



Financial Oversight Committee Meeting

Education Center, 4th Floor Seminar Room
1829 Denver West Dr., Building 27
Golden, CO 80401

Meeting Minutes **February 22, 2022 – 9:30 a.m.**

Financial Oversight Committee (FOC)

Members Present:

Leanne Emm, Chair
Scott Tarbox
Christine Havlin
Jessica Keene
Gordon Calahan

Committee Members and Staff Absent:

Brian Ballard
Charlotte Franson

Staff Present:

Tracy Dorland, Superintendent
Brenna Copeland, Chief Financial Officer

Independent Auditor and Other:

Paul Niedermuller, Clifton Larson Allen, LLP
Erik Johnson

Welcome: Leanne Emm called the meeting to order.

Approval of Minutes: Leanne Emm called for any changes to the current agenda and for a motion to approve the January 25, 2022 meeting minutes. The motion carried unanimously, and the minutes were approved as presented.

Q2 Financial Results & Future Topics

The committee reviewed the 2nd Quarter financial results. Those results were consistent with the 1st quarter and the content of the report is available online. FOC noted that there were few, if any, surprises in the 2nd Quarter report. CFO Copeland proposed that the FOC consider shifting some of the meeting time towards more in depth conversation about core financial drivers into the future, versus quarterly review of actuals. The FOC discussed this proposal and generally agreed that once the school year has launched, not much tends to change in the quarterly reports and time may be better spent on forward-looking topics like enrollment analysis and trends (Mar), the district's multi-year strategic plan (Apr), class size and staffing analysis (May), multi-year forecasts (Jun) and regional conversations regarding potential consolidations (Aug/Sep) that may help inform BOE decisions in the late fall that impact overall operations before the budgeting cycle for 2023-24 starts. CFO Copeland will bring a proposed list of topics to the next FOC meeting.

FOC Budget Update:

CFO Copeland presented an overview of the budget process and current status. It was discussed that there are few centralized decisions left to make for the FY 2022-23 budget for two primary reasons: 1) the majority of funding has already been allocated to schools through the SBB and other supplemental school-based budgets and 2) departmental budgets include substantial expenditures for school-based services (e.g., special education, social work, ground maintenance, janitorial) and these services are required and/or essential. The committee was given a brief overview of the Audit committee discussion regarding public engagement of the budget and discussed what that may look like. The FOC encouraged the district to engage with the public regarding the values the community sees that constitute a thriving school and how the district can prioritize resources over the long-term to support

thriving schools. The committee also discussed small schools and how the district could potentially support neighborhood schools through consolidation so that every child has robust opportunity in their school.

Financial Audit of the Bond Program:

The committee discussed the recommendation from the Moss Adams report that the “commission and complete an annual independent financial audit of the Bond Program”. CLA, Paul Niedermuller, confirmed that the district’s existing annual independent financial audit includes the bond program and ensures that funds were accounted for properly, including a consistent level of testing across all aspects of the district’s financial statement presentation. The FOC noted concerns about the costs of repeating a GAAP accounting audit for the bond program and reiterated their recommendation that the district obtain an opinion from bond counsel as to whether the existing financial audit satisfies the ballot language. The FOC also discussed the additional recommendation to complete a performance audit of the bond, which would be different from a GAAP accounting audit. The FOC did not come to a conclusion about whether an additional performance audit (beyond the Moss Adams evaluation completed Nov 2021) would be helpful at this time.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.