Jenifer Dackermann

EDAS 6220

Summer 2011

July 20, 2011

Case Study: #20 “Who Gets the Money?”

*This case study focuses on budgetary decisions. The principal of Kevin Arthur Middle School must make decisions on how to divide up the budget for the upcoming school year across the English and Science departments, the athletic department, and the library program.*

**Standard 1:** A school administrator is an educational leader who promotes the success of all students by facilitating the development, articulation, implementation, and stewardship of a vision of learning that is shared and supported by the school community.

*All of the above-mentioned departments have made requests for funds. It is important that the educational needs of the students be weighed against the extra-curricular needs of the school. In this instance the Science and English departments are requesting expensive new computer programs. As principal I would like the departments to have a proposal of research-based evidence of the effectiveness of these programs as well as an outline of how the departments will be integrating these computer programs into the curriculum. I could justify the expense if the programs have a proven track record for increasing student achievement and the departments can show that the programs will be used as effectively as possible.*

**Standard 2:** A school administrator is an educational leader who promotes the success of all students by advocating, nurturing, and sustaining a school culture and instructional program conducive to student learning and staff professional growth.

*The library has requested to add two more paraprofessionals to the staff and has doubled their book proposal from last year to add more multicultural works. In my mind, the media center is an essential part of the learning experience if it is staffed appropriately by credentialed librarians who can work with the teaching staff and students to enrich the learning experience. However, hiring additional staff is expensive. In this instance with a tight budget and need across many departments, I would budget for hiring one additional paraprofessional and have the library staff halve their book proposal.*

**Standard 3:** A school administrator is an educational leader who promotes the success of all students by ensuring management of the organization, operations, and resources for a safe, efficient, and effective learning environment.

*The importance of extracurricular activities to students cannot be overlooked, and the athletic department, through what must have been a district decision, has expanded their football program to sixth grade and added lacrosse. The most expensive prospect of these endeavors will again be staffing followed by equipment. There will have to be money set aside for a coach for each team. Assuming there is already 7th and 8th grade football, equipment needs may come down to pads and helmets, other equipment can be handed down as is done in many sports programs. An activity fee for all students who participate in extracurricular activities, fund raisers by the athletic department, the teams, and athletic booster support may be needed to round out the extracurricular budget which, again, is not uncommon practice for many schools to support their extracurricular activities.*