



**Waters Elementary School
Local School Council**

Budget Committee Meeting Minutes - APPROVED

Date	Monday, October 19 2020
Meeting Type	Budget Committee Meeting
Time Start/End	9:02am/10:10am
Location	Google Meet
Chairperson	Titia Kipp
Minutes Prepared By	Lydia Milman Schmidt
Attendees	Present: Chris Brannan, Titia Kipp, Alison MacDonald Ryan, Lydia Milman Schmidt, Erica Smith Additional Staff Present: Nilsa Alvarez Parents Present:
Minutes Approved Date	December 7, 2020

Actions

Approval of Agenda	LMS: Motion TK: Second Unanimous approval.
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Discussion

FY21 Student Based Budgeting and Internal Accounts - 20th Day Enrollment

TK shared adjustment report. 10th Day enrollment was 653. 297 in K-3, 356 in 4-8. Total \$63,681.96.

LMS: Why were we waiting for 20th day enrollment if this is 10th day enrollment? If we had had this information before our vote on Waters Today allocation it may have changed the way we voted.

TK: It may have.

CB: We could reallocate funding. Salaries could come from SBB, and we could vote to free up Waters Today funding.

TK: I'm going to request a .5 bilingual teacher position. This aligns with our CIWP.

Erica Smith: I thought that a .5 bilingual position was already accounted for in the budget.

TK: That is correct. The .5 would make it so that the teacher would have the opportunity to provide support across grade level to bilingual students.

Erica Smith: Would that be somebody already on staff or somebody new?

TK: That would be a part-time position. It could mean that we work with somebody within our building, but it also may mean hiring a part-time teacher.

LMS: You had indicated that Ms Garcia would be providing bilingual supports. Is she currently doing that?

TK: She is not. I'm still working with central office on the personnel matter. She would only be able to teach 6th-8th grade.

LMS: I think all of this is contingent on understanding how the essentials staffing is going to go.

TK: I can't discuss that.

LMS: Can you give us an estimate when that will be resolved?

TK: I cannot give you an answer. I don't know.

LMS: How would .5 bilingual position factor into ELPT workload, knowing that an ELPT should be a dedicated position?

TK: We are trying to see what would work best. The well-being of students is top priority. With this increase in budget, we are trying to think of how to best support English Learners, many of whom are also Diverse Learners.

AMR: What's the level of urgency for this position? Is it possible that we could wait?

TK: Every year I would love to have my budget before the school year starts. There is always a sense of urgency, but I understand wanting to wait.

AMR: What's the cost?

TK: I always gauge a full-time position to be about \$100,000 for salary and benefits. So around \$50,000, give or take. Not sure if benefits come into play for half-time.

LMS: What are next steps?

TK: Will follow up with School Support Center.

NA: I wanted to respond to the question of urgency. It is a heavy case load, and it's crucial to have a dedicated person. It's also a matter of state compliance. We want to provide native language instruction. CPS tells us these are vulnerable students.

CB: What is the situation in terms of Ms Garcia? What exactly is she doing in terms of completing a full-time role? How much time does she have available?

NA: She does not have bilingual certification in K-8. Only 6-8.

CB: We are trying to get a full picture of the budget. We have to think about not just this year, but next year as well.

LMS: There is a city-wide push by LSCs to base SY22 budget on SY20 rather than SY21. It seems most schools lost enrollment. We were able to increase enrollment because of the timing with the addition and the ability to offer as many lottery seats as we wanted.

TK: We didn't over-fill any classes, but we think most students will return. There is a similar issue around case managers. We are paying out of SBB for a .5 case manager, which should be paid for by CPS.

CB: We need to determine our path forward for Waters. Our next LSC meeting is November 17. If you are wanting to bring in a half-time bilingual teacher, we need to figure out the process to be in a position where we as a budget committee and the LSC know what to do and how to move forward. We need to see a complete budget. When do you want to get that position advertised and filled?

TK: I'm meeting with the School Support Center after this meeting about encumbrances. A follow-up with the budget committee or a special LSC meeting to discuss the funding could follow. Perhaps the budget committee needs another meeting to review the entire budget. If

we need another LSC meeting to address budgetary concerns, we can schedule that outside the November 17 meeting.

CB: We need the full picture of the budget in all its constituent parts.

TK: By the end of this week maybe we can have another meeting. Possibly Monday.

LMS: I still feel apprehensive about moving forward quickly without all the information, including essentials funding. Moving forward, we need to have a fuller picture of budget priorities. We are in danger of over-spending going forward, since there isn't any money coming in to Internal Accounts and we can't count on Waters Today fundraising for the next school year.

CB: I agree. We need to move forward, but we need more information.

ES: We have a .5 bilingual position in the budget, but it hasn't been used that way. How can we move things around so that goes to providing bilingual services instead of funding a homeroom teacher?

TK: I'd be more than happy to provide you a wish list of everything we want at Waters so that we can run a school in the way that it should be run with the positions that we should have. You'll see where staff have been taking on multiple roles so that the work can continue and services are being provided. In that past, that type of information has been misconstrued. Do we want to schedule another meeting now?

CB: We need to move forward. We can't keep being asked to put in another homeroom teacher, which put us in a terrible position earlier in the year. We need to figure out what we can afford. We need to the big picture to understand our full budget situation and what are all the constituent parts doing to that budget? I know we can't go into personnel issues, but we have to understand what the expenditure is on the essentials in order for us to know what we can do. If we're spending more on essentials than we have to, it means we can't spend in other areas. I appreciate some of these are tied up in contract or union situations, but that's what we need to understand in order to move forward.

If you can pull together the full picture, we need to meet as quickly as possible.

Budget Encumbrance Adjustment

TK: I'm meeting with the School Support person later today. I'll have an up-to-date encumbrance. I can email to budget committee members.

Public Comment/Questions

None.

Action

Adjourn Meeting

Motion: LMS
Second: CB
Approval: Unanimous

Next Meeting

Monday, November 2 9:00am