



**Waters Elementary School
Local School Council**

Budget Committee Meeting Minutes - APPROVED

Date	Monday, November 2, 2020
Meeting Type	Budget Committee Meeting
Time Start/End	9:02am/10:04am
Location	Google Meet
Chairperson	Titia Kipp
Minutes Prepared By	Lydia Milman Schmidt
Attendees	Present: Chris Brannan, Titia Kipp, Lydia Milman Schmidt, Erica Smith Additional Staff Present: Nilsa Alvarez Parents Present: Erica Battin, Kortney Moore
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

LMS: Last week we talked about looking at all three funding streams (Internal Accounts, SBB and Waters Today) and how they work together, including the .5 ELPT position. Particularly regarding where we are with the 10th day increase and the hiring of a 5th grade teacher.

TK: All funding sources have been shared with the LSC. ELPT funding has been utilized to fund a classroom teacher position. The goal is to free up the ELPT, because we haven't been able to do that for years. In the bigger scheme of things, we need a written statement from the LSC to the BOE in regards to funding woes. Request for upfront funding was rejected multiple times. We were over enrollment projection again this year.

Presentation of funding needs.

- .5 Case Manager - should be centrally funded under new contract, but coming out of SBB funds for second year.
- .5 Teacher - paid from 124 - anticipate paying from SBB for FY22
- .5 Arts Teacher - paid from WT - anticipate paying from SBB for FY22
- Bilingual Teacher - .5 paid from SBB - want to "free up" teacher to give bilingual supports
- Security - Anticipate more security for FY22 for after school activities - would pay through 124
- Essentials - Anticipate needing a .5 Essentials position based on increased enrollment.
- 124 Funds also used for - coaches, teacher extended day, PSRP extended day, security OT (if .5 security not hired), substitutes and teacher summer pay - totaling \$51,500
- Waters Today funds - Right At School lunch/recess coaches may increase with increased enrollment in SY22.

LMS: Is the idea for ELPT to be a dedicated full-time or half-time dedicated bilingual teacher?

TK: Half-time.

LMS: Is that allowed to have ELPT be part-time?

TK: Yes. If Case Manager position gets picked up by the board, we could hire a full position for ELPT, but part of that position could be MTSS coach or something else. We have a high need for students needing those supports, but because we haven't had the funding, we haven't been able to.

ES: What is the process for getting the Board to pay for the case manager position? How can we get their attention and make sure they follow through?

LMS: Under the internal accounts, does this account for the income generated by Early Birds, for example?

TK: No.

LMS: It would be useful to see the anticipated income as well as the expenditure.

CB: This is useful, I'm still trying to see how to reconcile it all together. Right now you still want to free up funds to cover a half bilingual position, right?

TK: Correct.

ES: Do we have an update on current essentials staffing?

TK: Not yet. That's in the hands of central office. They are reviewing everything. They will be the ones making a final decision on that.

ES: In the meantime, you're anticipating still needing to cover the preps and that's why the 6th essential is listed?

TK: That has nothing to do with this school year.

ES: Why would we need a 6th essential for next school year?

TK: Based on increased enrolment. If we have more classrooms, we would not be able to cover all of the preps with the current number.

ES: What is the number of homerooms that would trigger the need for an additional essential teacher? Right now we're at 25.

NA: Currently we have the 5 essentials teachers and 25 homerooms. Between the teachers, there's 5 periods a day. Essentials teachers also need preps. Even if we grow by three more homerooms, we would not have enough staff to provide prep periods for all the homeroom teachers.

LMS: What's missing from this is that if we have a 6th essentials teacher, that would mean we've gone up by at least one more homeroom teacher as well.

What do you envision that 6th essential being?

NA: It would work in the new space that we have - STEAM, etc.

LMS: Is that in addition to the two art classes we already have?

NA: We don't know whether we will have drama. STEAM is a newer passion.

LMS: I'm looking for an articulated vision of where we're headed as a school. Do we want to remain a fine arts school or shift to STEAM focus?

TK: Within the ILT there's been a lot of energy in STEAM activities at the school. That is something we need to determine. Other schools have multiple clusters. I asked CPS if I applied for a STEAM cluster if we had to give up fine arts and I was told yes. An additional cluster status would mean an additional free position. We do have Title II funds (353) from CPS, which covers a teacher position.

ES: As I recall correctly, it's less than one position - like .8?

TK: It's split funding, but essentially a full position

Waters Today

Kortney Moore: We received the wish list from Ms Alvarez, and Sam is moving forward with those purchases. There was another wish list with bigger ticket items on it - computers, furniture. How are we going to go forward with those purchases? Have all the teachers been surveyed for their remote learning needs?

TK: Yes.

KM: Great. I want to make sure we're being equitable. A tech inventory may be helpful as well. As that tech inventory is taken, do we need to be thinking about replacing Chromebooks with those dollars, spending money on student needs?

TK: We have been passing out Chromebooks. We still have carts available. We ordered four carts in the spring and we are now tapping into those Chromebooks for distribution. We had

about 60 Chromebooks that we sent for repair. I'm questioning how much online work we will do in the future when we are back in person? While we need technology, what will our new learning look like when we come back? I think it would be frustrating to be put on computers. We will have to use them for some subscriptions and supports, but I imagine a lot of our work will not be on a computer.

NA: Another thing that will be helpful is now that teachers are able to come back into the building, teachers are going to be putting together some packets and textbooks for students.

NA: The other items for purchase - I've reached out to the vendor to see how they would shift their invoice to Waters Today.

LMS: What happens to the teacher laptops when we return to school?

NA: They will still be used by teachers.

ES: With the new annex, will still need to be thinking about introducing a pre-K program. It is a need in our community.

TK: PreK is funded completely separately, but would tip us over into that 6th essential.

Public Comment/Questions

None.

Action

Adjourn Meeting	Motion: LMS Second: TK Approval: Unanimous
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Next Meeting	Monday, November 2 9:00am
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