

Consideration of Additional Funding for Furniture Equipment

Policy Reference: OE-13: The superintendent shall assure that physical facilities support the accomplishment of the board's **Results** policies, are safe and properly maintained.

Background Information: A fund was originally established by the Board in September 2013 for purchasing various equipment for the District. This fund contains six areas: Furniture (furnishings), Building Services, Fleet Vehicles, Maintenance, Playgrounds, and Food Service. The original budget established was \$5.6M over 7 years, or \$800,000 per year for the entire fund. Two significant revisions were made, one in May 2014 and again in November 2014, which ultimately reduced the budget to \$5.0M and extended it to 11 years. This reduced the available funding for all six areas to a total of \$454,545 / year. The annual portion of this figure for Furniture was reduced to a total of \$85,227. This equates to an average approximately \$1,500.00 per school. The Furniture portion encompasses many areas of school furnishings including new and replacement student desks and chairs, teacher's furniture, shelving, bulletin boards, window shades, conference room furniture, media center furniture, and others.

The overspending in this category occurred due to several circumstances:

1. Decreases to the budget occurred late in the first fiscal year, and mid-way through the second fiscal year, after much of the planned spending had already taken place.
2. Growth in student population created additional demands for student / teacher and other supporting furniture including cubbies, tables, etc.
3. The overall reduced budget is not sufficient to support the annual needs for Furniture and other areas of the Equipment Fund.
4. Breakage of aging furniture has increased.
5. Warehouse inventory for certain grade level demands was exhausted prior to placing orders for new furnishings.

Purpose: To provide additional funding for Furniture needs through the fiscal year end. No additional Furniture spending can occur until July 1, 2016 without additional funds.

For additional information: Contact Mark Wolfe 843-488-6967 or Daryl Brown 843-488-6774

Recommended Action:

Provide additional funding for the Furniture portion of the Equipment Fund in the amount of \$208,423.00.

Estimated Cost: \$208,423.00

Recurring ___ Non-recurring X

Funding Sources: Residual fund from the Phase III / IV Building Program