

Woodbridge Public School's 2023-2024 Budget Narrative

January 7, 2024

The attached financial reports represent six months (50%) of the fiscal year.

100 Series Salaries - Salaries represent 61% of the budget. Two teacher resignations which are currently being filled by substitutes are giving us additional salary savings in this category. We are currently down five 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 \$155K of salary savings on the year which is about \$15K more than the prior 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 toward some savings in CMERS and payroll taxes.

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 \$122K savings on the year which is not materially changed from the the prior month.

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 winter has not been too cold yet, so we may be in for additional savings in our natural gas budget line, but it is still early to try and predict. We are still conservatively showing a \$25K savings in utilities. This could go higher, but the Town has indicated that they may have found a way to fill the pool this year, so it's best to wait and see how that goes before predicting additional savings. Total savings of \$8K is not materially changed from 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. We signed a contract with ACES for some additional outplaced tuition which puts this category over budget by \$55K. This category was on track 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. We plan to utilize all of these budgeted funds for the year. Testing supplies is bringing this category about \$2K over budget for the year.

700 Series Furniture and Equipment - This category represents 6/10 of one percent of the budget and since we were able to pre-buy \$45K of Chromebooks with our FY23 surplus, but have committed about \$8K of that savings to additional technology purchases, leaving us with a \$37K savings in this category. Technology staff is planning to request the use of these funds and we will update this category as plan is made.

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.