

Statement from Planning & Oversight Committee
BUSD BOD 1/19/22 Meeting
Terry Pastika, BHS

Good Evening. I'm from the District's Planning & Oversight Committee, ("P&O"), which is an advisory body to the Board on two voter approved measures that supplement the BUSD budget: BSEP & BERRA. In 20/21 BSEP generated \$33M, a majority of which supports smaller class sizes, with the remainder funding several additional areas. BERRA generated \$10M and supports teacher and staff recruitment and retention. BSEP and BERRA together, they represent 25% of the BUSD budget.

In the last three meetings our primary work has been reviewing last year's budget reports from 8 different areas, class size reports and how to improve District evaluation of the use of BSEP funds.

Regarding the P&O's overview of individual budgets, questions raised included:

- Visual & Performing Arts budget: can students with IEPs/504s be added to the evaluation demographics tracked.
- Program Evaluation budget:
 - What is the specific "fix" the District is trying to achieve in this department given all of the recent changes and how is that happening
 - What kind of evaluative information is being provided to schools
- Technology budget: how can a 1:1 ratio of chromebooks be achieved at BHS given how dependent instruction is on online tools post-COVID
- Effective Student Support budget:
 - How does the recent BUSD class action litigation settlement on dyslexia impacts the spending on this resource
 - With the shortage of classroom teachers b/c of the COVID surge and that TSAs, like RTI and Lit Coach teachers, may be diverted from their primary duties to fill classrooms - after the surge the P&O would like an update re how many TSA's and for how long they did not fulfill primary duties, and discussion about possible budget implications
 - How many students are served by TSAs and additional information to assess program impacts
- Professional Development budget:
 - General questions on the overall increase of expenditures and how teachers are asked to evaluate PD programs
 - The need to train teachers on Infinite Campus so they can do their own analysis
 - Questions on PD for math, science, and ethnic studies
- Libraries budget: how can more books originally written in Spanish can get to the libraries at TWI locations.

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Second major area discussed was each School's Site Council elections, the demographics of the SSC's, and that this year, each school will get what amounts to \$305 per pupil.

The last significant issue we reviewed was a discussion on new ways to address the long-standing P&O questions about how BUSD assesses the general efficacy of BSEP spending. We looked at an extensive concept document thinking about how, in the three remaining years of the current measure, evaluation can be done in a meaningful & systemic manner, the challenges, and a potential solution.

Broad scope questions included asking why District and LCAP goals are applied to BSEP and BERRA spending, given BSEP and BERRA have their own, voter-approved, specific purposes and how budget narratives provided to the P&O for review might be amended as we get further along in this general discussion.

Thank you for this time to provide an overview. We look forward to our next meeting on January 25, 2022 that is open to the public and we invite you to attend.