

# Finance Committee Meeting

Wednesday, February 7, 2018
Minutes

## **Intended Outcomes**

- Finance committee will understand grant funding options and requirements.
- Finance committee will review to better understand the strategic plan.
- Finance committee will understand CCSD89 spending in comparison to surrounding districts and state averages.
- Finance committee will define what is valued in CCSD89 schools.
- Finance committee will discuss and identify potential program/service needs and reductions.

# Strategic Plan

- Work that drives the District; 5 goals
  - Student Achievement
  - Staffing
  - o Learning Conditions
  - o Resources
  - o Family and Community
- Updated in totality every 5-8 years, reviewed annually, updated as necessary
- Updates to Strategies (December 2016) deep look with 20+ committee members
  - Integrated STEM for everyone
    - Revamped school libraries
  - Thinking/Communications
  - SEL (Social Emotional Learning)
    - Relationship Skills and Social Awareness
    - Responsible Decision Making
    - Self-Awareness and Self-Management
  - o Analytical problem-solving approach
- What does this translate to for our learners?
  - o Inquiry-based learning in all content areas
  - Real-world application of skills taught
  - o Update curriculum to ensure rigor, engagement and relevance
  - Embedded social-emotional learning
  - o Lessons structured for collaboration, communication, creativity and critical thinking
  - Whole child education: arts, music, physical education and career-cluster-aligned exploratory offerings
  - o Comprehensive extra-curriculars
- Difficult but more engaging instruction

# **Updated Financial Projections**

- Teachers contract approved January 2018
  - $\circ$  Teachers agreed to postpone last paycheck for school year until after June 1<sup>st</sup> for the next four years and after June 15<sup>th</sup> on the last year of their contract.
- Tax Anticipation Warrants (short term debt) in 2023
- Revenue Assumption changes
  - o CPI

- o Investment income (1.8% return rate)
- o Finality in State Funding
  - Still six months behind in payments
  - Proration (Receive funding from State but at a pro-rated amount; not 100%)
    - District has lost \$1.4M from State within last 10 years through proration
- o Staffing changes as accurate as possible
- Health Insurance
  - District belongs to a Cooperative
  - Preliminary projections show no increase in PPO and small increase in HMO
- o Transportation costs have sky-rocketed

#### CCSD89 Comparison

- Cost per student
  - CCSD89 spends less in operational costs per pupil than State average and all Glenbard consortium districts
    - District employs full-time social worker and RN at each school and three full-time psychologists within district
      - Best practices with increasing mental health needs and Special Education
  - Spending less but out performing other districts
  - o Only D16 spends less in instructional costs
  - o District performs in the top 15% nationally on PARCC
  - All other districts have increased their rate one to three times
  - o O&M (Operations & Maintenance), Transportation and IMRG true cost of educating a child
- Average MAP RIT Scores (Reading and Math)
  - o MAP is a nationwide test given in all 50 states
    - Stable well-researched test
  - o CCSD89 performs at the 10%ile in Reading and top 15%ile for Math nationally
  - o Average RIT score is 1 to 2 years above grade level

## Funding Needs, Sources and Challenges

- Grant Funds
  - o Almost always are to supplement not supplant
  - o Non-competitive grants (federal title dollars)
    - Larger grants often slated for district with 40-60% low income
    - Not consistent streams of money
- Fundraising
  - o Not feasible to plug \$1M deficit

# **Group Activity**

- What do you value most in your schools?
  - Art and music
  - Sense of community \*
  - Assistance for reading readiness
  - o Keeping up with new technology trends / STEM
  - o Social workers available to those with troubles and over achievers
  - o Bullying and social issues handled
  - Safe environment \*
  - Special needs assistance
  - High quality teachers (care and focused on education) \*

- o Learning in different ways so each kid can find themselves
- o High level of participation based on number of options (extracurriculars and specials)
- Quality of Education\*
  - Curriculum (rigorous)\*
    - Consistency and stability of program offerings
    - Consistency of curriculum across the four elementary schools
  - College & Career Readiness
  - Differentiation to meet all learners
- o SEL program starting young
- o Fiscal responsibility
- o Leadership, principals, teachers
- o Discipline
- Why did you move to this area?
  - Quality of schools and offerings\*\*\*
    - Public schools were as good as private schools
  - Safety of neighborhoods\*
  - o Community involvement
  - o Proximity to work
  - Volunteer opportunities
  - o Home value vs. education value
  - Access to different modes of transportation (train, airport, highway)
  - Lower taxes
  - o Programming to meet child's needs
  - o Full-day kindergarten
  - Location
- What additional reductions would you consider?
  - o Not much. Very fiscally responsible. What's left to cut are things that are valued.\*
  - Library sharing opportunities
  - Less textbooks replaced by technology
  - Hot lunch
  - o Full-day kindergarten
  - Field trips
  - o Reducing the specials (PE, music, art, band, orchestra)
  - o Larger class sizes
  - Cut Admin staffing (overhead)
  - o Challenge program
  - Smart spending in technology (out-of-date quickly, monitoring use)
  - o Better understand support services
  - o Energy use and contracts
  - Consolidation
- What funding ideas would you explore?
  - Foundation
    - Endowment
    - Bequests
    - Grants
    - Alumni donations
  - o Naming opportunities (buildings, rooms, bricks)
  - Fee increases
  - Raise taxes\*
  - Student loan program (giving scholarships/loans to students who pay back on college)

- o Raise registration fees / fee for full-day kindergarten
- Early retirement incentives
- Sales tax
  - Is there a way to get access to more of the sales tax (our dollars being spent in businesses with other districts)
- o Re-allocate TIFs
- o Community collaboratives/corporate partnerships
- o Grant money for solar panels and other energy efficient
- o Rent buildings out more
- o Procurement Cards (already doing)
- o Enlist services of efficiency expert

#### **Takeaways**

- Updated financial projections continue to reflect deficit spending and declining fund balances over the next few years.
- When compared to Statewide averages and other Glenbard elementary districts, District 89 operates more efficiently while maintaining quality learning for all students, performing in the top 10% nationally on MAP and well above the state average on PARCC.
- Grant funding opportunities are usually slated for additional programming and funds may not be used to supplant programs already in place.
- Fundraising efforts, while valuable, are not sustainable to balance a million dollar deficit for several years in a row.

Absent: Jay Lerch, Julie Nolan

<sup>&</sup>quot;\*" indicates additional time suggestion was noted by committee groups