



Budget Stabilization Task Force

September 12, 2018

5:30 p.m. – 8:23 p.m.

Barbara Jordan Elementary School

MEETING MINUTES

IN ATTENDANCE:

Committee Members: Adolphus Anderson, Cesar Benavides, K.C. Cerny, Michael Cranor, Vanessa Santamaria Dainton, Christina Dunigan, Jason Durst, Amir Emamian, Griselda Galindo-Vargas, Kevin Garcia, James Haynes, Dulce Hernandez, Tanner Long, Claire Milam, Helen Miller, Larry Perez, Kazique Prince, Teresa Razo, Alda Santana, Alba Donajhi Sereno, Robert Thomas, Deborah Trejo, Casie Wenmohs

Staff: David Edgar, Cristina Nguyen, Ali Ghilarducci, Andy Hoffman, Nicole Conley Johnson, Celso Baez, Fernando Medina, Jocelyn Connell, Shechem Sauls, Christian Clarke Cásarez, Sheila Henry, Ty Davidson, Tamia Jedele, Courtney Colvin, Sandra Creswell, Kristen Hilsabeck, Adrienne Williams, Kevin Schwartz, Lisa Goodnow, Craig Shapiro, Rachel Naugle,

Visitors: Mickey Salinas, Latisha Anderson, Susan Moffat, Jeffrey K. Richard, Meghan Buchanan

1. Call to order: (5:46 pm)
2. Review Task Force Agreements
3. Citizen's communication: (5:50 pm)
 - a. Mickey Salinas - Recommends the district expand use of reverse-auction where AISD permits suppliers to compete against each other (anonymously). They can see when they are outbid and enter lower bids – multiple times, on a single solicitation, which lowers the price to AISD. So far, AISD has received prices lower in two Sorcity reverse auctions than previous prices paid, for both Food Trays and Toner. If these lower prices are fully leveraged over the next 5-years, AISD could spend just over \$4 million dollars less. Both awards were recently approved by the AISD Board. Since reverse auctions work for many goods, services, and capital purchases, there are many more opportunities to save millions of dollars more.
 - b. Helen Miller - Task Force member shared that she has not yet received a response for her request for information regarding the district contract with particular vendors. She would also like the Community Engagement Department to commit to reaching out to Campus Advisory Councils to inform them of the budget planning and get them involved.

- c. Susan Moffat - Parent of McCallum student advocating for Fine Arts Academy. McCallum has one of lowest cost per student ratios for high schools in the district and the rich programming is an asset to its students. Asks that this funding not be cut.
 - d. Meghan Buchanan – 10-year choir teacher at Eastside. Would like to see district prioritize cultural proficiency with staff and teachers. Also, would like to see attendance zone, transfer policy and lack of affordable housing addressed or else students currently at Eastside will not be the students who get the modernized building.
4. Approval of minutes (6:00 pm)
 - a. Motion passed unanimously
 5. Walk through decision-making process (6:15) – Ali Ghilarducci
 - a. Today small groups will complete “Pay for Priorities” activity
 - b. Staff will compile options recommended by members and add them to the tool
 - c. Members should complete survey individually before next meeting when we will review the results to identify trends and begin creating a short-list of options
 - d. Subcommittees will begin meeting separately with staff to deepen understanding of options.
 - e. Subcommittees will present findings and their criteria assessment to the Task Force which will then amend or agree upon conditions for options.
 - f. Host community meetings and potentially develop surveys to gain more targeted input on items on short list.
 - g. Members will take a final vote on options to be recommended to demonstrate levels of support. Report will be submitted to the Superintendent.
 6. Group activity “Pay for Priorities” (6:26)
 - a. Members review list of budget options provided by AISD administrators.
 - b. Each group generates list of options not included on district list.
 - c. Members complete budget balancing activity with target budget reduction of \$30 million.
 7. Report out –Members opted to spend more time completing activity and submit their notes rather than reporting out.
 - a. Which options did your group struggle the most to agree upon?
 - i. Group 1-
 1. Potential benefits/costs of perusing Senate Bill 1882
 2. Better understanding of employee healthcare plan/benefits
 3. Compensation for teachers and lowest paid top priority but admin and non-teaching professionals should get raises too, just smaller
 4. Agree must look into closing schools but must be paired with comprehensive analysis of redrawing district boundaries
 5. Interested in cutting department budgets but not sure across the board is appropriate
 6. Class size and moving to 6 of 8
 7. Affordable housing for staff and families on AISD properties
 - ii. Group 2

1. Redo district boundaries to make sure students are going to their closest campus
2. Impact of elective transfer on facilities use
3. PPfT vs. stipends toward advanced degrees, which is better for teachers/district?
4. Look into dividing district North and South
- iii. Group 3
 1. Interested in equity weights in staffing formula for teachers, not just admin and counselors
 2. Improving after-school offerings as potential revenue source
 3. School boundaries used to achieve desegregation, equity and economic efficiency
 4. Closing schools
 5. Class size
 6. Reduce/eliminate central support
 7. Phase in elimination of legacy desegregation bussing
- iv. Group 4
 1. Campus police compensation and cost to district vs. outsourcing to City of Austin
 2. Low income housing for families
 3. Compensating teachers based on years of experience and where we are least competitive among local peers
 4. Nursing contract and 1:1 nursing
- v. Group 5
 1. Compensation for lowest paid employees (consider \$15 minimum wage)
 2. Redraw district boundaries to address under-enrolled campuses
 3. Policy regarding district approved vendors
 4. PPfT and if it's the best way to compensate high performing teachers or not
 5. Employee health plans and if they offer as much bang for the buck as options in the marketplace
 6. Cost of bussing and weights for magnet schools. Consider redistributing those resources so all schools have rich and attractive programming
 7. Closing/consolidating schools
8. Closure, Homework, Next Steps (8:34)
 - a. Subcommittee leads:
 - i. Revenue and Programs
 1. K.C.Cerny
 2. Tanner Long
 - ii. Staffing and Compensation
 1. Larry Perez
 2. Mike Cranor

- iii. Efficiencies and Departments (to absorb Contracts and Vendors subcommittee)
 - 1. Andy Anderson
 - 2. Jason Durst
- b. Ali will send out updated K12 “Pay for Priorities” budget balancing survey to be completed by individual members prior to next meeting.