



**District Committee on Budget & Finance
March 21, 2023**

Zoom, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Attendees: Mary Chries Concha Thia, Anthony Djedi, Judy Hutchinson, Nick Kapp, Vincent Li, Stephanie Martinez, Joe Morello, Gerardo Pacheco, Bernata Slater, Paola Tagashira, and Chi Chi Wai

Absent: Tony Burolla, Anthony Chumpitazi, Steven Lehigh, Ludmila Prisecar, and Richard Storti

Guests: Paul Cassidy and Peter Fitzsimmons

Called to order at 1:39 p.m.

1. HEERF (Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds) Update

Slater introduced the item and reminded the committee that these resources were made available by the Federal Government to mitigate the impacts of the pandemic for the district and for students. Spending plans for the three tranches were previously presented to the Board of Trustees. Cassidy reviewed the presentation previously emailed to the committee members.

Fitzsimmons inquired if the grant to students was annual or per semester. Hutchinson responded that it was per tranche with a focus on those students most in need. Cassidy stated that CARES was more limited because at the time the receipt of the second two tranches were not known (i.e., the Federal Government passed subsequent legislation authorizing additional funds).

Hutchinson asked if any of the attendees had the benefit of experiencing the smart classrooms. She advised that these classrooms are designed to be multi-functional. Pacheco stated that hi-flex classes are a benefit to students; however, are a challenge from the faculty perspective because of this multi-functionality. Li stated that a faculty member can be in the smart classroom alone while all the students are remote, which is an interesting dynamic.

Slater concluded by congratulating the colleges for focusing on student needs including student debt relief. She went on to thank the colleges for complying with the reporting and audit requirements.

2. FY 2023-24 Site Allocations Update

Fitzsimmons reviewed the updated site allocation document that was previously emailed to the committee members. Revenues increased by \$654,629 and for the most part has been allocated to the sites via the resource allocation model. Another update will be provided at the next meeting.

Slater highlighted the \$10 million set-aside for SB893. This week's Board Meeting will present an opportunity for the Board to adopt policies effective Summer 2023 and beyond, which will ultimately drive the cost of SB893. She reminded the committee that fees are not waived; rather, the fees are paid for on behalf of the student by the District (out of the \$10 million).

Slater also reminded the committee that the RA has been updated to allocate resources for scheduled maintenance and technology hardware needs when the State doesn't provide adequate funding.

3. RA Review Status Update

On behalf of Storti, Slater updated the committee members on the status. There has not been a task force meeting since the last committee meeting.

4. Public Comments / Future Agenda Items

Slater reviewed the proposed agenda items located in the parking lot for April and May. Slater advised the committee that the deadline to file taxes will make the State's revenue projections difficult so it is anticipated that the revise will likely be very conservative in nature followed by trailer bills.

Morello highlighted that this extension in tax filing handicaps the administration from having a clear picture on revenues for the May Revise.

Fitzsimmons stated that there is a possibility that the State may "take back" some of the 22/23 State Scheduled Maintenance / Instructional Equipment because revenues are below forecast. Slater added that there are also discussions that the State may redirect some of these funds for student outreach and retention.

5. Next Meeting: April 18, 2023

Meeting adjourned at 2:17 p.m.