St. Louis Park Public Schools

Finance Advisory Committee

January, 22, 2025; 3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Location: Central Community Center ; training room

Purpose: To advise administration and the school board on economic and school finance issues and to build community trust in district finances.

DRAFT Protocols: In order to facilitate our work together, we agree to:

- ✓ engage in courageous conversations about race;
- ✓ be respectful (i.e. don't talk over others; support ideas/claims with relevant data, remember that behind the numbers and values, lies real-life meaning that can have a profound impact on students and staff);
- ✓ listen for understanding without judgment, contribute individual perspectives, and assume good intent;
- ✓ be fully present (speak your truth and help others to understand, share your perspective on topics even if you feel that it isn't as relevant or the popular opinion, ask questions if you have them, does not necessarily mean talking);
- ✓ seek common understanding;
- ✓ begin and end on time unless we agree to revise;
- ✓ cameras should be on during zoom meetings and microphones off unless speaking; and have fun!

Time	Topic	Facilitator Notes
3:30 p.m.	Welcome & Introductions	What are you hearing about the district in the community? ● SPED student count vs. other districts ● Idea: one minute ads
4:00 p.m.	Review / Learn	Last year's report to the school board What additional information do you need to support the recommendations below?
4:45 p.m.	Reflection	
5:00 p.m.	Adjourn	

Upcoming meetings (Central Community Center from 3:30 - 5:00)

- ~~September 25, 2024~~
- ~~October 23, 2024~~
- ~~November 27, 2024~~
- ~~December 18, 2024~~
- January 22, 2025
- February 19, 2025
- School Board Presentation - February 25, 2025 or March 11, 2025

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- March 26, 2025

DRAFT FY2026 Budget Recommendation Background
❖ Recommendation #1: Within revenue constraints, build an expenditure budget that maintains an unreserved fund balance of at least 8%; with growth of fund balance toward 12% - 16% (2 months); comparable district data (page 7); through increased enrollment and improved efficiency
❖ Recommendation #2: 2.53% (current MDE estimate) increase in per pupil formula
❖ Recommendation #3: 4,322 K-12th grade adjusted pupil units (APU), with potential for increased enrollment if efforts to improve the student capture rate are successful; use 3 year survival model (post covid) and begin to build back to 4, 5, 6 years in the future
❖ Recommendation #4: Add a technology fee to cover damage/loss and increase community ed premier space rental fee to align with neighboring districts; encourage sports boosters (or district-wide booster club) to increase funding
❖ Recommendation #5: Expenditure recommendation ➢ Understand the district cost drivers and the reasons for major variances from comparison districts ~~on a cost-per-student basis~~, with continued focus on cost containment to reduce continued budget reductions: (amounts are from FY24) - add budget for FY2025 ▪ Substitute teachers and substitute paraprofessionals; $1,600,000 ▪ Printing: $151,000 ▪ Transportation: $6,800,000 ▪ Additional pay beyond contracted pay: $334,000 *Hold ourselves accountable regarding return on investment for administrative positions and costs - put the reasons for the new positions (district and school leadership - ie. directors, supervisors)* ➢ *while retaining and prioritizing classroom teaching and paraprofessional positions*

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- *Make sure that our investments impact student achievement*