

New Article

Participation in District Budgetary Decision-Making Process

1.0 The parties agree that ongoing considerations of district budgeting should integrate key stakeholder parties as part of the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) guidelines, and hold all stakeholders represented more responsible in making decisions necessary to measurably improve student learning outcomes. This is consistent with the requirement to utilize the Local Control Funding Formula revenues for increased and improved services to students who are low income, English learners and foster youth. The District, FTA/SEIU/CSEA, community members (including parents and leadership), as well as student leadership representatives would represent key stakeholder groups would comprise an ongoing Budget Review Committee [BRC]. Community members and student leadership shall be mutually agreed upon by the District, FTA/SEIU/CSEA.

1.1 The focus of the BRC would be to develop an improving budgetary process and oversight, that prioritizes goals as reflected by needs expressed and agreed upon by stakeholders. Best options for accountability by the School Board for improving student achievement, making classrooms safe as venues for optimal learning, discontinuing ineffective practices that hinder progress and waste resources, and improving teacher effectiveness would be examples of the work brought before the School Board for consideration.

1.2 The BRC would be charged with considering the state of The District's financial health as well as future budget concerns that may have a positive or negative impact on its fiscal condition. Considerations would include, but are not limited to, funded revenue limits, LCFF guidelines, multi-year projections, maintaining sufficient but not excessive reserves, working with Joint Health Management Board (JHMB) on health costs, examining relevant data for enrollment projection/changes at school sites (revising boundaries or re-allocating resources), and projections for the subsequent two years' projected budgets using available data.

1.3 The purpose of the BRC is not to replace district oversight of its own finances, but rather to hold all stakeholders in public education in Fresno Unified School District accountable. To be accountable, each stakeholder must have a place in the budgetary processes as outlined above. It offers transparency of the highest order and will build buy-in from all groups represented when the School Board makes choices built on collective stakeholder

work.

1.4 The BRC shall meet no less than 4 times each school year, and an official set of budget recommendations from the BRC shall be presented to the Fresno Unified School Board for review, adoption, and inclusion in the budget for each upcoming school year. Any BRC recommendations not included by the FUSD school board:

1.4.1 Must be made public

1.4.2 Must be made available for public comment at 2 consecutive school board meetings

1.4.3 Must be quantified and qualified as financially and logistically unfeasible