

**Amherst Budget Coordinating Group
Summary Points – November 5, 2009**

At our November 5th meeting, the members of the Budget Coordinating Group agreed that the following points would be conveyed to our home boards and committees:

- That the BCG representatives support the Finance Committee's Preliminary FY11 Budget Guidelines and agree that the details requested will provide clear and valuable information necessary for creating recommendations to bring back to home boards and committees (We recognize that State aid projections are estimates and are a significant variable);
- That BCG is considering options for gathering and presenting key information about Town, School and Library personnel costs, including: trends in overall head count, staffing by functional area, wages and benefits; breakdowns similar to those found in the Town's Financial Trend Monitoring Report may serve as a model;
- That updated budget calendars will be sent to John Musante in order to be compiled and presented at the November 19th BCG meeting;
- That a Four Towns Meeting will be hosted by the Regional School Committee on Saturday, December 5th from 9:00 a.m. to noon (location to be announced) to share financial information among the budgeting bodies of Amherst, Pelham, Leverett and Shutesbury (All boards should post this meeting accordingly.)