

Budget Advisory Committee Minutes

12/08/2020

Via Zoom

In Attendance

Jim Monreal- Assistant Superintendent of Business Services
John Owen- Trustee, Board of Education
Jeremy Shonick- Trustee, Board of Education
Tim Madsen- Parent
Casey O'Brien- Principal, Branciforte Middle School
Clyde Curley- Principal, Westlake Elementary
Greg O'Meara- Principal, Soquel High School
Amy Hedrick-Farr- Director of Food Services
Desiree Dominguez- Director of Human Resources
Stacey O'Farrell- Director of Special Education
Casey Carlson- GSCFT Union President
Jeanie Brown- SCCCE Union President
Jerene Lacey- Finance
Amy Estuesta- Executive Assistant, Educational Services

Absent

Crystal Williams McNish- Parent
Dorothy Coito- Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services
Kris Munro- Superintendent
Matt Farrell- Santa Cruz Education Foundation
Michelle McKinney- Principal, Branciforte Small Schools
Octavio Jimenez Garcia- Parent
Olwen Skogerson- Parent
Suzanne Trincherro- Finance

Introduction

Assistant Superintendent Monreal presented to the committee information on First Interim projections, Learning Loss Mitigation (LLM)/COVID Funds, and discussion regarding Fund 17. The presentation can be found on the District website (sccs.net). Fund 17 would be a fund set up as an extra reserve of revenue to prepare for declining enrollment, anticipated funding cuts, and current revenue deferrals.

Comments/Questions

Assistant Superintendent Monreal asked the Committee if they had any comments or questions concerning the presentation.

Discussion ensued regarding clarification on the district books and supplies dollars.

A question was asked regarding the calculation of the cost of COVID. Staff indicated that this calculation is ongoing daily as needs arise.

There was a question regarding the revenue coming in above expectation compared to January or the revised May expectation. Discussion ensued that it is above what the state expected for this fiscal year. There was also a comment that there was unexpected revenue from stocks.

There was a question asking to clarify the date to spend the LLM funds by? The majority of them need to be spent by December 30th of this year.

Discussion and questions were raised regarding the thought on Fund 17 and the reserve. Discussion recognized the need for healthy reserves, but also discussion regarding the need to spend revenue now. Needs were noted for smaller class sizes, shade structures or portables. We may need room to space kids out. Make sure appropriate PPE is available for teachers. Along the Fund 17 discussion, additional points were asked regarding Basic Aid status of both the Elementary and Secondary districts and what amounts may be recommended to start the Fund 17.

Additional comments shared included the effects of the increasing PERS requirements, spending funds today on the needs of students today as well as recognizing that there will be a need for future rainy days.

Mr. Monreal indicated that he would share the comments of this committee with the Board at the next meeting.

Closing Remarks

Assistant Superintendent Monreal stated that the bones of this presentation will be in the First Interim presentation to the Board the following week. Some new information coming will be demography information with student generation for the area and projected enrollment for the new year. Assistant Superintendent Monreal thanked the committee members for their time.