

## SCHOOL BOARD BUDGET COMMITTEE

December 10, 2013

### Minutes

#### Committee Members Present:

Dana Pittman, Chair  
Tom Fleps  
James Garrett

#### Others Present:

Ronnie McCarty, Board Member  
Sally Spencer, Board Member  
James Teague, Director of Schools  
Dr. Lonnie Harris, Director of Curriculum

#### Committee Members Absent:

Robert Redditt  
Marandy Wilkerson

#### 1. Oakland Ball Fields Contract

- The current contract expires at the end of December. Additional maintenance requirements for the newly renovated soccer field at West Jr High had been documented by Steve Allshouse and were reviewed by the committee at the November meeting.
- Oakland mayor Chris Goodman was in attendance and reported back on his suggestions for the amendments to the contract.
- It was agreed that Oakland would continue the maintenance of the field including mowing and that Oakland and the Board would split the cost of the aeration and the spraying. The Board will contribute \$200 each year toward the maintenance upon receipt of an invoice from Oakland.
- It was also decided that the contract would be for two years instead of one year.
- Motion by Garrett, second by Fleps to recommend approval by the Board.
- Motion unanimously approved.
- The recommended amendments were forwarded to Tom Minor who provided a revised contract which was sent to Mayor Goodman for his review.

#### 2. Review of Race to the Top Funding and Expenditures for 2013-14

- Since Wilkerson had requested this presentation and was absent, it was deferred until January.

#### 3. Review of November Financial Reports and Teacher Salary Projections

- The committee reviewed the reports available. Some of the newly designed reports were still being developed and were not available for the meeting.
- Discussion of the Transportation Analysis Report included the need to purchase two vans to handle Majority-to-Minority transportation more efficiently. The committee did not make a formal recommendation, but this item has been placed on the January 9 meeting agenda.

#### 4. Budget Amendments

- Mr. Teague presented four budget amendments to the committee and explained them.
- Motion by Garrett, second by Fleps to recommend approval by the Board.
- Motion unanimously approved.
- The committee discussed correcting two personnel line items by a budget amendment.
- Motion by Pittman, second by Garrett to recommend approval by the Board.
- Motion unanimously approved.
- The committee discussed the need for a communications and scheduling position to work on various aspects of the Consent Order including an enhanced website. Mr. Teague pointed out there were unused funds for SRO contracted services that could be re-allocated for the position.
- Motion by Pittman, second by Garrett to recommend approval by the Board.
- Motion unanimously approved.

## **5. Consent Order Decisions**

- Pittman reported there are two items in the Consent Order that require a decision by the Board.
- Magnet School (Section E on page 6)
  - The Board may elect to operate an elementary magnet school.
  - The committee felt like all four schools should receive equal resources and that funds are not available at this time for a magnet school.
  - Motion by Pittman, second by Fleps to recommend that the Board elect to not pursue a magnet school at this point and to revisit it in two years.
  - Motion unanimously approved.
- Controlled Choice (Section D.6. on page 5)
  - For the 2014-15 school year, the Board may exempt students in grades four and five from the program and allow them to remain in their zoned schools.
  - The committee felt that fourth and fifth graders should be exempt.
  - Motion by Garrett, second by Fleps to exercise the School Board's option granted to us by bullet #6 [D.6. on page 5 of the Consent Order].
  - Motion unanimously approved.

## **6. Alternative Sources for Health Insurance**

- No information was available as yet.

## **7. Policy 2.200 Annual Operating Budget**

- The amendments to this policy explicitly incorporate salary schedules, supplement schedules, and the report of all budgeted positions and salaries into the budget process.
- This amended policy was forwarded to the Budget Committee by the Policy Committee with a recommendation to approve it and forward it to the Board.
- Motion by Garrett, second by Fleps to recommend approval by the Board.
- Motion unanimously approved.

## **8. Planning for 2013-2014 Budget Process**

- The committee asked Mr. Teague to bring his recommendations for salary schedules to the committee meeting in January.

## **9. New State Requirements for Teacher Salary Schedule**

- The State is requiring that a differentiated teacher salary schedule be developed by each district and approved in February.
- Mr. Teague reported that compliance with this requirement can be met by designating more money for difficult to fill positions. His current thinking is to keep the salary schedule as is and to provide a \$5,000 supplement for each of the six high school math teaching positions with the supplement prorated across all 12 months. The STEM teacher in the new elementary school might also need a supplement.

## **10. Review of Travel Policy, Travel Form, Policy 2.804 Expenses and Reimbursements**

- Pittman asked committee members to review these items and come prepared to discuss them at the January meeting.

## **11. Federal Funds at the Discretion of Principals**

- Pittman asked that a report for each school be presented at the January meeting.