business officials
- We are surveying business officials to document their experiences, credentials, and value to districts
- Survey will go out in the next week—expect an email!
- Survey will go to the chief business official

We will not share your responses with anyone other than MSBO without your consent



General Information

- Business official's name
- Contact email and phone number
- District code
- Official title



Education and Licensure

- Highest degree completed
- Any degree in progress
- Professional licenses
- MSBO certifications



Experience

- Total years as a school business official
- Total years in finance
- Total years working in a school in any capacity



Allocation of Time

- Accounting/payroll
- Labor negotiations
- Debt/bonding issues
- Community engagement
- Committee meetings

Professional Development

- Events attended:
 - MSBO workshops and conferences
 - MSBO certification classes
 - MSBO committee meetings
 - Regional school business official meetings
 - Other professional development events



Savings Achieved

- Asking for total savings achieved for this school year—based on changes made in the last five years
- Savings categories include: outsourcing, wages and benefits, energy, debt restructuring, and other operational expenses
- Asking for your salary—**this will be kept confidential!** It will be used to compare savings to the average cost of school business officials



Innovative Savings

- Looking for three examples of innovative changes you have enacted in your district in the past ten years
- Asking for a description of changes and achieved savings

What We Need from You

- Prompt response to the survey
- Honesty and accuracy



What You Will Get

- Report documenting the value of school business officials
- Potential ideas for future budgetary savings

Questions About Survey

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