

**Amherst Budget Coordinating Group
Summary Points – December 3, 2009**

At our December 3rd meeting, the members of the Budget Coordinating Group agreed that the following points would be conveyed to our home boards and committees:

- That BCG representatives agree that last year's budget cuts represent an important context for considering and communicating our override recommendations, and hence, we will need a clear list of those for the Town, Schools and Libraries – with dollars and details.
- That the Town, Schools and Libraries will continue to adjust their individual budget process calendars as necessary – and send updates to John Musante for the compiled calendar -- to enable recommendations to be made in time for the February 8th Select Board meeting, when finalizing of the override ballot language is scheduled.
- That the BCG Co-Chairs will draft a plan and calendar for how the group might proceed, given the challenges of coordinating complex information and scheduling in a compressed timeframe, and will distribute that in advance of the December 17th meeting. The plan may suggest that a subcommittee of BCG, or that another committee such as the Finance Committee, undertake discrete tasks.
- That John Musante will create a chart detailing the costs of different override amounts for tax payers at different property assessment levels, and to include net impacts when offset by Federal income tax deductions at different tax rates, as a resource that will help inform the BCG's recommendations.
- That progress is being made on models for a uniform Town, School and Library staffing and compensation report, and a draft is planned for the December 17th meeting.