

Executive Summary

Prepared for Board of Trustees Meeting

August 27, 2024

1925 Advisory Committee

Board Value:

Growth & Management... In pursuit of excellence, we value utilizing citizens' advisory committees to focus on short and long-term tasks.

Purpose of Report

This report will explain the purpose of the *1925 Advisory Committee*, which is a newly-created advisory group assembled to assist District leadership with a response to the District's current financial circumstances.

Objectives

This Committee is being created to understand Texas School Finance, evaluate staffing formulas and programming, analyze budgeted allocations of resources to current District programs, and offer feedback to the District's executive cabinet regarding how to prioritize reductions to budgeted expenditures and to maximize revenues in order to accomplish District budget goals. It is our desire to educate leaders within our community in order to seek input and facilitate informed decision making and advocacy in ways that align with the District's mission, vision and goals.

Operational Impact

The District is beginning the third consecutive fiscal year in which it has been forced to operate with a deficit Maintenance and Operations (M&O) budget, due in large part to the ongoing static nature of public-school funding at the foundational level in the State of Texas. The Committee recognizes that significant recommendations for reducing current budgeted expenditures and/or finding avenues to increase budgeted general fund revenues will be necessary within this coming fiscal year in order to stop the current decline of reserve general funds. Substantive M&O budget reductions will necessarily include the reduction of personnel, and thus, District programs. Through this process, the District will be able to solicit input and feedback from a representative base of stakeholders to assist with the process of prioritizing these challenging decisions.

Results

The Committee process will be transparent. All presentations, materials and meeting minutes will be posted online for Committee member use and public consumption. The Committee will consider the District's current financial position and funding methods to assist District leadership in developing recommendations for necessary M&O budget reductions which are both fiscally sound and strive to continue to meet the greatest needs of students and teachers as a first priority. District staff members will aid the Committee and serve as information providers. The Committee will have access to data and resources provided by the District to assist in developing appropriate budget recommendations, which will be considered by the District's executive cabinet for potential future recommendation to the Board of Trustees.