City Council Public Hearing: to consider the equitable allocation of resources for the School District of Philadelphia under the American Rescue Plan

April 28, 2021
The School District of Philadelphia’s Presentation for City Council represents forward-looking statements and any such statements inherently are subject to a variety of risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those that have been projected. Such risks and uncertainties which could affect the revenues and obligations of the School District include, among others, reduced governmental allocations, changes in economic conditions, mandates from other governments, and various other events, conditions and circumstances, many of which are beyond the control of the School District. Such forward-looking statements speak only as of the date of this presentation, April 28, 2021. The School District disclaims any obligation or undertaking to release publicly any updates or revisions to any forward-looking statement contained herein to reflect any changes in the School District’s expectations with regard thereto or any change in events, conditions or circumstances on which any such statement is based.
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The School District of Philadelphia  
Office of Family and Community Engagement  
440 N. Broad Street, Suite 114  
Philadelphia, PA 19130-4015  
Email: ask@philasd.org  
Tel: (215) 400-4000  
Fax: (215) 400-4181

To help us respond in a manner most helpful to you, please indicate the nature of the accessibility problem, the web address of the requested material, your preferred format in which you want to receive the material (electronic format (ASCII, etc.), standard print, large print, etc.), and your contact information (name, email, telephone, and physical mailing address).
ARPA Federal Funding

- The School District is eligible for $1.114 billion (a reduction $161 million from initial estimates) through September 2024

- Funds are distributed on a reimbursement basis

- Funds are directed to primarily be used to:
  - Help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools with students
  - Address students’ social, emotional, mental health and academic needs resulting from the pandemic utilizing evidence based approaches
  - Maintain normal operations and delivery of services

- Districts in receipt of ARPA funds cannot reduce per-pupil funding or per-pupil full-time equivalent staff in high-poverty schools by an amount that exceeds the total per-pupil amount of reduction for all students in the district in FY 2022 or 2023
ARPA One-Time Federal Funding & Our Investment Approach

● Imperative to use one-time funding on one-time expenses that maximize short-term pandemic response and achieve long-term impact. How will investments address both current and long-term student needs?

● Commitment to using the vast majority of the new relief funds for new investments to meet those goals.

● Maintain District approach to achieving long-term fiscal stability. How will each investment be sustained or continue to build district capacity after the relief funding is spent?
ARPA One-Time Federal Funding & Our Investment Approach

Evolving Strategy, Investment, and Continuous Feedback Loop

- The investment strategy for this funding is not a “one and done” approach
  - Active, ongoing process which will be revisited at various points over the next four years, including the normal annual budget cycle
  - The District will continue to refine its approach, gain input, share information, and respond to public feedback
  - Strategies will change based on what is working better than expected and what is not working
  - Changes can occur from evolving educational needs in our school communities
  - Changes may occur based on new funding opportunities
  - Investment approach guided by a series of key Focus Areas
Focus Area One
Support Educational Recovery and Accelerate Learning

- We will commit $350 million of stimulus funds over the next four years, focused on an array of to-be-determined programs such as:
  - enhanced summer learning programs,
  - after-school programs,
  - before-care/school programs
  - tutoring, and
  - other evidence-based interventions.
Focus Area Two

Dramatically Expand Facilities Improvements to Provide Safe, Healthy and Modernized Schools

- We will commit $325 million of stimulus funds over the next four years to improve facilities conditions across the District.

- These funds will supplement – *not supplant* – previously dedicated capital and operating funds, allowing for a total planned Capital investment over the next 6 years in excess of $2 billion.
Focus Area Three
Support the Significant Social and Emotional Needs of Our Students

- We will commit **over $150 million** of stimulus funds over the next four years to:
  - **invest in social services** to provide case management, resource coordination, home visits, family involvement to students at 50 additional schools.
  - **increase the number of counselors** across the District, reducing the projected student-counselor ratio from 371:1 in FY21 to 357:1 in FY22. (National Average = 430:1)*
  - significantly **increase discretionary funds for schools**
    - weighted for our schools of greatest need
    - allow for school leaders to identify needed supports
  - **Targeted Professional Development** for school-based climate support staff

*Source: American School Counselor Association*
Focus Area Four
More Supports in Schools to Help All Learners and Educators Succeed Going Forward

- Eliminate “leveling down” for all schools in FY22 and for all off-track schools in FY23 and FY24
- $80 million set aside over the next five years to address Goals and Guardrail investments
- Additional supports for English Language Learner Students and Families
- Additional administrators for schools, including those with multiple buildings
- Doubling the reimbursement for teacher purchased classroom materials for FY22
- Centralized Technology investments to maintain 1:1 student to device ratio, and provide additional tech support and repair services for students and families
- Accelerating the rewriting of our curriculum and selection of aligned resources to:
  - reflect the latest insights on how students learn
  - be more culturally and linguistically relevant
- Increase the number of Career Immersion opportunities for students
Budget Engagement

