

Woodbridge Public School's 2023-2024 Budget Narrative

February 12, 2024

The attached financial reports represent seven months (58%) of the fiscal year.

100 Series Salaries - Salaries represent 61% of the budget. Two teacher resignations which were filled for a period of time by substitutes gave us additional salary savings in this category. We continue to average between 4-7 vacant paras. We have not yet been able to hire a part time school Psychologist, so we decreased the estimate of what we will spend in that category for the year. We are recording the new SRO position in non-certified salaries. The net of all these items has us showing \$131K of salary savings on the year which is about \$24K less than the prior month. In January we were able to hire one vacant para. Two newly hired 6th grade teachers have been hired at a slightly higher rate than was estimated last month.

200 Series Benefits – Benefits are 21% of our budget is based on the elections of last year's staff. Our insurance expenses are running on track with the budget. Continued vacancies have us trending upward to additional savings in CMERS and payroll taxes. We are now estimating \$70K of savings over \$29K in the prior month. Another reason for our CMERS being materially under budget is that in March the State indicated that our CMERS rate would 19.57%, but we were later informed in June that rate was decreased to 15.77%.

300 Series Purchased Professional Services- This category represents 3% of our budget and includes legal, audit and other expenses that are generated on a month-by-month basis. With the two previously mentioned teacher vacancies being staffed by long term substitutes, this line is trending \$15K over budget. We still have the savings from employing our School Resource Officer directly and not as a Professional Service giving this category a net \$100K savings. This is about \$20K less than December due to committing to Phases I & II of the CSG proposal.

400 Series Purchased Property Services - Purchased Property Services are 4% of the total budget and have been increased over the previous year to keep up with higher natural gas prices. The combination of mild to average winter coupled with the pool being empty for 6 months has allowed us to increase our utility savings estimate. The pool is now filled so we do not expect these savings to continue to grow. Total projected savings of \$53K is \$45K higher than the prior month.

500 Series Other Purchased Services - This category is 9% of our budget and includes student transportation, tuition, interns, liability insurance and items that do not fall within the professional services/property services categories. We expect some small savings in our Worker's Comp and Liability insurance expenses, as well a small amount of saving in Internet expense. Additional outplaced tuition and transportation expenses continue to come in and we are now estimating that this category will go over budget by \$100K. This overage is \$45K larger than last month.

600 Series Materials and Supplies – These supplies account for 2% of our budget. With the exception of custodial/maintenance supplies, this category is direct support for classroom instruction. There is a large custodial supply blanket PO open is causing this category to be \$15K over budget. It's possible this PO can come down. More investigation will be done during the month of February.

700 Series Furniture and Equipment - This category represents 6/10 of one percent of the budget and we anticipate utilizing all of the funds before the end of the fiscal year. Previously we were showing a savings due to the pre-purchase of some student devices with last year's surplus, but we now anticipate spending all of the funds.

800 Series Dues and Fees – This budget category is small but important as it links staff to professional organizations that help keep them up-to-date in their respective academic fields. We anticipate utilizing all available fund.

900 Series Misc. Expenses - The primary expense in this category is the Ezra Nurse, a non-public health expense we are required by law to maintain.