

School District U-46

Elgin, Illinois

June 18, 2018

The Finance Committee of the Board of Education met at 5:00 p.m. in Room 140 of the Educational Services Center, 355 East Chicago Street, Elgin, Illinois, to review the Fiscal Year 2019 Tentative Budget and discuss where to invest the Evidence Based Funding. In attendance were Board members Phil Costello, Sue Kerr, John Devereux, Veronica Noland and Melissa Owens. Also in attendance were Tony Sanders, Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Jeff King, Chief Operations Officer/Chief School Business Official, Dale Burnidge, Director of Financial Operations, Robyn Cornelissen, Financial Controller, Dr. Suzanne Johnson, Deputy Superintendent of Instruction, Dr. Josh Carpenter, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning, Dr. Ushma Shah, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Schools Instruction and Equity, Lela Majstorovic, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Schools Instruction and Equity, Melanie Meidel, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, Mary Fergus, Director of School and Community Relations, Mily Cruz, Information Services, and Leon Robles, Information Services.

1. Open Meeting and Introduction

Ms. Kerr opened the meeting and everyone present stated their name and title.

2. Presentation and Discussion to Determine Where to Invest Evidence-Based Funding

Dr. King began the presentation by beginning a discussion to determine where to invest Evidence-Based Funding. Dr. King stated the projection of the net increase to be approximately \$40 million more than what was budgeted last year. The new Evidence Based Funding model was designed to allocate resources to districts that are underfunded and will comprehensively change the way school districts receive the bulk of state funds. Dr. King would like to discuss 1:1 devices, educational pathways, moving 6th grade to middle schools, having elementary schools become Pre-K through 5th grade and having annual set asides for capital, technology and Levy abatement. Dr. King also went over potential short-term investments and long-term recommended investments.

Mr. Sanders stated an area for investment would be to have a middle school model instead of the junior high model used now, which would increase services for preschool. Mr. Sander indicated the problem with preschool is space. Moving 6th grade to middle school would allow the space for preschool. Mr. Sanders stated 1:1 devices are in all high schools and would like to see 1:1 devices in 6th grade as well. Mr. Sanders would like to revitalize three schools (Garfield, McKinley and Lowry) stating old buildings are expensive to maintain. Mr. Sanders would like to invest in either additions or consider scrapping the buildings and rebuilding them to make them more attractive and efficient.

Mr. Costello asked what mandates are in place regarding the money. Dr. King is not aware of any restrictions. Dr. King stated Administration's thought is that the funds should be used in the classroom or to benefit the classroom to push more money towards

the students who need it.

Mr. Sanders stated there is nothing short-term that restricts school districts and school boards on how they use funds. Mr. Sanders stated long-term, due to the Every Student Succeeds Act and the State's Accountability Plan, legislators are discussing what they are expecting to see and over time Mr. Sanders believes reports will be required to show the state how the additional dollars were invested.

Annual Set Asides

Capital – Dr. King is requesting \$15 million. Dr. King stated he wanted to finish three libraries and stated that all of the auditoriums are in need of work totaling approximately \$1 million dollars. These renovations have been delayed for three to four years now and should be placed at the top of the list. Ms. Owens asked if the \$15 million dollars addresses the need for buildings. Dr. King responded no, not in the short term. Dr. King stated the capital planning would begin in October/November. Ms. Owens asked if Administration planned on earmarking the additional funds received from the state. Dr. King responded the Board would need to approve a deficit budget in order to spend down the balances. Dr. King would recommend, pending Board approval and voters agreement, replacing some of the buildings.

Technology - Dr. King is requesting \$3.5 million and stated 1:1 devices have already started rolling out. Dr. King stated the \$3.5 million would allow 1:1 devices for at least an additional grade. Ms. Kerr asked if the additional devices would require more infrastructure such as Wi-Fi. Dr. King responded it would need to be evaluated again possibly having to add additional access points from four or five years ago. Mr. Devereux asked if the additional devices would require additional tech support staff. Dr. King responded the 1:1 devices were intentionally Chromebooks as most problems are Windows based and stated Administration is considering making several Level 1 Tech Support Staff full-time in schools.

Levy Abatement – Dr. King stated the levy abatement would increase by the rate of inflation. The District could then abate that back to taxpayers so that is available in case of emergency. Mr. Sanders stated there was a \$350 million increase in educational funding. \$50 million of that goes to property tax relief. The District is waiting to hearing back from the state on how the funds will be disbursed. Mr. Sanders stated residents are taxed 118% of the state average. Mr. Sanders stated the District should qualify for a tax abatement. The District will apply on behalf of the taxpayers.

Wage and Benefit Increases – Mr. Sanders stated this topic will come to the Board as contracts are negotiated.

Short-Term Investments

Eight Middle School Counselors – Mr. Sanders stated the positions are posted and completed.

Five Additional Assistant Principals in Larger Elementary Schools – Mr. Sanders stated the positions are almost all filled.

Two Administrative Support Positions – Dr. King stated the positions were for Tefft and Kenyon Woods as they were in need of administrative support; Mr. Sanders stated a email was sent to the Board regarding these positions and stated the positions have been filled.

Three AIM Specialists – Mr. Sanders stated these positions are a requirement of the settlement agreement.

Coordinator of Student Discipline – Mr. Sanders stated the position has been posted, interviews have taken place and the position is close to being finalized. Ms. Kerr asked if the envision was to have one Coordinator for elementary and one Coordinator for secondary. Mr. Sanders responded that was the initial thought.

Two Behavior Specialists – Mr. Sanders stated the job descriptions are complete and should be posted soon. Ms. Noland asked if this position would be District-wide. Mr. Sanders responded yes. Dr. Johnson stated the Specialist would be working with the teams, teachers, administrators and classroom aides to support the needs of students. Dr. Johnson stated the position has been updated to increase access and to build opportunities to move away from the reliance of one or two people.

U-46 Educational Foundation Director – Mr. Sanders stated the Foundation is going through a strategic planning process the District is helping to support with the intent of coming forth with a proposal and metric. Ms. Noland asked if there would be specific expectation for this position. Mr. Sanders responded yes.

Long-Term Recommended Investments

Embedded Instructional Coaches – Mr. Sanders stated Administration would draft the job descriptions if the Board were comfortable going in this direction. Mr. Sanders stated instructional coaches have the highest impact on students according to research. Ms. Owens asked if there is any Title 1 money for it. Mr. Sanders responded the challenge with using Title 1 money is that the District would be limited when it expanded to non-Title 1 schools. Mr. Sanders envisioned starting with state revenue versus federal revenue.

Mr. Sanders stated Administration would come back to the Board. Mr. Sanders understands that essentially the Board would like to build the budget with some of these items and will set aside some of these funds in the budget as the District moves forward within the development process.

3. Public Participation

There were no public comments.

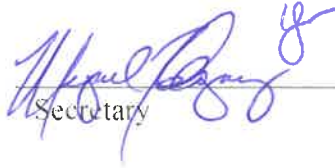
4. Adjournment

Ms. Kerr adjourned the meeting.

Approved this 23 day of July 2018.



President



Secretary