

Budget Finalization Meeting Minutes

Virginia-Highland Elementary School

Date: 3/5/2025

Time: 6:00-7:00 pm

Location: Zoom & LiveStream

I. Call to order: 6:05

II. Roll Call

Role	Name (or Vacant)	Present or Absent
Principal	Terry Harness	P
Parent/Guardian	Rebecca Cagle	P
Parent/Guardian	Ryan Valduga	A
Instructional Staff	Young Rhee	P
Instructional Staff	Andrique Norwood	P
Community Member	Melissa Clark	P

Guests Present: None

Quorum Established: Yes

III. Action Items

A. Approval of Agenda:

Members Approving: Unanimous

Members Opposing: No

Members Abstaining: No

Motion Passes

B. Approval of Previous Minutes: *Defer to approve next meeting, so everyone can review*

C. Approval of the Final Budget Recommendation (after final presentation/review):

Motion made by: Y. Rhee; Seconded by: M. Clark

Members Approving: Unanimous

Members Opposing: No

Members Abstaining: No

Motion Passes

IV. Discussion Items

A. Final Budget Presentation

i. No budget changes were made since last feedback meeting as result of staffing conferences.

ii. Review of strategic plans and priorities—remain unchanged.

Budget Finalization Meeting Minutes

- iii. PreK: 1 general, 1 para; projections Kinder (111), 1st (123), 2nd (115), 3rd (113), 4th (99), 5th (91)
- iv. New position MTSS interventionist, new EIP hourly, social working going down to 2 days week (shared with SPARK and Lin)
- v. Specials generally unchanged, but we are adding a Steam Lab Specialists
- vi. Reserves \$142K—Harness has not dipped into those, so if we meet our projections we hopefully can use this money next year
- vii. No permanent subs next year, so these are allotted for in budget (\$98k)
- viii. 78% of funds are going to teachers and keeping class sizes down
- ix. Question from Goteam member: Who would fund additional one to one paras if they are needed? District funds these one to ones
- x. VOTE: unanimous approval of budget

B. Safety and Security Addition—Windscreen for playground

- i. Concern with pedestrians stopping and speaking to children on playground. Teachers try and intervene in conversations, but large space. Teacher concerns. Security monitor and Principal Harness want to add a windscreen with VHE logo along fencing that would create more of a privacy barrier between students and passerbys. It could also help restrict access points/climbing fences. Also prevention of distractions.
- ii. GoTeam is supportive, recommendation that we make sure funds are there to maintain it in good shape.

C. Tactical Urbanism: Bike Lane on Virginia Ave. at VHE

- i. Bike lane proposal on Virginia Ave south side of road up until Ponce Place and then shifts to north side on block with VHE
- ii. Have been many concerns, especially at Ponce Place intersection of cars whizzing around crossing guard.
- iii. GoTeam supportive, discussion of surveying next year how parents intend to drop kids at school and potential routes, etc.

V. Information Items

A. Principal's Report

- i. Declare for Goteam elections by 3/7

B. February 24, 2025 CAT Meeting Report Out

- i. APS Facilities Timeline: APS is about to begin its process of evaluating capacity and underenrolled or overcrowded schools and the like. Currently operational planning is happening, a task force will be established in April of community stakeholders, and further detailed next steps will be provided to the community at the May 2025 Board of Education meeting.

Budget Finalization Meeting Minutes

- ii. Midtown CAT Engagement Committee: co-hosting Data Dig, partnering with CINS, March 25 at noon.

VI. Announcements

- A. March 14-- Night Owl, VHE Fundraiser & Auction
- B. March 27—STEAM & Fine Arts Night

VII. Public Comment

VIII. Adjournment

Motion made by: [Norwood](#), Seconded by: [Cagle](#)

Members Approving: [Unanimous](#)

Members Opposing: [None](#)

Members Abstaining:

Motion [Passes](#)

ADJOURNED AT [6:54](#)

Minutes Taken By: [Melissa Clark](#)

Position: [GoTeam Secretary](#)

Date Approved: