



**Waters Elementary School  
Local School Council**

**Budget Committee Meeting Minutes - APPROVED**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Monday, September 14 2020</b>
<b>Meeting Type</b>	Budget Committee Meeting
<b>Time Start/End</b>	8:30am/9:37am
<b>Location</b>	Google Meet
<b>Chairperson</b>	Jason Rieger
<b>Minutes Prepared By</b>	Lydia Milman Schmidt
<b>Attendees</b>	Present: Chris Brannan, Titia Kipp, Jason Rieger, Lydia Milman Schmidt, Erica Smith  Additional Staff Present: Nilsa Alvarez  Parents Present: Sam Kaune, Kortney Moore
<b>Minutes Approved Date</b>	October 19, 2020

**Discussion**

**Anticipated Funding Shortfalls**

**TK:**

- We've lost a number of students due to remote learning. Current enrollment is 647.
- We won't be able to get additional funding for a position based on increase in enrollment.

- Want to open two teaching positions - one for a classroom teacher (5th grade), one for an essentials teacher (K-5, unspecified)
- We no longer have staff to cover all of the essential programming and we need to meet the CTU requirement for covering teacher preps.
- We should hold off on voting on the Waters Today allocation until after the 20th day of school

#### **Available funding**

- Approximately \$23k in a salary pointer line
- Approximately \$51k in SBB non-personnel
- Internal Accounts - \$92
- There might be approximately \$31k in additional funds if we reach target enrollment (based on 20th day).

#### **Potential Solutions**

- Grade level split - may be K/1st
- There is currently a substitute in 5th grade. The goal is to bring the sub on permanently.

#### **TK:**

- Most families who have left Waters will be returning next year, so we'd have to plan for that.
- Will be asking that we still utilize WT .5 funding because we need a full other position.
- Both current art teachers are still full-time. One is picking up bilingual support in other certified areas. Their schedule is full-time. It creates a shortage in terms of the rest of the school for the preps schedule. Both PE and music are full-time. We are working on an additional course for middle school, but missing K-5 group missing their additional prep.

#### **NA:**

- Due to arrangements based on certification. Ms Vecchioni is doing K-5 Art and 6-8 "Genius Hour". Ms Garcia is doing 6-8 art. K-5 is area where we're short. We've been working out something with Choose Love curriculum to provide SEL supports. Genius Hour is not a set curriculum. Building on art curriculum.
- Ms Garcia is teaching 6-8 art. She will also be providing support to bilingual learners, and collaborating with Mr Leki and Ms Bricker for SEL and ecology sessions. Mr Leki needs to do that in collaboration with a teacher.

#### **TK:**

- New K-5 essentials teacher would be full-time. Additional duties would include SEL and ecology supports.
- The position has not yet been advertised. Once it is approved, it can be advertised quickly. The length of time before a teacher is in the classroom depends on the candidate.
- A part-time essentials teacher may not work due to the current K-5 prep schedule.
- You can't use subs to cover one prep due to union issues.

#### **CB:**

- We're having to create a new position because someone was teaching what they weren't certified to teach. Nothing has actually changed, but now we need an

additional person. We've created other roles to fill the portfolio of the teachers who are there right now, but we also need an additional one.

**TK:**

- Based on seniority, based on CTU contract if the person is certified in other areas, we'd be bumping one of the other middle school teachers out based on certifications.
- Before teaching drama, Ms Garcia taught Language Arts. She holds an endorsement to teach English in middle school. She could be a homeroom teacher, but she'd be bumping another homeroom teacher.
- Would have to check the other middle school teachers to see who is certified to teach K-5.

**JR:**

- We could make some of the money work by shifting Garcia, but would put a big burden on the students to adjust to a new teacher.

**TK:**

- I can do a seniority check. One of the biggest concerns was causing emotional upheaval. The newest staff member, wherever they are in the building, dependent on certification, would be bumped.
- Ms Bricker and Mr Leki cannot cover preps. Mr Leki is not a certified teacher and can only do Google Meets with a teacher present.
- Ms Kipp will look at the simulation of the position costs and the effects of moving Ms Garcia from her current position into an English Language Arts position and see what the seniority fallout will be. Also look at having a sub to cover K-5 essentials.
- Current funding for subs is the sub bucket until we figure out what's going to happen with essentials program. We'll have to transfer funds into the sub bucket.
- Each sub is approximately \$125/day per sub.
- Additional subs currently: There is a cadre sub in 6th grade for the year. There is also a Temporarily Assigned Teacher in 3rd grade. Both of these positions are funded through CPS.

#### **Request for 9-15 Agenda Item**

**JR:** For tomorrow's LSC meeting, you're asking us to make a transfer without a solid idea about the numbers. It may be too vague for a vote.

**TK:** Wants to do a simulation today with the business service center to determine exactly how much money we would need and from where.

#### **Public Comment/Questions**

Sam Kaune: Waters Today is concerned about the ability to fundraise. Attendance is potentially down or holding steady. We have the same number of essentials teachers as last year, but now we need to increase. What's the driver?

TK: There was some concern around certification. For years we were able to have Ms Garcia teach K-8 drama. This was a program that we were permitted by HR because there was no drama certification or endorsement in K-5 drama. HR permitted Ms Garcia to teach the

program for 15 years. This year there were concerns about certification. ISBE just came out with an endorsement for drama in February 2020. Given the circumstances, we had to make adjustments. Because she is certified in other areas, we moved her into an area she is able to teach.

Kortney Moore: Could the 5th grade position be hired now and wait until day 10 or 20 to hire the other full-time position. Can you hire a full-time sub?

TK: We have some funds in sub bucket. There is \$1000 now, which is also what Ms Murat is working out of. We'd like to hire Ms Murat asap so we don't lose her.

JR: The only option is to allocate the money from internal accounts now.

TK: Correct.