



THE ATLANTA BOARD OF EDUCATION

130 Trinity Avenue, SW, Atlanta, GA 30303 • 404-802-2200 (P) 404-802-1204 (F)

BUDGET COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

NOVEMBER 12, 2015 | 3:00 PM

Dr. Benjamin E. Mays Conference Room

Matt Westmoreland, Chair

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- I. **Attendance:** Leslie Grant, Byron Amos, Matt Westmoreland, Nancy Meister, Steven Lee, Eshé Collins, Courtney English, Cynthia Briscoe Brown, Jason Esteves, and Howard W. Grant, Board Executive Director

II. Purpose, Goals, and Parameters

Budget Committee

Pursuant to the Charter governing the Atlanta Independent School System, the Budget Commission shall perform the following duties:

- Prepare the anticipated revenues for the school system.
- Allocate a sum sufficient to provide for debt service, including a sinking fund and interest on bond indebtedness, and any other appropriations required by law.
- Adjust the anticipated revenues in the event the income of the school system is increased or decreased.
- Hold public hearings.

Goals For this meeting

- To obtain a clear understanding of the budget parameters guiding the FY2017 budget development process.
- To categorize revenue streams and large expenditure items including district strategic priorities.
- Review the methodology for staffing allocations for FY2017
- To identify any unforeseen or not already captured long-term costs/revenues to the district.

Going forward

- To develop a comprehensive multi-year plan that balances revenue against expenditures.
- To consider the long-term implications for revenue streams.
- To develop alternatives and options should certain events take place (senior tax exemptions, state finance reform, SPLOST, etc.).

- To identify the long-term approach for strategic priorities and other large expenditure items.
- To identify decision-packages to allow for transparent and clear priorities for new revenue.

Budget Parameters and Resources

- The district will establish a millage rate consistent with the Board's mission and vision.
- The district will maintain a fund balance between 7.5% and the statutory limit of 15% of projected expenditures.
- The district will fully realize all funds coming in from intergovernmental agreements.
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Budget Parameters and Expenditures

- Allocation decisions will be made to prioritize achieving a more equitable distribution of resources pursuant to the district's equity audit.
- The district will allocate resources to implement effectively the system's move to a "charter system" operating model.
- The district will fund pension obligations in accordance with State statute and actuarial standards.
- The district will invest in a multi-year school turn-around strategy that provides additional support and interventions for schools at risk of state take-over.
- The district will make investments in early childhood education based on findings from research study.
- The district will ensure that the budget is aligned to the Board's mission and vision and that resources are allocated against key district strategic priorities in the areas of:

Academic Program

- Ongoing implementation of district's CRCT remediation & enrichment efforts.
- Improvement in student achievement in math, science, and literacy, including a comprehensive materials of instruction strategy (inclusive of textbook adoption and online student and teacher resources).
- Ongoing implementation of signature programming across clusters.
- Ongoing implementation of positive behavior supports programming.

Talent Management

- Strategies to recruit, professionally develop, and retain high quality staff.
- Continued implementation of multi-year compensation study recommendations to address pay parity.

Systems & Resources

- The safety, security, and well-being of students and staff (including the implementation of a new safety/security model).
- Preventative maintenance of support infrastructure (including buildings, buses and technology).

Culture

- Continued implementation of cultural transformation strategy, including strengths based programming.
- Implementation of district's external communications strategy.

III. Next Steps

Next Meeting- January 21st

- Continued discussion of multi-year budget strategy with preliminary cost estimates.