

**ELK GROVE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
2018 FINANCE COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT**

The Finance Committee is pleased to submit their annual report to the Elk Grove Unified School District Board of Education and Cabinet.

**Appointment of Finance Committee Chairperson**

Mr. Joe Ayala began the year as Committee Chairperson but resigned due to increased work commitments. Ms. Angee Wangsgard served as Committee Vice-Chairperson, assuming the Chair position on Mr. Ayala's resignation.

**Function of the Finance Committee**

The function of the Finance Committee is to serve in an advisory capacity to the Elk Grove Unified School District Board of Trustees on matters pertaining to District finances. The Committee provides community input that is shared with the Board of Education. The Committee is composed of community members appointed by each Board member, three community members appointed at-large by the Board of Education, and one community member appointed by the Superintendent. Student representatives from the District's high schools are invited to provide feedback on important issues that may have a financial impact at their respective school sites. The Committee is assisted by non-voting District staff members including the Chief Financial Officer, Director of Fiscal Services, and other staff as requested by the Committee.

The functions of the Finance Committee, according to the bylaws approved on December 8, 2015 shall be: a) to review the annual budget and interim financial reports and provide comment when deemed necessary; b) to provide opinions on current fiscal strategies for the District; c) to identify potential fiscal problems and refer them to the Board of Education; d) to provide an annual written report of the Committee's activities to the Board of Education; e) to provide any oral presentations to the Board of Education at the Board's request or at the Committee's initiative; and f) to serve as an ad hoc resource for specific research or study as requested by the Board.

**Finance Committee 2018 Meetings and Primary Topics**

The Committee met on January 22 Organization Meeting with Superintendent Hoffman, February 26 Security and Safety, March 12 Recruitment Update, April 23 Measure M Update, May 29 GATE and Family & Community Engagement, June 25 Adult Education, September 24 Student Support and Health Services, October 22 Student Representatives, and November 26 Finalize Annual Report.

**Finance Committee Activities Report and Recommendations for 2018**

Introduction/Background: The Committee received several presentations from staff representing various departments and programs. The presentations were helpful in providing the Committee with a clear understanding of the financial state of the departments. We appreciate the time and effort the departments spent presenting to the Committee, and the way they answered our questions.

Organization Meeting with Superintendent Hoffman: The Committee was pleased to have Superintendent Hoffman speak to us in January of 2018. Superintendent Hoffman's presentation was a helpful overview of the financial state of the District, how bargaining works among 7 labor groups, and Arbinger principles. He also shared his considerations for developing the District budget and his goals for the 2018 calendar year. After the presentation, the committee discussed how vacancies on the committee might be filled, and how we might focus more specifically on financial information as we hear from different EGUSD departments throughout the year, so we can better fulfill our purposes.

Security and Safety: Mr. Airoso presented the committee with information about the district's jurisdiction related to safety and security, service delivery model and staffing. He discussed incident statistics, mass casualty plans, and department goals and priorities. He also discussed department efforts to operate within a budget.

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Security and Safety (continued): The committee felt the main financial priorities of Security and Safety are 1. Communication system improvements, 2. Adding additional non-sworn personnel for elementary and middle schools (2 for 2018-19), and 3. Addressing the sworn officer costs that exceed current budget allocation. The committee suggests an increase of two staff. The committee appreciates the current direction taken by staff to address safety and security concerns within the approved budget.

Staff Recruitment and Retention: As part of the EGUSD's Human Resources Department, Mr. Reilly presented information about recruitment and retention and related costs. He discussed management training and evaluation, partnerships with local universities, and the future teacher club. He identified additional financial needs of the Human Resources Department. The committee identified the following funding priorities for the Human Resources Department: 1. Electronic Filing, 2. Recruitment Needs (with continued monitoring that money spent here justifies the cost), and 3. Continued support of Mentor Teacher programs.

Measure M Implementation: Mr. Pierce and Ms. Bell provided a comprehensive presentation about Measure M, the Citizens Oversight Committee, bond structuring, Phase I project updates and Phase II planning. The committee discussed the presentation and recognized that the things promised before the passing of the bond appear to be happening, and that the oversight committee appears to be doing its job.

Family & Community Engagement and GATE: The committee heard presentations on FACE and GATE. We learned that we have had a program specialist working on FACE for 3 years and that the work is LCAP motivated. Some of the main focuses of the department are holding wellness workshops, encouraging home visits by teachers, holding early family literacy workshops, and supporting schools in their efforts to make their campuses feel more welcoming to all families. FACE made several financial requests. The committee recognized the need for a Community Partnerships Coordinator for EGUSD if we truly want to engage the community. The committee questioned whether funding for the literary workshops belongs in a budget other than Family and Community Engagement.

Regarding GATE, we heard a thorough presentation about the changes in GATE over the last few years and learned that sites are 'doing their best' with a small amount of money, about \$31/GATE identified student, since there is no funding from the state or federal government beyond the LCAP. We also learned that accountability for whether GATE spending is used for GATE students is measured by the word of the site and that the money is not specifically spent only on GATE students. The committee recognizes the needs of GATE students and recommends that the district continue supporting GATE and especially that it provide funding specifically for GATE students. The committee would like to see continued monitoring of the FACE and GATE programs and the data based results related to their spending.

Adult Education: Ms. Hamilton and Ms. Malkiewicz provided the committee with a presentation regarding Adult and Community Education. The committee discussed the presentations and identified 2 needs: 1. There is a strong need for a Para-educator training program and custodial training program, and 2. The District should explore funding permanent adult education facilities to help contain costs and consider using existing school sites in the evenings.

Student Support and Health Services: Student Support Staff presented in-depth information on Student Support Centers, Homeless Education, and the number of students served. Health Services Staff presented information about school nurses, how student health needs are treated at school, and the difficulty in hiring nurses. Behavioral Health Staff explained PBIS and discussed the positive outcomes of the program. The committee recognized the PBIS programs appear to be on track but suggested they need continued evaluation with measurable results to justify their financial impact. The committee recommends continued 'outside the box' thinking to fill gaps in nurse staffing, especially using telemedicine and using agency staffing. The committee strongly recommends more opportunities for educators and staff to attend the suicide prevention training program that reportedly fills up in hours whenever it is offered.

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Student Representatives: Students gave feedback that the greatest need at their school site is mental health support. The committee found this concerning and encourages the Board to continue addressing the needs of students in this area. The committee recognized that supporting mental health wasn't always the responsibility of school districts in the past, but that it appears to be a great need today. The committee recognized that Chromebook use in classrooms appears to be the standard, and still supports the purchase and use of Chromebooks. Students shared how they valued and saw the difference of PBIS activities on their campus. They emphasized that more students need to be involved in the programs. The committee supports PBIS and still encourages continued evaluation to be sure the impact justifies the financial investment.



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**Angee Wangsgard, Vice-Chairperson  
2018 Finance Committee**