

West Side Education Authority Regular Meeting (Friday, September 13, 2024)

Generated by Kavitha Lakshmanan on Friday, September 13, 2024

Members present

Chris Jew, Mike Ghelber, Christine Mallery
Graham Clark joined at 3.03PM
Jeremy Nishihara joined at 3.08PM

Non Members Present

Rick Magana

Meeting called to order at 3:02 PM**1. CALL TO ORDER**

1.1 Roll Call

2. OPENING ITEMS

2.1 Approval of Meeting Agenda
Approve the September 13, 2024 meeting agenda.

Motion by Graham Clark, second by Mike Ghelber.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Chris Jew, Mike Ghelber, Christine Mallery, Graham Clark, Jeremy Nishihara

2.2 Approval of the Meeting Minutes
Approve the June 21, 2024 meeting minutes

Motion by Mike Ghelber, second by Graham Clark.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Chris Jew, Mike Ghelber, Christine Mallery, Graham Clark, Jeremy Nishihara

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

3.1 Public Comments

- No Comments

4. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

4.1 Member District Reports

- No Reports

4.2 2024-25 Authorized Signers

- Chris explained that this is the annual form to file with the County that designates the signatories for our little JPA and that it will circulate for signatures at the end of the meeting
- No questions or comments

4.3 2023-24 Memorandum of Understanding with Santa Clara County Office of Education

- Christine stated that the County is firm on a \$20,000 obligation, which she did not agree to sign. Initially, the County did not charge other JPAs like NCORP and Silicon Valley Transportation, but they are now charging them, with NCORP being turned off and Silicon Valley Transportation paying. Although we managed without signing for 23-24, we risk being turned off if we don't approve the \$20,000 contract. This issue may need to be escalated.
- Graham noted that \$20,000 seems excessive for an organization our size. Chris inquired about a sliding scale, and Christine confirmed that \$20,000 is the minimum amount. Chris, Jeremy, and Graham are willing to escalate the issue to higher authorities if needed. Jeremy mentioned he talked to David Woo at the County, who confirmed this cost is necessary to cover our JPA.
- Christine pointed out that we paid \$8,500 in the first year, and it is unlikely the cost will decrease in the future. Graham suggested having one of our Districts include this cost in their budget. Chris proposed asking the Superintendents for help, and if that fails, considering paying the \$20,000 divided in three or folding our JPA into a district's budget. The group agreed that \$4,000-\$5,000 would be more reasonable.

4.4 Exploration of Potential Future Projects

Workforce Housing

- Graham provided an update on a meeting about workforce housing in Cupertino, which is being developed on land donated by Apple. While the County is helping with the overall development, we would need to cover the construction expenses. A survey will determine preferences for house sizes, income levels, and rent amounts. The median income requirement is set at \$103,000, meaning FUHSD teachers might not qualify unless the income criteria income is higher or they share housing. Consequently, classified staff may show more interest than teachers.
- The current design includes studio or 1-bedroom units, though the survey shows a need for 2-3 bedroom units. The project is aimed at entry-level teachers and classified staff. Despite challenges in getting FUHSD employees to attend the presentation, Graham managed to involve a few FUHSD staff and believes the project deserves support.
- Chris asked if Stacy and our unions are aware of this initiative. Mike noted that in CUSD, the income threshold for entry-level employees is about \$80,000, which aligns closely with the project's criteria. Priority in the housing lottery will be given to lower-income individuals. Mike G. highlighted that 2-bedroom units are likely to be more in demand than 1-bedroom ones. Jeremy proposed that WSEA could formally support the project, which Chris agreed would enhance its credibility.
- Graham praised the project's effort and potential benefits, although he noted that while the housing will be offered below market rate, FUHSD cannot financially contribute due to their bond restrictions. The project is looking for potential residents who can also assist in designing the property with architects.

