

BPEC

Budget and Program Evaluation Committee

January 5, 2022

4:00 – 5:30 PM

Present: Kathy Johnson, Anthony Lewis, Erica Hill, Lindsey Buck, Hannah Allison, Patrick Kelly, Kevin Harrell, Zachary Conrad, Larry Engelbrick, Myron Graber, Kathy Branson, Jackie Mickel, JoLynn Albertson-Sears, Stephanie Dickson, Jill Anderson, Marcia Riggins, Lisa Koppes, Catherine Glidewell, Kevin Etzel, Ashley Eicholtz, Shannon Kimball

Remote: Julitha Rials

Absent: Samrie Devin, Eugene Miles, Phil Mitchell, Chad Scherbarth, Shawn Ledford, Sarah Hamlin

Welcome – Kathy Johnson

Meeting Minutes:

BPEC meeting started with discussing the purposes of unencumbered cash balances. The three focuses were: (1) cash flow, (2) contingencies, and (3) planned savings. Examples were provided for each focus.

Discussion continued by talking about recommended guidelines for how much in cash balances is appropriate. Governmental Finance Officers Associations recommends 15% of operating budgets to be appropriate for “moderate” financial risk environments. 15% is approximately two month’s average operating expenditures.

Four tables comparing USD497 to other districts were presented. The first compared USD497’s Contingency Reserve balance at 07/01/21 percentage of General Fund Legal Max – 1.01% (12th lowest in the State of 286 districts). The second table was similar but compared USD497 to nearby and similar in size districts. The third table compared USD497’s balances in Contingency Reserve, At Risk K-12, Bilingual, Vocational Education, and Virtual Education funds to nearby and similar in size districts. The fourth table compared the Special Education fund cash balance percentage to total Special Education expenditures. USD497 was compared to nearby and similar in size districts.

Next, ideal cash balances for funds that are allowed to have operating cash balances were discussed and where the district is in 07/01/21 balances. An informal vote was consensus to provide a motion to the Board of Education to transfer unspent funds to the funds that are allowed to have operating cash balances.

Because school closures were discussed in the BPEC subcommittees, a discussion occurred around the timeline a district must follow to close a school. There was a discussion around a couple items that involve multiple subcommittees.

Last, an update on elementary thresholds was provided based on early projections for FY2022-23.

Meeting Conclusion 5:30PM

- Next meeting scheduled for January 19, 2022 5-6:30pm