

IRVINE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Finance Committee

March 23, 2015

Call to Order:	The meeting of the Finance Committee was called to order by Madeline Clyde
Roll Call:	Roll Call was conducted via sign-in sheet
Members Present:	Alan Battenfield, Andy Coleman, Brian Daucher, Cyril Yu, Denise Espinosa, Jason Grenier, Madeline Clyde, Scott Hansen, Seth Grossman and Sherry Slunka
Members Absent:	Leslie Roach
IUSD Staff:	John Fogarty, Asst. Supt., Business Services, and Raianna Chavez, Confidential Secretary
Guests:	Janelle Cranch
Next Meeting Date:	May 11, 2015

Finance Committee Business

1. Call to Order; Roll Call;

- Finance Committee Chair Madeline Clyde called the meeting to order at 6:33p.m.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- Janelle Cranch moved with Brian Daucher seconding approval of the January 26, 2015 meeting minutes.

3. Review of Finance Committee Mission Statement

- John Fogarty, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services reviewed the Finance Committee Mission Statement adding that the formation of the Finance Committee came from the Orange County Bankruptcy in the early 90s. Since then, sophisticated accounting software has been mandated for all school districts with an account code structure including goal and resource functions which produces an error report if incorrect. Additionally, multiyear reports are now provided. Some of the checks and balances that were needed when the Finance Committee was created have been resolved.
- John explained that since the formation of the Finance Committee in 1995, staff have shared the District's financial information allowing appointed board reps to share and discuss the information with their school board members.
- While staff are happy to continue presenting the District's financial information, the school Board wanted to utilize the committee's knowledge, time, and efforts.
- The second paragraph of the Finance Committee Mission Statement was read and discussed:
 - "The Finance Committee reviews and makes recommendations to the Board regarding the existing and future adequacy and appropriateness of district revenues and expenditures, and suggests measures to overcome possible budget constraints. Such recommendations are made to ensure the District is maximizing its revenues, is using its resources optimally, and is able to sustain effective operations long-range."

4. Discussion on Equity in IUSD

- John Fogarty communicated that, during the recent school board meetings, concerns from the community regarding equity have been discussed. As IUSD grows and continues to build new school sites such as Cypress Village Elementary, Portola Springs Elementary, Beacon Park School, and Portola High School, in accordance with the new Education Specifications (Ed Specs), making the new sites larger than the older sites in the community, equity issues arise. In 2012, every school district had to locally adopt their Education Specifications to review what the ideal teaching environment is for IUSD, district wide. New schools are being built to those specifications.

- Utilizing the adopted Ed Specs, the 2012 Facilities Master Plan estimated a need of \$594 million (in 2012 dollars) with some state matching funds to bring all sites to the approved Ed Specs.
- Four PTA representatives attended the March 17th board meeting with concerns about equity and reported:
 - College Park Elementary: 40 year old technology infrastructure, bandwidth not sufficient, shortage of computers, no doors on classrooms. Cafeteria and lunch area too small.
 - John noted that the addition of doors on the classrooms seem easy enough, but require modifying the HVAC system.
 - Brywood Elementary: Technology deficiencies, limited open space, no doors on classrooms, etc.
 - Eastshore Elementary: Inadequate classroom size, no doors on classrooms, outdated technology infrastructure. Loss of the library for 8 weeks during state testing because the computer lab is located in the library.
- After a lively discussion the Finance Committee identified three areas of equity to focus on:
 - Facilities
 - Various ways in which revenue is generated across the district including PTA, IPSF, and direct donations to the district and/or sites via individuals, corporations and organizations.
 - Concerns over the loss of veteran staff that leave an older campus when a new campus opens “Brain Drain”.

5. Recap of Board Meeting Discussion regarding a potential General Obligations Bond

- John advised, while there are efforts to put a state facilities bond on the ballot, if that happens there is a possibility the Governor is likely to structure a bond similar to the LCFF, so that school districts with a large disadvantaged population will get more benefit than a district like IUSD.
- In the past, the District has investigated a tech bond, but a tech bond doesn’t meet the equity needs the district is experiencing. The need for a General Obligation (G.O.) bond has increased since it appears the State is not going to help.
- The School Board has asked the Finance Committee to explore a G.O. bond. A G.O. bond will likely not include technology devices, but rather the technology infrastructure needed.
- The G.O. Bond Election timeline for June and November 2016 was reviewed.
- If the district passes a bond in 2016, it could take 3-5 years before the community starts to see progress commencing, due to the need to hire architects, generate plans and get approvals.
- Member Sherry Slunka added that teachers are frequently requesting technology devices from IPSF and don’t understand that they might not be able to connect, or could bring down the internet for the entire school if too many devices are connected.
- Consensus was reached in requesting a member from the District’s Facilities staff to attend the next Finance Committee to review the Education Specifications with the committee.

6. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

- Action Items – Follow Up:**
- Distribute the Facilities Master Plan Education Specifications and Presentations to the Finance Committee.
 - Request a member from the Facilities staff to attend the next Finance Committee meeting to review the Education Specifications.