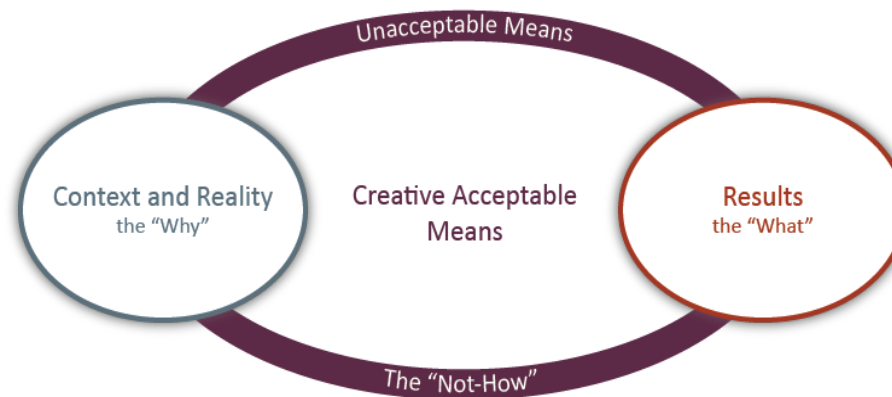


Mankato Area Public Schools

Guiding Change Document for the Budget Adjustment and Engagement Process

January-February 2023



The Why <i>Our Current Reality</i>	The Not How <i>Our Unacceptable Means of Achieving the Results</i>	The What <i>Our Desired Results from Any Option</i>
• The state's basic formula aid has not kept pace with inflation. There is currently a \$1,605 per pupil funding gap. • MAPS has a \$7.5 million cross subsidy for special education that is not being funded by the state or federal government. • Similarly to other districts, MAPS has seen an enrollment decline primarily due to the pandemic. We have seen a decrease of over 600 students since 2020. The loss of revenue as a result of this decline is \$7.9 million. • The district intentionally deficit spent in fiscal year 2023 to provide programs and services to students. • The FY 23 reinvestment plan was a short-term solution that was necessary to provide support for students and staff. • MAPS local context; neighborhood schools, class size targets, graduation credits, high cost special education programs/services	1. We will not violate law, policy, or agreement. 2. We will not move away from being a student-centered organization. 3. We will not rely solely on the Minnesota legislature to achieve financial stability. 4. We will not make one time reductions exclusively. 5. Equity lens guiding questions—don't forget about these. 6. We will not limit our thinking to only cuts; develop future-focused ideas to generate revenue. 7. We will not be guided by the premise, <i>"This is the way we have always done it."</i> 8. We will not disregard the mental health needs of students and staff. 9. We will not move away from our commitment to early learning opportunities.	A. Achieve and maintain the 8% unassigned fund balance target set by the MAPS School Board to allow for responsible financial management. B. Budget adjustments that provide for a right-sized and balanced budget. C. FY 24 budget begins the cycle of being stable and future-focused. D. We will maintain high expectations with a student-centered focus. E. We will maintain our mission of being committed to working together equitably, so that each learner has the knowledge and skills to be a successful and contributing citizen in a diverse global society. F. Adjustments will continue to provide efficiency and effectiveness of all district operations.