

2023-24 BUDGET ADVISORY COUNCIL

Wednesday, March 13, 2024

Syphax Center, Room 258

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

The meeting started at 7:08pm.

1. 7 members were present: Erik Sullivan (Chair), Chuck Rush, Katherine Christensen, Jennifer Wagener, Chris Cummings, Peter Strack, and Jonathan Hui
2. Approval of meeting minutes
 - Postponed until later in the budget cycle
3. Public comment
 - Josh Folb, AEA:
 - Governor's current working budget calls for a 3% raise for teachers
 - APS may not be eligible for some of these funds based on the way our currently proposed salary increases are structured
 - Budget is still a work in progress
4. Budget Update
 - The School Board requested APS to work on plans for addressing the current deficits in the budget
 - Believe the upcoming work session will discuss what appears to be staffing shifts at the school level that do not necessarily align to enrollment changes
5. Review of BAC discussion on Proposed Budget (from previous meeting)
 - Discussion around student-based budgeting, rather than planning factors/staffing-level funding
 - The "averages" of APS teacher to student ratios are difficult to analyze without having more data
 - Discussion around higher cost per student
 - Things do cost more closer to the city
 - For example, APS leases parking spaces at some of our urban schools that more suburban school systems will not have
 - Some of our programs cost more on a relative basis given our small size and lack of economies of scale
 - How is "success" measured? How does APS compare in terms of success metrics to our neighboring jurisdictions?

The meeting adjourned at 9:06pm.