

Board Member Questions and Answers

Prior to Aug. 23, 2023, Finance Committee Meeting

4.3 Consider Approval of July 2023 Intra-Function Transfers for Grant Budget

- Page 134 of the digital packet: Can you explain what a vision counselor and a dental counselor are?
- Page 158: What are dental & vision teachers & assistants?
- Page 163: What is a dental & vision principal?
- Page 178: What do dental/library & vision/library media specialists do?

As of Fiscal Year 22-23, NMPED introduced a mandatory tracking/reporting requirement for all benefit cost accounts to be associated with a subaccount to define the position. For example. In function 1000 (direct instruction), account 521110 (educational retirement) has to be combined with an assigned subaccount, like 1411 (teachers, grades 1-12).

These are budget alignments in regards to benefits (vision/dental/) associated with

- Counselors
- Teachers and EAs
- Principals
- Library media specialists.

In order to track these benefits per the NMPED change, a very large volume of realignment must be completed.

Pages 190, 203, 204, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215: What will happen to the 8hr workday pilot when ARPA funds are no longer available? What is going to happen to APS budgets when ARPA & CRSSA funds are no longer available? What effect will this have on funding so many positions?

The 8-hour workday pilot is entering the final year of implementation per current funding availability. If additional funding is identified at a later date, the budget and initiative will be brought to the Board's attention.

4.5 Consider Approval of July 2023 Intra-Function Transfers for All Non-Categorical Funds

Page 239-240: As it concerns the salaries for Learning Zone 4 Associate Superintendent Principal Salaries (1.0 FTE loss), the Administrative Associate Salaries (1.0 FTE loss) & the Secretarial/Clerical/Tech Salaries (two .50 FTE losses) can you explain this budget adjustment

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(I believe it is because of the consolidation of La Luz with Douglas MacArthur)? Also saw these type of adjustments, movement of FTE's for Learning Zone 2 & 3, but not for Learning Zone 1.

We made these adjustments to realign the Associate Superintendent department budgets to reflect the move to a goal-based organization structure from a zone-based organization structure. We have since changed the department names to read "goals" instead of "zones."

4.9 Consider Approval to Increase District Purchase Spend Related to District Purchases for Workers Compensation Third Party Administration Claims Services

This item will be removed from the Aug. 23 Finance Committee meeting agenda.

4.10 Consider Approval of District Purchase or Expenditure that Equals or Exceeds \$250,000–Student Insurance and Catastrophic Coverage

Page 273: What was previous spend?

\$548,268.33

4.11 Consider Approval of District Purchase or Expenditure That Equals or Exceeds \$250,000–Student Alternative Transportation Services

Pages 274-277: This is a new spend, can you give the rationale for adding this service? Has APS provided alternative transportation services in the past? If we have, who provided the services and what was the amount of the spend?

No, it was not provided in the past.

Which students will be accessing the alternative transportation services?

McKinney Vento, homeless students, and foster care students who need transportation in order to attend their school of origin when there is no other method of transportation for the student.

The vendor is in Ohio, is this their main office and do they have a satellite office in Albuquerque?

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No, however, the vendor's drivers are here in Albuquerque, and they must follow all of the processes (state and APS) to drive. We work with the contractor to set up the drivers that are all screened and trained.

4.12 Consider Approval of District Purchase or Expenditure that Equals or Exceeds \$250,000–Fuel from TAC Energy

Pages 278-279: Is the \$191,000 increase for these goods/services attributed mostly to the increase in per gallon fuel cost?

Yes

4.13 Consider Approval of District Purchase or Expenditure that Equals or Exceeds \$250,000–Professional Development Services–As Needed

Pages 280-283: Only 3 of the 36 firms are based in Albuquerque, is there a reason for this?

Those are the proposals we received from our issuance of RFP and that vendors submitted.

What PD will STEM is Child's Play provide and approximately how many staff will receive their PD?

STEM is Child's Play provides a STEM critical-thinking mindset. This is an as-needed, no minimum guarantee contract. At this time we do not have any staff signed up for PD.

On page 283 it says, "Estimated spend for these goods/services for a four year contract:" but then says "\$6 million for five-year contract" and the memo page says, "shall not exceed four years" so it is for 4 years, correct? If so should pg. 283 be corrected to read 'four-year contract' not "five-year contract"? If it is a four(4) year contract what do you attribute the \$1 million dollar increase from the previous four year spend?

