

2020 – 2021 BUDGET ADVISORY COUNCIL

February 10, 2021

Online via MS Teams

The meeting started at 7:01 PM.

1. Welcome and Introductions
 - a. Fifteen members were present: Melanie Bowen (Chair), Chuck Rush (Vice-Chair), Katherine Christensen, Juan Gordon, Bob Ramsey, Erik Sullivan, Julie Davis, Sean Miller, Valerie Smith, Nellie Carr, Lisa Blackwell, Dedra Curteman, Michael Lyons, Sal Tajuddin and Jennifer Wagener
 - b. APS staff member Leslie Peterson
 - c. School Board Liaison Monique O'Grady
2. Welcome to new members: Michael and Sal
3. Approval of Minutes
 - a. The January minutes were approved by all members
4. Public Comment – Josh Folb, AEA
 - a. Glad to see that the funding gap for this budget year has been closing
 - b. As work towards next year's budget begins, AEA wants the BAC to remember that APS staff did not receive salary increases this past year
5. Overview of Budget Process – Leslie Peterson
 - a. Budget decisions are still in-progress
 - i. It is possible that printed budget documents may not be available when the budget is released later this month
 - ii. Working through options for BAC members to pick up printed budget documents
 - iii. Budget being prepared as if no COVID protocols for next fall
6. Overview of Central Office Department Budget – Leslie Peterson
 - a. Each department budget has an area(s) that cover the school division as a whole, in addition to items specific to the department
 - i. They are not just overhead that can be reduced
 - b. Approximately 90% of all budgets is staffing
 - c. Some departments have positions that are school-based
7. Overview of Facilities & Operations Department Budget – John Chadwick
 - a. Facilities & Operations covers a variety of areas, such as Risk Management, Plant Operations, Maintenance and Transportation
 - b. Plant Operations does not include custodians; they are provided in the school budget under a Planning Factor
 - c. Maintenance – performed by in-house staff and under service contracts
 - d. Transportation is the largest single area due to staffing
 - e. Lots of focus on air quality in classrooms and gathering spaces. There is maintenance work but also a fair amount of capital work needed to continue to improve ongoing quality.
 - i. Significant expense this year on filters and air cleaning machines

- ii. Next year's budget will require additional ongoing maintenance to these items (and others still being determined)
- 8. Overview of Teaching & Learning Department Budget – Bridget Loft
 - a. 70% of budget is school based versus non-school based staff
 - b. Still focused on meeting the requirements of the DOJ settlement
 - i. In Year 2 (of 3) – put necessary staffing in place
 - ii. Year 3 focuses on translation of essential documents
 - 1. More efficient to have in-house translator to focus on special education documents
 - c. Transition to a new early reading program – PALS screening to be augmented with a more comprehensive system that allows for more intervention
 - d. Expecting greater need for summer school and working on some strategies to intervene and help students prior to summer

The meeting adjourned at 8:56 PM.