

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
Saint Paul, Minnesota
MINUTES OF THE BFAC MEETING**

October 16, 2018

ROLL CALL

The meeting began at 6:00pm.

Board:	J. Schumacher
Staff:	C. Baker, S. Dahlke, A. Schilling, M. Schrul, J. Engen, M. McCollor, P. Bryan, M. Hoerth, B. Richter, H. Ott,
Other:	O. King, C. Howett, P. Hendricks, Lois P., W. Kieser, K. McVay, S. Vang, M. Shore, S. Vang

OPENING

- Director Schumacher welcomed everyone to the meeting. He thanked everyone for being a part of the committee, and continuing to be a part of the process. He reminded the group that the Board will play less of a role in the BFAC because recommendations will be brought to the Board.

SUBCOMMITTEES

- Marie Schrul, Chief Financial Officer, then updated the group on the structure of the meetings. They will be held in Conf Rooms A and B from September to January. The meetings are schedule to be 6:00-7:30pm. Generally, the group will meet twice each month.
- The group will divide into two subcommittees:
 - Line item expenditures
 - Optimal school size for elementary, middle, and high school, and optimal base allocation model
- Subcommittees will consist of a Chair and Co-Chair. The Chair will be a community member and the Co-Chair will be a district staff member.
- At the final meeting, the subcommittees will report back to the large group on research and recommendations. Certain pieces may be utilized in the budget process, with the goal of the community to give input, findings, best practices, and research during this process. Voices of the community are valued and contributions sought.
- Chief Schrul noted that all voices at the table should be heard and listened to. She requested that all members be mindful of all voices.
- She also noted it is a goal of this committee to look at the entire district, and overall structure, model, allocations, and expenditures on the district overall.
- Director Schumacher noted the question of what it takes to open the doors to a school; to be able to understand what we offer in schools and what that looks like in terms of dollars, and to be sustainable.
- He requested that members be the eyes and ears to their community and ask questions. There are different ways the school district gains information and we want to do this in the best possible way and a regular way of involving the community and have that voice in the decision-making process.

LINE ITEM EXPENDITURE SUBCOMMITTEE

- Chair: Peter Hendricks
- Co-Chair: Arleen Schilling

- Members include: Cedrick Baker, BethAnn Richter, Marta Shore, Marty Hoerth, Sarah Dahlke, Jon Schumacher, Souayee Vang, Peter Hendrick, Arleen Schilling,
- Ideas to focus on include:
 - Non-negotiables
 - Efficiencies
 - Understanding of what is needed to open school doors; what different schools cost (IB vs. Montessori vs dual immersion)
 - Unfunded mandates; what SPPS gives to private and charter schools that we cannot control, but need to provide to all students in Saint Paul; community needs to realize what an asset SPPS is
 - Reimbursement services for private and charter schools
 - Automation costs in payroll and other areas
 - Transportation (multi-year contracts?)
 - Substitutes contract is also annual
 - Is there a way to connect funding received from grants or other programs and tie it to FTEs supporting programs in the district?
 - Look at enrollment and impacts of change in adding or subtracting students
 - What does it take to run a district? What is the minimum on which we can sustain and still have a functioning district?
 - Overtime costs
- It was requested to look at Program budgets with narratives and FTE's
 - Look at middle management and the narratives around those roles
 - Comparison of SPPS expenditures to other similar districts
 - Number of people paid through facility maintenance funds
 - How parents and community can donate to schools and programs
 - Crowdsourcing, and agreements on money raised; parameters around this
 - Grants
 - Title I
 - Look at two high schools on opposite ends of the spectrum, two middle schools, and three elementary schools and list all revenue they have coming in from grants, funding, etc. and where it goes
 - Programs within schools, and similar programs across schools
 - Solar and revenue from solar panels on buildings; solar gardens
 - Automation in student placement center, and process for families to tell the district if they will not be attending their accepted school
 - Start, Stop, and Sustain

NEXT STEPS FOR SUBCOMMITTEE

- Session on what goes to charters and non-public schools
- Types of costs associated with special education services outside the district
- Title 1 presentation

IDEAL SCHOOL MODEL SUBCOMMITTEE

- Chair: Owen King
- Co-Chair: Marie Schrul
- Members include: Lois P., Clayton Howatt, Marie Schrul, Owen King, Wendy Kieser, Patrick Bryan, Mike McCollor, Hans Ott, Kim McVay, Sue Vang, Jim Engen
- The subcommittee's time was spent drafting a list of positions required at an ideal school model for Elementary and Middle School.
- A request was made for each site's capacity in square footage as well as classroom capacity as it relates to student capacity.

NEXT STEPS FOR SUBCOMMITTEE

- Continue work on the Ideal School model for High School
- Items left in a “Parking Lot” for future discussion:
 - **Psychologists**
 - **ECFE**
 - **Avoid adding duties on staff**
 - **Staff need to match the Program needs**

FUTURE MEETING SCHEDULE

- October 30
- November 20
- November 27
- December 11
- January 15
- January 29

WRAP UP

It was noted that because the subcommittees have been formed and work has begun, that members will need to attend the next meeting or let others know they cannot attend, but still wish to be in the committee in order to move forward. An email will be sent to members to request their attendance or updates.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:37pm.