

## Report of The Finance and Facilities Subcommittee, December 18, 2024, submitted by Sarah Phillips

The Finance and Facilities Subcommittee met on December 18, 2024, via Zoom. Members present were Sarah Phillips, Leiran Biton, and Ellenor Barish. Also in attendance was Interim Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Pat Durette and Superintendent Rubén Carmona.

Sarah Phillips called the meeting to order at 7:15pm. There were 1 attendee in the audience. There were four items on the agenda:

### 1) November Bill Rolls

Pat reviewed key expenses, including approximately \$35,000 in legal fees. There are a lot of school supplies being bought. There are a lot of athletics purchases because it's every official and every game.

Leiran Biton, seconded by Sarah Phillips, moved to approve the November Bill Rolls. The motion passed unanimously.

### 2) YTD Expenditure

Pat reviewed the YTD Expenditures. There were not a lot of changes from the prior month. We have been watching a number of accounts closely. For example, in curriculum, we are working with Jess to see what other funds we will need this year and will pull from other accounts if necessary. We are also looking at the OST line. They have used almost 80% of their budget because they've shifted to long-term contracts that run through the entire school year. Special education and transportation do the same thing. We have a few leaves of absences that we've had to fill with a staffing agency. Because we pay an agency, we can't charge to the salary account. We will probably charge it to one of our operations accounts, which will show a big negative. But there are no concerns about going over budget.

### 3) Community Schools Follow Up

Pat followed up on the questions. As of December 18, there is a small waitlist. But they are fully staffed. 50% of students at ECSC received scholarships (not 50% of students in Community Schools)-- approximately 900 students were enrolled and of that number 149 students received some scholarship. Of the year to year carryover, community schools will spend about \$315,000 a month in expenses. Given that, they have a three month revenue cushion.

### 4) Federal Funding - FY24 Federal Grants Received and Expected Changes

Pat shared a report showing the FY24 Federal and state grants because it shows the full year. This shows the grant total of approximately 6.5 million dollars. It is inflated by the ESSER grants but gives a picture of what our federal grants usually are. We thought we would be seeing a decrease in our Title 1 because one school is below the threshold for the number of students living in poverty, but we didn't. We will definitely see it next year. For FY25, this 3.49 million - 80% is budgeted in salaries. That's something to consider as we move into budget season, as we expect Title 1 will decrease by about 15%.

The other piece is regarding school food service. 4.2 million dollars is the amount spent in the food service department last fiscal year. This total amount is coming from state or federal money. 75-80% is federal money. Not sure what shift we'll see in these numbers moving forward. It's hard to plan for.

The city is estimating that 1-2% of its revenue comes from the federal government (including money to school).

In planning for the budget, it would be good to be more conservative as we put the budget together, knowing that we could have things that could be cut. We are looking at efficiency dollars to see what savings we have. We also heard from the state that there will be other cuts—charter school reimbursement and circuit breaker, for example. Revenue trends are not going in the right direction. However, SPED tuitions are forecasted to only be going up 3-4%.

The meeting adjourned at 7:01 pm.

Documents Used:

Expenditure.pdf

November Bill Roll.pdf

YTD Expenses.pdf

FY26 State Revenue.pdf

Federal Funding - FY24 Federal Grants Received and Expected Changes.pdf