



**Waters Elementary School  
Local School Council**

**Budget Committee Meeting Minutes - APPROVED**

<b>Date</b>	<b>April 7, 2021</b>
<b>Meeting Type</b>	Budget Committee Meeting
<b>Time Start/End</b>	9:02/9:51
<b>Location</b>	Google Meet
<b>Chairperson</b>	Liz Chandran
<b>Minutes Prepared By</b>	Lydia Milman Schmidt
<b>Attendees</b>	Present: Liz Chandran, Titia Kipp, Alison MacDonald Ryan, Lydia Milman Schmidt  Additional Staff Present: Justin Heath, LSC Specialist
<b>Minutes Approved Date</b>	<b>April 16, 2021</b>

**Actions**

<b>Approval of Agenda</b>	AMR: Motion TK: Second Unanimous approval
<b>Approval of Minutes 3/10/21</b>	Tabled to next meeting

## Discussion

### Update on transfers approved in February

TK: Just received updates this morning from the finance dept. Will send updated reports. Asked to put remaining funds in a reading line so we could see what's left. There is about \$83k left in comparability funds to carry over to next year. The original goal was to have enough for the .5 Arts position in January 2022.

LC: There is \$53k in a line called "Reading".

TK: It's just a holding place. It dropped into that line after all the transfers occurred after all of the February transfers. The transfer that hasn't happened yet is \$12k on a misc. line that is supposed to go into the miscellaneous employee position. We approved \$14k but there was a short of \$2k that would need to go over into miscellaneous position.

LMS: What is the \$53k in the reading line for?

TK: That's what came back to us after the money transferred for the ELPT.

LMS: So that is unallocated?

TK: Yes. It has to be spent by the end of the year.

AMR: How much do we have to spend down by the end of the year?

TK: The total amount includes \$83k for comparability holdover and \$22k for RAS.

LMS: How many coaches do we have now?

TK: Four or five.

LMS: Is that enough coverage?

TK: Everyone is helping out, including Ms Alvarez and myself. Lunch is spread out over four different spots. Coaches also have to be outside at the same time, so four or five isn't enough.

AMR: It sounds like we've got about \$100k to spend down before the end of the year.

TK: Yes.

AMR: Do we have ideas on how we want to spend it?

TK: The white boards - we still have that proposal that is \$16,788. I can share it with you. There is \$5k on an art supplies line that we won't spend because we didn't spend all of the money allocated to art supplies last year. We're looking at subscriptions.

CPS will be providing funds for after-school tutoring. I don't know how much we're going to get. I asked for \$6,000 for tutoring transferred from charter school cohort line. I may ask to reallocate that request because I didn't know that CPS was going to give us funds.

AMR: Can we get a list of subscriptions?

TK: Yes.

May 21 is when we have to complete the spend down from FY21. We want to lock in some budget dates so we are able to do the spend down in a timely manner.

LMS: I think we should set ourselves a deadline that is not close to May 21, so we don't even get close to that date.

TK: I'm not sure we'll have a presentation by the April 20 meeting so we'll need to hold another full meeting. Let's set a deadline for May 7.

AMR: Can we prioritize things we've spoken about previously, like instruments or fixing the bathrooms?

LC: I think you were going to speak with Mr Bradford about what he needs.

TK: Music stands were included in the new building. We did purchase keyboards as part of his request. The bathroom issue concerns me because that's a capital project. I don't know that these funds can be used for capital projects. We do have new ADA compliant bathrooms on all 3 floors. In terms of doing work in the existing building,

AMR: What fund did the keyboards come out of?

TK: Arts Essentials and All-City Arts, plus \$1500 in a music line. There are still some funds sitting in that line. We wanted to use the All-City Arts because those had a deadline.

LMS: How many keyboards did we purchase?

TK: It may be 20, but I'd have to look at the invoice to be sure.

LC: I feel like we're running out of time and we need to get the requests in in the next week or two.

TK: This is how it happens every year.

LC: Exactly. I was hoping we could get away from that and spend money throughout the year.

LMS: Some of these funds could have been spent earlier in the year. The comparability funds we didn't have until now, but we could have spent the \$1500 music supplies line earlier in the year. This has been a frustration for the LSC.

LMS: How many students are returning April 19?

TK: About 150 more students, which brings us up to about  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the total number of kids. I requested more headphones from the WT funds.

LC: Are all the teachers coming back?

TK: Not yet. Some of the accommodations are still being reviewed.

LMS: I would like to see a more top-down approach to budgeting rather than this piecemeal approach. Teachers have had several opportunities this year to have wish lists fulfilled. There are still priorities in our CIWP that haven't happened. This money should go to part of a larger project, whether it's musical instruments or outfitting a classroom for drama. There is no reason, for example, that \$1500 for music hasn't been spent yet.

JH: You might get your budget as soon as today and it will be optimistic. The rumor is there will be extra money (around \$60k-\$80k is the rumor) from the federal spending plan.

LMS: What is the \$61k in 124 that is new?

TK: That came back to us after transferring money for the music position. The 124 funds will roll over.

LMS: For next year are we still talking about hiring a 6th Essential teacher?

TK: Yes. And we are paying for .5 of the case manager, which should be funded through CPS. The 6th essential will probably be related to technology.

LC: About the reports we get. I'm wondering where budget lines came from in April that were not there in March. Where are these appearing from? One description is "General Education - Commodities Supplies" for science, art, etc.

## Discussion of AY22 Budget

TK: We have not received the budget yet. We don't know if the advance has been approved.

## Anticipated budget items for approval - April 20 LSC meeting

TK: The only one so far is the white boards. Will send the updated proposal.

<b>Adjourn</b>	: Motion : Second Unanimous approval
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