

ATLANTA PUBLIC SCHOOLS BUDGET AND FINANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

January 15, 2015

PURPOSE

The Superintendent has established the Budget and Finance Advisory Committee (BFAC) for the purpose of providing guidance and counsel on matters of budget and finance as may be determined by the district administration. The Committee is comprised of representatives from the community, charter schools, principals, at-large, and central office.

Agenda

1. Opening Remarks
2. School Budget Templates
3. FY16 Budget Process
4. Special Revenue Presentation
5. Questions and Discussion
6. Closing

Committee Members in Attendance

- **Community** - Tammy Dixon, Clay Elrod, Felecia Josey, Mark Rebillot, Robert Stockwell, Darryl J. Terry II, and Toni Terry
- **Charter Schools** - Chandra Selles
- **At-Large** - Cynthia Micklebury and Marshall Norseng,
- **Principals** – Buck Greene
- **Central Office** - Chuck Burbridge, CFO

Committee Members Absent

- Linda Anderson, Tony Burks II, Youlanda Carr, Cynthia Dumas, Nicole Lawson, JaTawn Robinson, Joseph Salley, Clara Taylor, Linda Anderson

DISCUSSION

SCHOOL BUDGET TEMPLATES

After greetings from Chuck Burbridge, Robert Stockwell wanted guidance about school budgets, how they are developed, and how school level administration is involved. Chuck outlined 3 major components that make up school budgets:

1. Enrollment projections from Demographer
2. Staffing allocations from HR
3. Per student allocation for discretionary funds

When asked the question about the funding formula that is used to create the dollar amounts, Chuck Burbridge stated that Dr. Anderson has a book with those funding formulas and HR has the staffing allocations. The enrollment projections were given to the principals and will be presented at the February board meeting. When asked about EIP, Special needs students, and actual class size data, Chuck Burbridge responded that Ruby Sullivan is tasked with trying to extract data from Infinite Campus which in the past has not been a reliable data source. They are working on linking Lawson with Infinite Campus.

FY 16 BUDGET PROCESS

Mr. Burbridge made the committee aware of where we were in regards to the Budget Templates and told them the timeline of when they went out, when they were received, and the department(s) that said they would turn them in on Friday, January 16th. FY16 Budget templates should encompass an additional 5million dollar reduction to match FY15 5 million dollar reductions from general and non-general administrative costs. The Board will receive the cost of the 10 expenditure parameters at Board planning meeting, which estimates to about \$110 million dollars. \$77 million dollars may come from SPLOST IV dollars for HVAC reconstruction. Mr. Burbridge will send out ahead of time the presentation surrounding this initiative. We still plan to keep a flat budget for FY16 General Fund.

SPECIAL REVENUE PRESENTATION

Mr. Burbridge did a presentation on Special Revenue and a question was presented about Title I allocations. There is \$48 million dollars of potential Title I budgeted dollars to be spent by September 30th. The timeline for Title I resources being available to schools vs. when it is actually received was a concern. Mr. Burbridge recognized the issues and let the committee know that he is working with the Federal Specialist to resolve those organizational issues. There has also been a recommendation given to HR for a Title I Director position. The question arose from Mr. Stockwell in regards to the high budgeted amount for Special Revenue in comparison to actuals and the response from Mr. Burbridge was that federal fund budgets overlap due to the federal fiscal year overlapping with the school fiscal year. The committee would like to see FY14 Title I spending to see if a strategy can be developed to move spending toward the priorities. Mr. Burbridge will also provide the committee with a table displaying Title I vs. ARRA spending. We have used all of our Title I waivers thus FY16 allocation will be reduced.

Title I Budget templates are scheduled to go out to schools Friday, January 16th. The committee would like greater transparency as to how the Title I allocation is created. This information will be sent out per Mr. Burbridge.

Conclusion

The committee will continue to be kept abreast to any information given to the Board and the budget process so they can continue to move forward in making recommendations. They would like greater transparency with General Fund and Title I allocations as it relates to the schools.

Next Steps

The committee would like to see the following:

- Building Capacity Data
- Detailed budgeted of all expenses at the school level- per school per cluster- (admin salary, transportation cost, teacher salary, teacher allocation, and special revenue)
- Teacher Allocation formulas
- QBE information at the school level
- Title I Allocation Detail

- ARRA Data
- SPLOST IV presentation

Next Meeting – February 12, 2015