



Finance & Operations Committee

February 23, 2023

MINUTES

Meeting called to order by: Lauren Christenson 5:07 p.m.

Board of Ed members present: Christenson, Picard, Kehoe (arrived 5:10)

District staff: Piesz, Emmadi, Gruszczynski, Jory

Also Present: B. Gesaman and from McCarthy & Smith; D. Dinkeloo from TMP

Architects Citizen Representatives: Roderique (Paton, McKee-absent)

Others present: Bob Benintende, Corrie Byrd; neighbors of Smith Elementary

Public Comments – Mr. Benintende wants to address the committee regarding the new gymnasium at Smith Elementary. The addition is about 30 feet from his fence line and he feels it is very intrusive on the serenity of his backyard. He is requesting that the district install a natural barrier. He has spoken to an arborist, and he was told they could plant tall Norwegian Pines along that area to relieve the intrusion. Another neighbor, Mr. Byrd, is here to address the noise issue that arises from the new rooftop HVAC units. Several of the neighbors have expressed concerns about the noise and intrusion. Mr. Benintende also feels that the neighbors have never been consulted about the location of the addition. Mr. Kehoe shares that the Finance & Operations and Board of Education meetings are public meetings, they are posted on the website. All building and construction plans are shared with the community, and there is a two-week window for the public to comment before the Board takes action to approve plans.

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes – February 9, 2023 - approved.

Bid Package #HS-3 Starkweather Furniture Purchase - Mr. Dinkeloo presents the furniture package recommended for Starkweather Academy. He points out that all equipment is being purchased through consortium pricing. He shows the recommended pieces for the general classrooms, science classrooms, art room, STEM classrooms, resource rooms, and learning commons. The original budget for Starkweather furniture was \$480,000, and these recommended pieces are quoted at \$424,427.15, which results in a positive variance of \$55,572.85. Member Christenson is pleased to see the variety of flexible pieces that were chosen. Mr. Gruszczynski shares that the students and staff had a lot of ideas and input toward the selections.

Monthly Financial Reports as of January 31, 2023 –

Although July through January accounts for 58.3% of the calendar year, school districts don't receive or expend resources in equal monthly amounts throughout the year. Therefore, we have applied a three-year historical average to the annual budget to determine projected totals for January 31, 2023, and then compared that to the actual results to determine variances. Variances between projected budgets and actual results may be due to timing differences, receipt, or expenditure of funds in a period that is different than anticipated, that will resolve over time; or permanent differences, unanticipated receipts or expenditure of resources not planned, which may require a budget amendment.

The overall revenue received as of January 31st is 49.46% of the budgeted amounts. The overall expenditures through January are 55.99% of budgeted amounts, which is higher than the three-year historical average for this point in the fiscal year total budget. This percentage is somewhat higher than the three-year historical average. Overall, the net change in fund balance is tracking slightly better than expected. In addition, the net fund balance will be adjusted for the actual annual audited fund equity during the first amendment process.

2022-23 Mid-Year General Fund Budget Amendment–

Ms. Piesz presents a PowerPoint describing the 2022-23 Mid-Year Budget amendment. She reminds the committee that we started the fiscal year planning to use \$5.85M of the general fund to balance the budget. We then found we would be receiving an additional \$7M in foundation allowance, but due to increased expenses, we will still end the year using \$3.72M of the general fund to achieve a balanced budget.

2023-2024 General Fund Budget Assumptions – Currently the Community Budget survey is live, and the planned webinar regarding school funding had to be postponed due to the weather, may be held next Wednesday. We review the 2023-2024 Budget Assumptions to reveal the estimates we plan on using for our initial 2023-2024 Budget. We are assuming the class size guidelines will stay the same as they were last year. We need to obtain a new enrollment projection from Stanford Associates, which we use to determine what enrollment number we will use when we create the baseline budget. The governor has proposed an increase of \$458 per FTE, but that has yet to be approved by the legislature. We will also consider the possible additional students who enroll in the School of Choice. If the governor's number holds, we will estimate state revenue based on \$9,608 per pupil. Additionally, the governor's budget calls for an increase of \$107 per pupil for safety and security (section 97), an additional \$108 for student for mental health needs (31aa funds), and a 5% increase for At Risk students, Special Education students, and ELL students. The hard cap amount is only going up 1.3%, and the MPERS liability is staying at the same percentage as last year (28.23%). The presentation shows the budget timeline through the remainder of the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

ADA Audit at P-CEP and Districtwide – Ms. Piesz shares that we have been diligent in considering ADA access to the buildings as we go through and complete bond projects. We have come up with a plan on where we need to have card access and door actuators. We have come up with a baseline of what ADA access is standard at each elementary, middle, and high school building. At each building, ADA access will be provided at the front door, the back door, parking lot /playground access, and common areas like the media centers, cafeterias, and restrooms.

Other minor obstacles that were noted have been identified and addressed by the maintenance team. The needed ADA upgrades have been broken into six phases. The first phase is the exterior doors at P-CEP.

Member Kehoe will recommend this as a first and final reading on Tuesday night to expedite the receipt and installation of the equipment.

It is also noted that once this plan is implemented, we need to come up with ways to communicate this to the community, and to get the necessary information to the families who have accessibility issues.

We have been addressing these issues as they happen, but this is a wholistic approach to address this issue districtwide.

Adjourned: **6:50 p.m.**