

Superintendent Procedure 6010SP School Funding Model

Approved by: s/Denise Juneau Date: 12/15/20

Denise Juneau, Superintendent



Overview

School Board Policy No. 6010 requires the Superintendent to implement an annual process to review school budget formulas and staffing standards to ensure service of the academic needs of students, within the confines of the district's annual budget and that align to Policy 0030 – Ensuring Educational and Racial Equity.

The base funding model should provide a core foundation which includes necessary resources for teachers, teachers support and administrative support for academic success for all students of Seattle Public Schools and uses the following guiding principles, as required under Board Policy No. 6010:

- Provide the basic staffing for school – adjusted for substantive size differential considering non-instructional costs;
- Result in a transparent school funding model that schools, families, and community members can understand;
- Provide the core staffing needed for schools to focus on academic issues;
- Based on data, provide personnel differentially to schools on the basis of student characteristics, including poverty, bilingual, special education, highly capable, and academic performance levels;
- Align resources with funding requirements, state and federal grant requirements, and contractual obligations;
- Align staff adjustments with changing student populations and school level administrative duties;
- Invest more resources in early learning (K-3); and
- Provide continuity of programs by attempting to retain core staff levels from year-to-year.

The process described in this procedure applies to staffing and resources distributed to schools for building-based decision making in the Spring, but does not include other support services that are provided or distributed centrally to schools based on unique program needs.

School Funding Model Work Group Process

Each year, the district will convene a school funding model work group to make recommendations to the Superintendent about potential changes for the following year's direct school funding. The work group should align recommended changes to support

the district's strategic plan and ensure there is an equity focus for any recommendations.

The work group will meet several times during the fall and early winter to review academic needs, data models, and budgetary issues before providing recommendations by mid-December to the Superintendent. The work group also reviews the Equity Tier methodology and may recommend changes to the Board. Minutes from these meetings are posted publicly.

Work Group Members

The school funding work group includes leaders from the Seattle Education Association representing interests of certificated and represented classified school-based staff as well as leaders from the Principals' Association of Seattle Schools representing principals and assistant principals. The majority of the work group members are school principals who are asked to provide insights and suggestions across all of the district's grade bands from Kindergarten through High School and within all Equity Tiers.

The Chief Financial Officer facilitates the conversations and provides analytical data when required. Support staff also typically includes the Chief Academic Officer and Chief Human Resources Officer. Other staff may be asked to participate, based on subjects under review or data requirements from the work group.

Duties

Members of the work group are responsible for attending regularly scheduled meetings and sharing data and obtaining input from their peers or staff that they are representing in the meetings. Members may also be called upon to assist in explaining recommendations to the Superintendent or School Board.

Additional Resources

- Annual Weighted Staffing Standards (WSS) Model Formula

Approved: December 2020

Revised:

Cross Reference: Policy Nos. 0030; 6000; 6010; Superintendent Procedure 4110SP