

THE GROSSE POINTE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

Grosse Pointe, Michigan

AGENDA NUMBER AND TITLE: 7.5.

Resolution to Commence 2026-27 Budget Development and Related Parameters

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Section 6.03 of Board bylaws requires that the Board annually direct the district administration to commence development of the ensuing year's budget by the adoption of a resolution that articulates *"the preference of the Board in advance of budget development to avoid ambiguity and to allow the community to have a clear view of the budget development process from its inception."* Policy states that the parameters shall:

- Identify specific financial goals and objectives that the Board requires in regards to specific cost reduction, revenue increase or other financially related objectives for particular budget elements.
- Identify particular budget related strategies that the Board prefers the administration to pursue or avoid in their development of the budget.
- Be as specific as possible in terms of the objectives, but allow for flexibility in the administration's approach to budget development.

The Treasurer of the Board, pursuant to policy 6.03, introduces this resolution to the Board for consideration.

PARAMETERS:

Parameter 1 – Balance Revenues and Expenditures

To the greatest extent possible, seek to develop a balanced budget, preserving fund equity and avoiding a dependency on one-time revenues to balance the operating budget. Maximize partnerships, grants, and other funding sources where allowed, but without establishing long-term unfunded obligations. Avoid cuts that directly affect the mission of K-12 education.

Parameter 2 - Student and Staff Safety

Incorporate strategies that will enhance the safety and physical well-being of our students, staff, families, and visitors including any best practices that have not yet been adopted. To the extent possible, continue to staff school resource officers. In support of safety initiatives, explore partnerships with local municipalities and funding from government sources, foundations, and private citizens where allowed.

Parameter 3 - Student Enrollment

Pursue and propose strategies to maximize enrollment. Avoid any change to the GPPSS' long-standing enrollment policy regarding Schools of Choice.

Parameter 4 – Walkability and Transportation

Emphasize a commitment to maintain the upkeep of our buildings and infrastructure. Maintain and enhance the walkability of the District. Seek to increase the quality and availability of transportation

for students outside of walkable distances (e.g., Harper Woods, South of Jefferson, Special Services).

Parameter 5 – Class Sizes

Attempt to achieve class size ratios at state-leading levels, particularly for Elementary schools. This parameter includes minimizing split-grade classes. Where the administration believes strongly that right-sizing actions are needed, incorporate but specifically identify the impact of such actions in budget materials.

Parameter 6 – Special Education

Provide appropriate resourcing for Special Education, including prompt resolution of resource vacancies and providing for long term program stability.

Parameter 7 – Staffing and Personnel

Incorporate innovative and flexible strategies to mitigate attrition and improve the district's status as a preferred teaching destination. Engage with employee bargaining units relative to future agreements, pursuing tangible and intangible benefits that serve the needs of staff, students, and taxpayers.

Parameter 8 - Mental Health Services

Propose options to provide additional mental health services to students. Explore partnerships with local mental health providers as well as pursue funding from government sources, foundations, and private citizens where allowed.

Parameter 9 - Program Offerings

Design the budget to continue providing an innovative and rigorous academic curriculum. While the preference is to maintain or expand the current slate of academic, athletic, and arts offerings, incorporate alternatives that the administration believes necessary. In all cases, provide adequate funding for all students to participate in mandatory elements of course offerings. Evaluate new or expanded programming options such as preschool and virtual programming.

REQUEST: That the Board approve the 2026-27 Budget Development and Financial Reporting Parameters presented.

Submitted by:

Tim Klepp, Treasurer