

SCHOOL LIBRARIES
(BSEP Measure A, Resource 0860)

OVERVIEW for FY 2016-17

Purpose

Provide student access to quality school libraries, which shall be maintained by providing library staff to operate the District's K-12 school and other specialized libraries, and by allocating revenues for books, materials, services and equipment for the school libraries.¹

Budget Managers: **Becca Todd, District Library Coordinator**
Pasquale Scuderi, Associate Superintendent for Educational Services

Certificated Salaries

Budget: \$745,734 *Actual: \$ 705,510* *Variance:(\$40,224)*

- 3 Middle School Teacher Librarians 3.0 FTE
- 2 High School Teacher Librarians 2.0 FTE
- Continuation High School Librarian 0.6 FTE
- TSA Elementary Teacher Librarians 1.6 FTE
- District Library Coordinator 1.0 FTE

Classified Salaries

Budget: \$564,408 *Actual: \$573,864* *Variance: \$9,456*

- 11 Elementary Library Media Technicians 9.5 FTE
- 3 Middle School Library Media Technicians 1.86 FTE
- Central Media Library Technician 0.8 FTE
- High School Library Media/Textbook Technician 0.8 FTE

Employee Benefits

Budget: \$490,348 *Actual: \$479,919* *Variance: (\$10,429)*

Books, Supplies and Equipment

Budget: \$86,658 *Actual: \$79,390* *Variance: (\$7,268)*

Services and Other Operating Expenses

Budget: \$34,625 *Actual: \$36,676* *Variance: \$2,051*

Indirect Costs

Budget: \$123,857 *Actual: \$120,210* *Variance: (\$3,647)*

Fund Balance

¹ BSEP Measure A, Section 3.B.ii.

BSEP ANNUAL REPORT: FY 2016-17

Beginning: \$312,723

Ending: \$109,499

Decrease: \$203,224

RESOURCE SUMMARY

In FY 2016-17, actual revenue and expense for this Resource was very close to the budget proposed in the plan with the exception of over-budgeting for Certificated salaries due to a unique logistical challenge of two librarians being on Reduced Workload at the same time as another was on maternity leave. Revenue in FY 2016/17 was slightly higher than budgeted.

As the initial fund balance was projected to be so low at \$14,252, and the budget forecast for 2017/18 started to generate questions about further budget cuts needed, library expenses were further reigned in wherever possible. In the end, we wound up with a much healthier fund balance of \$109,499.

STATUS REPORT

BSEP funds provide the backbone for library staffing and resources throughout the Berkeley school system, with a core mission of addressing every student's academic and independent reading needs with a wide range of books, online resources and integrated programming. The library lens of the 2020 Vision focuses commitment on developing skilled thinkers and learners throughout the entire Berkeley school community with continual mindfulness about diversity in characters, themes, authors and illustrators. Following are highlights from FY 2016-17.

Solid support for a culture of reading

Our BUSD libraries promote a strong reading culture with print and digital resources aligned to curricular assignments, as well as reader interest and initiative. Over 267,000 items were circulated in the K-12 schools in 2016-17, more or less on par with the previous year. The reduced allocation of \$7 per pupil for library books and materials, combined with some one-time central funding at ~\$3/student, allowed the program to address the broad range of reading levels and interests of students and staff.

The Mock Newbery program exploded from its early success at Emerson to be at all 11 elementary schools. A strong collaboration between the site Library Media Specialists, Literacy Coaches and Berkeley Public Library staff made book buzz really come alive at school and at home! The middle school libraries often run additional book clubs, as well as the Battle of the Books, with the Grand Finale doubling in size in its second year. Coding clubs, low-tech makerspaces, and other programming welcomes all interested to pursue their passions.

Our preschoolers made good use of the Preschool Book Bag Lending Library at each of our three child development centers. The Preschool Book Bag staff continued with consistent morning and afternoon hours, ensuring that all students had a weekly opportunity to hear an additional story and exchange a book for home reading. We also hosted World Read Aloud Day at our three preschools in mid-February, with Guest Readers from the community and even a Llama wearing red pajamas!

The BEARS Summer School Library program continued in the summer of 2017, with a Library Media Specialist at all three BEARS/EDC summer school sites (this past year at Leconte, Rosa Parks and Washington) for fifteen hours per week at each site, a total of 45 hours per week for

five weeks. This program supports the focus on literacy, helping mitigate against the common “summer slide.”

Library Staff

Many site library staff serve on school committees, and a number are recognized leaders in the school library field, serving on regional and national boards and presenting at conferences. All are dedicated to serving our 9,500+ students and families with a hearty embrace of reading and learning across the disciplines, with a reasonable dose of technology to boot. The Elementary Teacher Librarians on Special Assignment continued to support site Library Media Specialists and Classroom Teachers, wearing both their Librarian and DigiTech hats.

Information Literacy Instruction

The teacher librarians throughout the district provide direct instruction in research skills and information literacy. The high school librarians regularly collaborate with classroom teachers to guide students’ use of online databases and research protocols. At the middle school level, the three teacher librarians contributed lessons to a collective library curriculum resource, and included collaboration with classroom teachers in all disciplines. As the elementary teacher librarian staffing was 1.6 District-based TSAs, more direct instruction was added to many elementary class library visits. This is especially important in the upper grades with audiobooks, curated online resources, targeted book lists, and digital citizenship instruction.

Instructional Technology

The District Library Coordinator and TSA Teacher Librarians are members of the DigiTech Instructional Technology department, a natural alignment of library information literacy skills and tech integration throughout the learning cycle. With all of our focus on tech skills, our intention to continue a *balanced* approach to the use of technology remains strong.

Community Collaboration

Our libraries host many events beyond the hundreds of student visits every week. Authors and illustrators love visiting Berkeley Schools, both in person and via Google Hangouts/Skype! We display student art and science projects; provide space for music classes and vision screening; host meetings for staff, PTA, ELAC, SGC; support the Rotary Club’s third grade Dictionary Distribution; and actively collaborate with the Berkeley Public Library. “All are welcome here.”