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**Students First-**

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**Dearborn School recognized for budget presentation**

Dearborn Public Schools does a good job of keeping its books (the financial kind).

The Association of School Business Officials International recently recognized the district for excellence in budget presentation with the Meritorious Budget Award (MBA) for the 2018-2019 fiscal year.  The group’s MBA and Pathway to the MBA promote and recognize the best budget presentation practices in school districts.

The budget is handled by Tom Wall, Executive Director of Business and Operations, and his staff.

“We are grateful to receive this recognition.  While financial information for such a large district is inherently complicated, we work to make our information and processes understandable and available to our community, including the Board of Education,” Wall said.

Dearborn Public Schools has a combined annual budget of more than $301 million.  An overview of the district’s financial records is available on the district website at <https://dearbornschools.org> under Transparency Reporting.

MBA participants submit their applications and budget documents to a panel of school financial professionals who review the materials for compliance with the MBA Criteria Checklist and other requirements and provide expert feedback that districts can use to improve their budget documents.

“Districts that apply to the MBA or Pathway to the MBA programs recognize their community needs to be able to easily find and understand important district financial information,” ASBO International Director of Recognition Programs Molly Barrie explains. “Awarded budget documents are accurate, easy to read, and communicate the district’s goals and objectives. Reviewer comments help districts continually improve their budget presentation—which is one reason districts apply each year.”

Founded in 1910, the Association of School Business Officials International (ASBO) is a nonprofit organization that, through its members and affiliates, represents approximately 30,000 school business professionals worldwide. ASBO International is committed to providing programs, services, and a global network that promote the highest standards in school business.

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