The District has been seeking public input on the prioritization of investments to consider with the federal relief funding

- **The 2021-2022 Budget Engagement Survey** was released to families, staff, and stakeholders and was made available on the District’s website on April 8th. The final date for submission was extended from April 16th to April 19th.
  - Over 11,700 responses received
  - Almost ⅔ from parents/guardians

- **Focus Group Sessions** are being held from April 20th through April 29th.
  - Sessions in multiple languages (English, Spanish, Chinese)
  - One session with District students
Budget Engagement Findings (to date)

Survey Results indicated the highest priorities to be considered within each of the three priority investment areas are as follows:

- **Student Learning Supports/Learning Recovery**:  
  - Discretionary Funding for Schools (21%)  
  - Additional Special Education Supports (20%)

- **Facilities Investments**:  
  - Environmental Hazards (44%)  
  - Air Conditioning (20%)

- **Student Social and Emotional Needs**:  
  - School Based Behavioral/Mental Health Supports (30%)  
  - Before/After School Enrichment (17%)
Budget Engagement Findings (to date)

Focus Groups
• Discussions in the initial focus groups have largely mirrored the survey results, with some additional emphasis on ELL supports and distributing additional funding equitably - focused on those schools with fewer resources and/or greater need.

Capital Program
• The public engagement findings mirror those of the District’s priorities, with a particular emphasis on environmental issues.

• Additional information will be forthcoming on meeting these goals with the District’s new 6-year $2 billion Capital Plan to be considered in May, as well as the overall update on the State of our Facilities and Master Plan.
New Budget Commitments (additions to investments highlighted previously)

- Funding for 2 additional positions at each off-track school; 1 additional position at each on-track/near-track school for FY22 (335 new positions; $40 million)
  - Principal decision in consultation with Asst. Superintendent
  - Choose from among Assistant Principal, Behavioral Counselor, Bilingual Counseling Assistant, Climate Liaison, Climate Manager, Climate Support Specialist, Counselor, Librarian, Literacy Lead, Math Lead, SBTL, STEP positions, Teacher - all subjects/specialties

- Additional Special Education Positions
  - Current budget has more Special Ed teachers than in FY21
  - Short term intensive effort: Add 80 supports to accelerate evaluation efforts (50 Psychologists, 10 Occupational Therapists, 20 Speech Therapists)
  - Long-term: Identify investments that can direct a system-wide redesign for a more proactive approach to serving students with Special Education needs
New Budget Commitments (additions to investments highlighted previously)

● **Additional supports for schools in communities that have been most impacted by gun violence**
  ○ Preventive Programming/Conflict Resolution Skills
  ○ Mental Health/Trauma Services
  ○ Behavioral Health Counselors at 20 schools
  ○ Coordinator of supports for student victims of gun violence
  ○ Coaches focused on restorative practices in impacted schools

● **Before- and After-School Programs**
  ○ In order to support the Hows for Goals 1-4, as well as Guardrail 2, we are dedicating funds towards programming before, after and during school to support Common Planning Time (CPT) and Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) at off-track schools.
  ○ As we work to design how these programs will interact with CPT and MTSS, and identify the necessary resources for these programs, we will come back to the Board and the public with details.
New Budget Commitments (additions to investments highlighted previously)

- **Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion**
  - In order to fulfill our commitment toward anti-racism and equity as outlined in our Statement on Anti-Racism and to ensure its sustainability, we will establish an Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion that supports our goal to lead and sustain system-level change.
  - This aligns with our work and efforts around Guardrail 4: Our students’ potential will not be limited by practices that perpetuate systemic racism and hinder student achievement.
  - This office will launch prior to the start of the 2021-2022 school year, along with an equity framework and organizational commitments that will guide our actions going forward.
FINANCIAL OUTLOOK

- Preliminary Five-Year Plan for FY22-FY26
- Sources for Budget Public Information
- Budget Timeline
## Revised Five-Year Plan Projections: Operating Fund

