



Measure E Oversight Committee

October 12, 2020

MINUTES

Committee Members Present: Fawn Binford
Joe Bishop
Mike Budnitsky
Jay Esban
Jay Lieberman
Adam McArthur
Catherine Nelson

Committee Members Absent: Jody Guthrie (Alternate)

Also Present: Karen Kimmel, Assistant Superintendent – Business
Kristine Torres, Director of Accounting

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm.

Ms. Kimmel shared an update regarding distance learning in the district. She shared that the district is in need of a waiver from the county in order to open grades TK-2. It is a two-tiered process with the application first being sent to local public health and then to the state. If the district is unable to secure a waiver, Ms. Kimmel shared that other options will be explored.

District Budget

Ms. Torres shared information on the state of the economy. UCLA has forecasted that there is potential to shorten the recession if there is another federal stimulus package and the COVID vaccine is available in early 2021. Ms. Torres shared that current news reports project additional federal aid is unlikely, which could result in an increase of deferrals and mid-year state reductions in January.

Ms. Torres also shared the 2020-2021 budget. Revenue includes \$94.7M for LCFF and \$11.9M in other state revenue. Federal and local revenue totals \$14.8M. Altogether, total revenue is \$121.4M. Mr. Esban asked if the revenue includes the federal money and Ms. Torres explained it does not include the Heroes act.

Ms. Kimmel commented that there have been unintended budget consequences as the district usually relies on a lot of local revenues – theaters, fields, gyms – that have come to a halt as a result of the pandemic. The district has also had to lay off 250 employees.

Mr. Budnitsky asked if there were any expenses that could be cut out since school was not open. Ms. Kimmel replied that on top of the 250 classified layoffs, money has been saved in supplies and services such as transportation which costs \$2M a year. She also reiterated the unknown of what those savings will look like once school is back in session and new protocols are in place.

Ms. Torres spoke about some driving forces for additional budget efficiencies. These include declining enrollment which Ms. Kimmel shared the district has lost over 500 students this past year, the fact that the LCFF model is disadvantageous to LVUSD and a 0% cost of living increase from the state. There have been pension increases over the past few years and the workers compensation and liability insurance have gone up. Ms. Kimmel noted that the district has implemented \$4.4M in efficiencies over the past three years and an additional \$4.4M in the new school year.

Ms. Kimmel shared the multi-year projection showing actual expenses and projections for the next three school years. Mr. Bishop asked what the funding is per pupil. Ms. Kimmel replied that it is approximately \$9,500 depending on how many days the student is in school. Mr. Bishop suggested that the budget be shared with the PFA as the decline in enrollment is very concerning. Ms. Kimmel agrees and asked for input on how to package the message. Ms. Binford asked if PFC fundraising appears in the budget. Ms. Kimmel explained that it is included but it has expenses that go along with it. Ms. Kimmel stated that the committee will be notified when the next Study Session is so they can take part as well.

Parcel Tax Budget

Ms. Torres shared the parcel tax budget. Ms. Kimmel stated that there is \$89K to reallocate and asked the committee how they would like to budget the money. The committee decided that they would like to split the money evenly between the following areas: Counseling – High School and Counseling – Elementary School.

Mr. Lieberman stated that he is in favor of depleting reserves. Ms. Binford agreed and stated that the committee should spend what is in the budget. Ms. Kimmel understood that thought process but suggested it best to pay down the reserves over a course of three years so as to not throw off the budget. The committee agrees to spend the reserves over a course of three years.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held Monday, February 1, 2021.

The meeting adjourned at 6:15 pm.