Childcare Options for Staff

- Jeremy shared that there is a need for childcare for staff members' children. We are exploring the possibility of offering a preschool option specifically for Sunnyvale School District children. Currently, our State preschool serves two distinct populations. Can CUSD allocate costs specifically for the children of Sunnyvale School District employees?
- Chris suggested that he would consider expanding the preschool program to include SEDS and FUHSD staff. He is prepared to revisit the numbers to evaluate feasibility. Participation in the existing program is decreasing due to the introduction of TK (transitional kindergarten), and the main challenge remains finding adequate facility space. However, with surplus facilities available, some of these sites could be ideal for an early childhood development center.

4.5 Components of Employee Retention

- Jeremy had shared information on this in the previous agenda item

4.6 Sunnyvale Hopper Program

- Graham reported that FUHSD plays a key role in the Cupertino Hopper Program. While we don't have school buses and provide VTA passes instead—covering 2-3 bus lines that are good for getting students to and from school—they are not very practical for after-school activities or practice sessions. The VTA routes revert to regular hours after school, making it challenging for students involved in extracurriculars. About 700-800 kids use the buses. The Hopper Program offers a better solution for transporting students to practices and helping them get home later in the day. The Hopper extends its service hours, and students can call for a ride home, with service available to locations like De Anza college, Main Street, and more within Sunnyvale-Cupertino. It covers areas not served by existing bus routes, and there is also an option for ridesharing, allowing multiple students to be picked up and dropped off together. Anyone living in Cupertino-Sunnyvale can use this service
- Regarding transportation for Saturday practices or after-school activities, Sunnyvale City is awaiting news on a federal grant application, which might require us to contribute a portion of the funding.
- Chris inquired if the Hopper service is door-to-door, to which Graham responded that it is not exactly door-to-door but is very close. Chris also asked if the service is discounted, and Graham clarified that it is free for users; the city is billed for each ride.
- Chris asked if elementary school kids could use the service. Graham was unsure but confirmed that it is available for teenagers. Chris highlighted past issues with transporting middle school students to practices and asked what transportation options FUHSD uses, to which Graham replied that FUHSD utilizes a transportation JPA. SEDS, on the other hand, has its transportation stretched and has had the Board request after-school transport for students.

- Chris suggested sharing this information with our employees. Graham noted that many senior citizens also use the Hopper for adult education and classes. He promised to provide an update at the next meeting if the federal grant passes and will communicate the committee's enthusiasm for the program.

5. ACTION

5.1 Approval of 2023-24 Unaudited Actuals Financial Report

Rick Magana shared:

- In accordance with the provisions of Ed Code 4010, 41023, 42100 the WSEA will be able to meet its financial obligations
- Two main criteria re: positive cash flow and positive fund balances at the end of the fiscal year
- The JPA will submit a positive certification for the 2023-24 Unaudited Actuals
- Unrestricted General Funds
 - Revenue- the current revenue is based on expenses and fund balance requirements through June 2024 and are approximately 32K
 - Expenditures-Administrative and Contract costs ended the year at approximately 27K comprised primarily from the QCC MOU.
 - Ending fund Balance- the net result is \$80,000 in the ending fund balance to maintain a 5% reserve.
- Christine added that the books had to be closed by June 30th. Since we did not pay the 20K to the County, we accrued it. If we were to become successful and not pay it, we would move it to the current fiscal year. We have not billed it out.

Approve the 2023-24 Unaudited Actuals Financial Report

Motion by Jeremy Nishihara, second by Chris Jew.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Chris Jew, Mike Ghelber, Christine Mallery, Graham Clark, Jeremy Nishihara

5.2 Approval of Warrants and Purchase Orders

- All of these are to Keenan

Approve the Warrants and Purchase Orders

Motion by Graham Clark, second by Jeremy Nishihara.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Chris Jew, Mike Ghelber, Christine Mallery, Graham Clark, Jeremy Nishihara

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

6.1 Public Comments On Non-Agenda Item(s)

- No Comments

7. FUTURE AGENDA

7.1 Agenda Items for Upcoming Meetings

- Hopper program update and status of Grant
- Continue conversation on components of retention- child care and Cuperdoodle program

8. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 3.44PM