

WCCUSD Community Budget Advisory Committee

Alvarado Campus

July 28, 2011

Minutes

Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM

Attendance

Committee Members Present: Erwin Reeves, Sheri Gamba, Robert Studdiford, Lisa Erwin, Greg Whaling, Antonio Medrano, Charles Johnson, Eduardo Martinez

Committee Members Absent: Sue Kahn, Elaine Merriweather, Tammy Campbell

Other Attendees: Ken Ryan

Minutes

The committee unanimously approved the May 2011 minutes.

Chairs Report

None

Budget

Sheri discussed the adopted budget (6/28/2011) which used the governor's proposal and included the flat funding model that was passed into the State Budget. The State budget assumes an increase in tax revenue, which if not met will result in program cuts during mid-year known as "Triggers". The Governor's budget also included provisions that prohibited districts from budget enacting budget reductions based upon lack of State revenue. As a part of budget adoption the board set aside \$ 10 million in the Special Reserve Fund. The District is planning to use these reserves during the 2012-13 & 2013-14 fiscal years in order to balance the budget.

The State Mid-Year cuts are triggered when and if State Revenues fail to meet targets. If the target is missed by \$2 billion or more dollars, then K-12 cuts are enacted automatically. There is another, lower level, trigger enacted upon other State programs, including pre-school funding.

The State budget also included a shift in program responsibility. County Mental Health Programs used to be funded and paid for services to severely disabled program model has been in place since the 1980's. The District must now take responsibility for these services. The funding model is now. The programs which benefit certain disabled students are currently in a transition process. All Special Education programs are school districts must to figure out how to deal with the new services they are now responsible for. Will need to hire people or service consultants to deal with those severe special needs students, including visiting out of state providers regularly and deal with the monitoring of their facilities and services. Mr. Collins, our SELPA Director is working with neighboring districts to pool these monitoring services and activities. State will distribute Special Education money by ADA but haven't received the distribution letter yet.

CBAC wants to monitor the situation.

Based upon questions regarding how facility projects are funding Sheri Gamba shared the following information with the committee:

Reviewed the budget and noted that the Deferred Maintenance Fund has no revenue due to the Tier III status. There had been projects in progress within the Deferred Maintenance program at the time the fund sweep was estimated and journaled. There is a need to revisit the funding for those projects which were previously identified as Deferred Maintenance projects. Some projects may have qualified for Bond Funding. Some capital project needs have been accomplished by our maintenance department.

Every day, routine maintenance has its own budget. Committee expressed concerns about buildings built or upgraded recently but may fall into disrepair without deferred maintenance funding. Committee had questions about how funding is acquired for modernizing schools. State Hardship Funding for construction and modernization is a source of facilities funding for school districts – State indicates it is 100% funding, it really covers about 40-50% of costs. When there are new houses and commercial development in a district the district can raise funds through developer fees. Local Communities can pass bonds to borrow money to construct and improve schools – such our district’s GO Bond. School districts cannot issue this type of debt without the vote of the people.

As a conclusion to the budget review Sheri Gamba asked the committee, how does the Board know the budget is sound? She then reviewed the criteria and standards that school districts must comply with. The criteria and standards are found in the back section of the SACS State budget forms. These were reviewed with the committee. It was noted that Cities do not have an oversight agency, such as the County Office of Education. School Districts are an extension of the State. The County Office of Education and the State reviews District’s budget. We send a data file and run reports from our system to prove out the numbers submitted. Staff is currently working on the Unaudited Actuals. It takes about 3 months to gather all the information and close the books, so it will be presented to the Board in September.

Sheri Gamba announced that the new CBAC Charter was approved by the Board. We can now officially have alternate CBAC members. Sheri requested that the committee members bring potential alternative names for each member to the next CBAC meeting.

Next month the CBAC meeting will feature Ms. Linda Jackson who will give a presentation on Charter Schools.

Committee would like an updated list of vacant District property along with their current or latest assessed values.

Good of the Order: N/A

Public Comment

None

Next meeting is August 25, 2011

Adjourn

8:00pm