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FY21 Projected</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>REVENUES &amp; OTHER FINANCING SOURCES</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Local Tax Operating Revenues</td>
<td>$1,247,223</td>
<td>$1,309,483</td>
<td>$1,369,741</td>
<td>$1,426,529</td>
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<td>$271,612</td>
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<td>State Operating Revenues</td>
<td>$1,649,246</td>
<td>$1,565,562</td>
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<tr>
<td>Federal Operating Revenues</td>
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<td>$16,636</td>
<td>$16,508</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Financing Sources</td>
<td>$18,131</td>
<td>$2,049</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL REVENUES &amp; OTHER FINANCING SOURCES</strong></td>
<td>$3,203,005</td>
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<td>$3,333,916</td>
<td>$3,478,700</td>
<td>$3,584,364</td>
<td>$3,650,024</td>
<td>-2.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### EXPENDITURES

|                      |                |                |                |                |                |                |                  |
|----------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|                  |
| District Operated Schools | $1,691,350     | $1,813,238     | $1,846,064     | $1,858,158     | $1,899,872     | $1,916,542     | 1.4%             |
| Debt Service          | $333,393       | $338,304       | $375,339       | $344,980       | $347,003       | $355,459       | 1.2%             |
| Charter Schools, including Trans | $1,195,902     | $1,246,178     | $1,103,803     | $1,182,755     | $1,344,689     | $1,486,513     | 4.5%             |
| Other Non-District Operated Schools, including Trans | $96,330       | $114,892       | $116,085       | $119,250       | $122,430       | $125,624       | 2.3%             |
| Administrative Support Operations (Central Offices) | $129,057       | $134,039       | $134,571       | $134,693       | $140,693       | $141,564       | 1.4%             |
| Undistributed Budgetary Adjustments | ($19,585)    | ($16,585)      | ($16,519)      | ($16,451)      | ($16,383)      | ($16,312)      | -0.4%            |
| Other Financing Uses   | $1,888         | $1,835         | $1,835         | $1,835         | $1,835         | $1,835         | 0.0%             |
| Federal Relief Expenditure Changes | ($114,394)   | ($567,927)     | ($338,380)     | ($86,153)      | ($870)         | $0             | -100.0%          |
| **TOTAL EXPENDITURES & OTHER USES** | $3,313,941     | $3,063,974     | $3,222,799     | $3,539,068     | $3,839,270     | $4,011,246     | 7.0%             |

### OPERATING/FUND BALANCE

|                      |                |                |                |                |                |                |                  |
|----------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|                  |
| Transfers from Reserves | ($13,321)     | ($13,321)     | $28,259        | ($9,395)       | ($9,395)       | ($9,395)       |                  |
| Facilities Reserve   | $12,500        | $12,500        | $0             | $0             | $0             | $0             |                  |
| Operating Surplus/(Deficit) incl. Change in Reserves | ($111,757)    | $108,836       | $139,375       | ($69,762)      | ($264,301)     | ($370,617)     |                  |
| **Fund Balance at Beginning of Year - July 1** | $172,828       | $61,071        | $169,907       | $309,282       | $239,520       | ($24,781)      |                  |

### ENDING FUND BALANCE

|                      | $61,071        | $169,907       | $309,282       | $239,520       | ($24,781)      | ($395,397)     |                  |

| Fund Balance as a % of Total Expenditures | 1.8% | 5.5% | 9.6% | 6.8% | -0.6% | -9.9% |                  |
# Revised Five-Year Plan Projections: Operating and Federal Relief Funds

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<td>TOTAL REVENUES &amp; OTHER FINANCING SOURCES</td>
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<td>$3,943,727</td>
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<td>$3,615,234</td>
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<td>$3,832,610</td>
<td>$3,846,732</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fund Balance at End of Year - June 30</td>
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Fund Balance as % of Total Expenditures:
- FY22: 1.7%
- FY23: 4.3%
- FY24: 8.1%
- FY25: 6.2%
- FY26: -0.6%

- FY26 to FY26: -9.9%
Budget Books

Budget Books and the District’s Budget 101 Guide were released online on April 16, 2021

- **School Budget Book**: includes historic and projected budgets for each District-operated school
- **Consolidated Budget Book**: presents District-wide budgeted revenues and expenditures
- **Budget 101 Guide**: overview of the District’s budget and how to read budget documents

The Budget Books and the Budget 101 Guide can be viewed at: [https://www.philasd.org/budget/services/public-information/](https://www.philasd.org/budget/services/public-information/)
TIMELINE

April
Board of Education Budget Hearing

May
City Council Budget Hearing

May
Board of Education Budget Vote

May
City Adoption of Tax Measures for School District

June
State Budget Adoption
A CITYWIDE CALL TO ACTION:
BE A PART OF OUR CONTINUED PROGRESS

VOLUNTEER IN A SCHOOL
ADOPT A SCHOOL
MAKE A DONATION THROUGH THE FUND FOR THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA