

## Superintendent's Community Advisory Committee on Investing in Educational Excellence

### Meeting #9

November 17, 2005, 7:30-9:30 a.m.  
John Stanford Center – Room 2750

#### Welcome

The committee's intent for this meeting is to work through a draft of all preliminary recommendations as a group. The final report schedule includes a committee review of the final draft on December 2, sharing the document with the Superintendent on December 5, sharing it with stakeholders on December 6-7, and going public with it on December 8.

#### Format

Some suggestions for format include:

- At the end of the report, summarize actions expected of non-SPS entities (like the Port, City, etc.) While these actions are already contained within specific recommendations, there may be a need for a summary of them at the end of the report.
- Add a statement of goals as a first paragraph or as part of the executive summary.
- Change the organization of the report to sections on leadership, academic achievement, and financial sustainability.
- Convey to the District a sense of urgency.
- Offer help when recommendations are contingent upon or conflict with other circumstances or actions (e.g. if recommending zero-based budgeting, suggest ways to work under the state micromanaging strings that exist).

#### Content

It was noted that all discussion is preliminary until December 5. Some of the ideas generated about report content include:

Leadership: For Board leadership, explain the essence of what is needed and then suggest more than one model for achieving success. For executive leadership, retain a person to head central restructuring and keep the overall vision; managers need training (there have been lots of top down cuts without leadership development to improve process); bring in outside organizations to train.

Budgeting: Need to take good current financial data and use for strategic planning; a difficulty exists in knowing District expenditures due to the state and feds requiring tracking that is not revealing; short-term 06-7 recommendations are needed for the December 5 report and long-term recommendations for the February report; overall, briefer is better.

Accountability: Needed from Superintendent on down; need review of each school; committee recommendations must align with NCLB.

School Rigor: Mary Jean will check with Washington Learns regarding HS rigor.

Curriculum: Roll out a recommendation that aligns with next year's math adoption (e.g. math specialists assigned to schools).

Revenue Enhancements: Linkage is essential so that real estate management is integrated with facilities overview and school closure ideas; put real estate management in the hands of professionals (not teachers or school administrators); real estate issues must be subordinate to facilities decisions; need a moratorium on leasing real estate until a comprehensive plan is developed.

Re-doing Facilities Square Feet Through Closure: What does a 21<sup>st</sup> Century school look like? Where will children live? Separate what we do with buildings from what we do with programs housed within buildings. Provide a potential list of closure criteria recognizing that in the final long-term report, all criteria must be specifically identified.

Transportation: Refining savings estimates.

General Comments: Central vs. decentral is a key issue that still needs clarification; obtain pro-bono assistance to help implement cultural change.

### **Financial Chart**

A draft chart was reviewed of potential expenditure/revenue changes due to potential recommendations.

### **Adjournment**

The next meeting is on Thursday, December 1 at 7:30 a.m. in the Auditorium.