It is a four-year contract. The cost is an estimate that could vary depending on need, budget, and funding.

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4.13 Consider Approval of District Purchase or Expenditure that Equals or Exceeds \$250,000—Professional Development Services—As Needed

Pages 284-289: As ESSER funds will be utilized for this purchase does this imply this will be a one time training? Or will the training continue by using another funding source after ESSER funds expire?

Yes, one-time training for principals

Is this an online training program?

A mix of both in-person and online

Can you give a brief synopsis of how this purchase aligns to the Board's goal 4 & APS guardrail 1?

A way to de-escalate situations with students so they can be successful in the classroom and it has a component of restorative practices.

4.15 Consider Approval of District Purchase or Expenditure That Equals or Exceeds \$250,000—Full Service Paint and Related Products As-Needed

Pages 290-291-Is there a reason we went from a 6 year contract to a 4 year contract?

This commodity is volatile, and vendors cannot hold their price for 6 years.

4.16 Consider Approval of District Purchase or Expenditure That Equals or Exceeds \$250,000—Furniture—All Types

On page 294 it says, "A six-year contract was recommended due to volatile prices due to inflation, and the ability to go out to market at an earlier time" can you clarify the "market" statement?

Disregard, the buyer used an old template.

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4.18 Consider Approval of District Purchase or Expenditure that Equals or Exceeds \$250,000–New Mexico Produce Growers

On pg. 307 the statement reads: "A five-year contract was recommended due to volatile prices due to inflation, and the ability to go out to market at an earlier time", but this is a one-year contract, correct? If so should the statement be changed to read 'one-year contract'?

Disregard, the buyer used an old template.

4.19 Consider Approval of District Purchase or Expenditure That Equals or Exceeds \$250,000–Security Guard Services-As Needed

Pages 319-320: Is this security guard service only for the bus transportation centers/depots?

Yes

Have security guards been used at the transportation centers before this year?

Transportation has had a guard at Dr. Patrick J Garcia since the move-in for nights, weekends, and holidays. With the opening of the Ruben Hendrickson location and the vulnerability, a guard was added there, too.

The spend for 5 months (Feb-June 2023) was \$80,000, but now will be \$340,000 for a year, why such an increase?

Two locations and for a full 12 months

What level of security was used for the 5 months spanning Feb-June?

The level of security is a guard at each location from when we shut down for the day until we open in the morning. The guard is to patrol the lots and buildings to verify that everything is secure and there are no breaches. If there are any breaches, they are to call APS Police and APD for backup.

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4.20 Consider Approval of District Purchase or Expenditure that Equals or Exceeds \$250,000–Fine Arts Paper Supplies for Warehouse Stock- As Needed

Pages 321-322: Do each of the awarded vendors provide a different kind of paper and as such the local company, Sandia Paper is unable to provide the variety and perhaps the volume? Why did we go to a 6 year contract?

Yes, it depends on the type of paper needed and the availability. Having a six-year contract for consumables is cost-effective for APS resources. We do have termination clauses and can cancel and re-bid if necessary.

4.22 Consider Approval of District Purchase or Expenditure that Equals or Exceeds \$250,000–Edupoint/Synergy Software

Pages 325-326: As this is a 5 year contract and it ends in FY 26/27 was implementation technically considered the first year of the contract and not 23/24?

Correct

5.1 Update on the District's Investment Program for the Fourth Quarter of FY2023

On page 346 (2) reads, "Total accrual increased from \$1 million the prior fiscal year to \$16 million the fiscal year (Did you mean 'this fiscal year')? As stated on pg. 346, "The total accrual increased from \$1 million the prior fiscal year to \$16 million" this FY, is this correct? If so, is this typical in the current environment? On page 346 (2) reads, "Total accrual increased from \$1 million the prior fiscal year to \$16 million the fiscal year (Did you mean 'this fiscal year')?"

Yes. "the" should have been "this".

The total accrual increased from \$1 million the prior fiscal year to \$16 million" this FY, is this correct? If so, is this typical in the current environment?

This large increase is not typical, but is due to two actions: 1) APS moved funds from holding at bank deposits to utilizing the Money Market funds which are paying market rates and 2) interest rates have increased rapidly this year, and the positioning of the portfolio benefited from that rise in rates.