

**THE GROSSE POINTE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM**  
**Grosse Pointe, Michigan**

**AGENDA NUMBER AND TITLE**

**Resolution to Commence 2015-16 Budget  
Development and Related Parameters**

Under Policy 6220, the Board is required to adopt a resolution documenting budget parameters in January of each year to cause the formal commencement of the administration's preparation of the budget. The Treasurer drafts the resolution after review of the various financial reports and projections, taking into account the district goals (which the Board has not yet established for 2015-16) and after receiving input from fellow Board members. The resolution should articulate the preference of the Board in advance of budget development to avoid ambiguity and to allow the community to have a clear view of the budget development process from its inception. The resolution should:

- A. Identify specific financial goals and objectives that the Board requires in regards to specific cost reduction, revenue increases or other financially related objectives for particular budget elements.
- B. Identify particular budget related strategies that the Board prefers the administration to pursue or avoid in their development of the budget.
- C. Be as specific as possible in terms of the objectives, but allow for flexibility in the administration's approach to budget development.

In accordance with this policy, the Board directs the administration to begin preparation of the 2015-16 Budget. The budget shall be consistent with all state and federal laws, the Board's policies, and the District's mission to challenge all students to realize their full potential by providing them with the highest quality educational programs and services. The budget shall further aid in the achievement of the District's goals, and provide for long-term financial stability. Specific objectives and strategies include:

- 1. Not participating in Schools of Choice;
- 2. Achieving the fund equity targets set forth in its current labor and employment agreements;
- 3. Continuing to operate the District's elementary, middle school, and high school programs in the current buildings, making appropriate adjustments to staffing and resources to reflect the student enrollment and the students' educational needs in each building (including reducing the need for students to attend classes outside of their home building by using technology or offering educational instruction in other ways);
- 4. Prioritizing sinking fund projects, including allowable expenses for technology upgrades, by those that, if delayed, will create safety issues, negatively impact programs, or increase costs;
- 5. Offering work and educational opportunities in conjunction with the Full Circle Foundation that meet the District's annual goals for the program;
- 6. Increasing public relations and communication strategies to improve the educational experience for students, increase student enrollment, and communicate effectively with the community;
- 7. Reviewing potential opportunities to decrease energy and related costs across the district;
- 8. Expanding tuition-based preschool in other locations throughout the district, provided that these programs are self-funded;
- 9. Providing for critical technology upgrades;
- 10. Looking for other options and new revenue streams to fund technology improvements that will improve the education provided to students or administrative efficiency; and

11. Considering ways to reduce the District's legal costs.

The Board encourages the administration to explore budget alternatives and make proposals. Budget recommendations resulting in significant program or related changes should only be brought to the Board if the administration deems them to be in the best interest of the education of all students.

The first draft of the administration's budget recommendations should be presented to the Board by April 30, 2015. For each review or adoption of the budget, the administration shall present all information required under Policy 6220, including updated versions of the following:

1. General Fund Budget Model Utility
2. Staff Utilization Report
3. Enrollment Projections
4. Class Size Projections
5. Debt Fund budget
6. Sinking Fund budget and proposed projects
7. School Service Fund budget
8. Capital Project Fund budget
9. Details of any program enhancements, reductions, movements, or eliminations
10. If not otherwise disclosed, a brief description of how the budget meets the objectives and strategies set forth above.

Any changes to the budget will be made following Board of Education reviews and recommendations. Other changes will also be made based on directives from the State of Michigan. The final budget proposal will be presented for approval by the Board of Education no later than June 30, 2015, including the required Appropriation Act Resolutions for all funds.

**REQUEST:** That the Board of Education approve the Resolution to Commence 2015-16 Budget Development and Related Parameters.

**Submitted by:**

Brian C. Summerfield, Board Treasurer  
January 18, 2015