

# Robbinsdale Area Schools

Annual Report to the School Board  
2022-2023

Financial Advisory Council

# FAC 2022-2023 Membership & Meetings

- ▶ Lennie Kaufman, Chair
- ▶ Greg Kugler, Secretary
- ▶ Walter Gray
- ▶ April Gulley
- ▶ Katherine Lankford
- ▶ O. Barry Rogers
- ▶ Nicole Sandback
- ▶ John Vento, Board Treasurer
- ▶ Ukee Dozier, Exec. Dir.-  
Finance
- ▶ Bylaws require a minimum of four (4) meetings per year; FAC met four (4) times:
  - ▶ 11/15/22; 1/17/23;  
3/14/22; 5/16/22
  - ▶ Other regular attendees: David Engstrom, Karylanne Marchand, Virginia Verbrugge

# FAC Duties and Responsibilities

(per FAC Bylaws)

- ▶ Provide financial advice and support to the Board and to the Administration
- ▶ Review and evaluate the District's economic conditions
- ▶ Review future revenue/expenditure projections
- ▶ Make recommendations regarding future budget targets and assumptions

# Topics Reviewed by FAC During FY 2023

- Proposed Levy—Taxes Payable 2023
- Projected FY 23 Results, and FY 24 Budget by Funds
- Actual and Projected Changes to the General Fund
- Timing and Use of ESSER (COVID-Related) Dollars
- Enrollment Projections for FY 23 and Beyond
- Expiring Tax Levies
- Medical and Dental Plan Financial Operation
- Projected and Actual Changes to Other District Funds
- Review of L-T Debt and the Levy/Referendum Process

# Issues Raised and Discussed by the FAC

- Use of ESSER Funds
- Declining Enrollment
- New Long-Term Planning Model
- Audit Results
- FY 23-24 General Fund Budget
- Self Insured Medical and Dental Funds
- Child Nutrition Fund and Lunch Debt
- FAC Responsibilities and Member Education

# FAC's Enrollment Comments

- ▶ What can the District do to stem the enrollment decline?
- ▶ And if the decline continues, how will this affect finances?
- ▶ Available enhanced enrollment information and parent surveys might help determine what can be done.
- ▶ Should we examine what parts of the District are experiencing higher out migration of students.

# Other FAC AREAS OF Concern

- ▶ FY22 Audit Results (including 403(B) Issue)
- ▶ Student Transportation Costs and Future Decisions
- ▶ Expiring Tax Levies

# General Recommendations

- Continue to Build the Unassigned Fund Balance
- Increased Focus on Revenue Drivers
- Don't Use One-Time Funds to Support Ongoing Expenses
- Oversight of Prudent Expense Management
- Keep the FAC Involved in Ongoing Financial Planning and Discussions Regarding Financial Issues
- Attract and Retain Strong Financial Leadership to Continue Building Strong Financial Processes and Operations



# FAC Duties and Performance

- ▶ Continue emphasis on audit evaluations, budgeting process, financial performance, tax levy evaluation, and **major** factors, like enrollment, that affect revenue
- ▶ Increase FAC's direct involvement with the School Board in reviewing long-term financial goals, actual vs. budgeted performance, contracted services (e.g., student transportation), and key performance indicators
- ▶ Work with District financial staff to develop a range of assumptions for budget modeling.
- ▶ Resume FAC participation **in** pre-cabinet task force discussions, which started before the pandemic but later stopped.

Robbinsdale Area Schools

QUESTIONS???

Financial Advisory Council