

Jomsky, Mark

From: Mermell, Steve
Sent: Monday, December 10, 2018 3:12 PM
To: Jomsky, Mark
Subject: Fwd: First Interim - PUSD

Mark, please include the following as correspondence to Council for tonight.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Lawrence (Larry) Torres" <torres.lawrence@pusd.us>
Date: December 6, 2018 at 3:52:26 PM PST
To: ttornek@cityofpasadena.net, smadison@cityofpasadena.net, thampton@cityofpasadena.net,
awilson@cityofpasadena.net, vgordo@cityofpasadena.net,
mmcaustin@cityofpasadena.net, gmasuda@cityofpasadena.net, jkennedy@cityofpasadena.net
Cc: smermell@cityofpasadena.net, Brian Mcdonald <mcdonald.brian@pusd.us>
Subject: First Interim - PUSD

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Dear Pasadena City Council:

Later this month, the Pasadena Unified School District will submit a positive First Interim Budget Report to the Los Angeles County Office of Education. The positive qualification is a result of decisive action taken by the Board of Education to reduce expenditures by more than \$10 million and ensure a 3% reserve through the end of 2020-2021.

The reserve for economic uncertainty sets aside 3% of the District General Fund appropriations for the next three years, ensuring that PUSD can meet its fiscal obligations. California school districts are expected to maintain their reserve in all three years of the rolling three-year budget cycle. When the District amended its multi-year budget projection in August 2018 to reflect the final 2018-2019 State Budget and other revisions, the District had sufficient reserves to cover the 3% requirement for school years 2018-19 and 2019-20 but not for 2020-2021. Although in the past a district could indicate that they could not meet the requirement in any of the two outlying years and file a qualified budget and fiscal stability plan, the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) is choosing to hold PUSD to a higher standard based on the District's filing of a negative First Interim Report in December 2017.

With the Board's actions this fall to realize savings of \$10.1 million, the District can now cover the 3% requirement in 2020-2021.

We fully expect to achieve the reductions adopted by the Board and contained in the First Interim Budget Report. As an alternative to savings from the renegotiation of a technology contract, which is still pending, the District has identified \$1 million in staff reductions related to projected declining enrollment in 2019-2020 and 2020-2021.

Although we must contend with rapidly rising cost for Special Education services, final counts of unduplicated students (English learners, students who qualify for free or reduced-price meal, and foster youth) are better than anticipated and close to 2017-2018 levels.

PUSD is moving forward with generating a steady source of ongoing revenue through the property exchange of district headquarters. A request for qualifications has been issued with responses due later this month, and action soon to follow. To further strengthen the district's fiscal health for decades to come, the Board of Education has authorized the creation of a limited-term Master Planning/Boundaries subcommittee to develop criteria for school mergers by September 2019.

As we finalize the First Interim Report, we have been in contact with LACOE to ensure that we meet their requirements for fiscal stability so that we will no longer require a County fiscal expert.

I would like to thank you for your partnership and support of Pasadena Unified students and schools, and for placing Measure J on the ballot. The decisive approval of Measure J by Pasadena voters will serve to ensure our fiscal stability above what is required by the State. It also signals that a broad segment of our community believes that we are delivering value from the resources at our disposal.

Sincerely,

Lawrence Torres
President, Governing Board
Pasadena Unified School District

Flores, Valerie

Subject: FW: CCSA Letter to the City Council of Pasadena, 12/10
Attachments: 12_10_2018 Agenda Item 14, Measure J Letter.pdf

From: Chris Copolillo <ccopolillo@ccsa.org>
Sent: Monday, December 10, 2018 5:09 PM
To: Stewart, Jana <janastewart@cityofpasadena.net>
Cc: Mermell, Steve <smermell@cityofpasadena.net>; Cassy Horton <chorton@ccsa.org>
Subject: CCSA Letter to the City Council of Pasadena, 12/10

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For distribution to City Council Members for the December 10, 2018 meeting of the Pasadena City Council.

Dear Hon. Mayor Tornek and City Councilmembers,

I am writing to share the attached letter, which addresses the item 14 discussion regarding the implementation of Measure J. We ask that you include a representative for charter schools located within the Pasadena Unified School District on the proposed ad hoc committee to discuss Measure J implementation.

The California Charter School Association appreciates your consideration of this important issue, and we hope to discuss this matter in greater detail.

Sincerely,

Chris Copolillo
Director, Regional Advocacy, Greater Los Angeles
California Charter Schools Association
(804) 398-8975

12/10/2018
Item 14



250 E 1st Street, Suite 1000 • Los Angeles, CA 90012 • p 916-448-0995 • f 916-448-0998 • www.ccsa.org

December 10, 2018

Hon. Mayor Terry Tornek and City Councilmembers
City of Pasadena
100 N. Garfield Avenue
Pasadena, CA 91109

RE: City of Pasadena Measure J Funding

Dear Honorable Mayor Tornek and City Councilmembers,

The California Charter Schools Association (“CCSA”) is a membership organization serving more than 1,200 charter public schools and 600,000 K-12 public school students statewide. We congratulate the City of Pasadena on the recent passage of Measures I and J. We also write to follow up on the letter we sent on July 16, 2018 imploring the council to equitably and proportionally fund all public schools located within the boundaries of Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD) with the revenue from these measures, including charter public schools.

To that end, we have reviewed the staff recommendation for an ad-hoc committee of members of the PUSD that would develop parameters for the implementation of Measure J, to be presented to the City Council within 60 days.

As you consider a proposal today regarding the ad-hoc committee membership, we ask you to include a representative for charter schools located within PUSD on this committee. This will ensure that the students enrolled in charter public schools and their families have representation in the allocation discussions.

The charter schools within the District provide over 1,800 students with an array of high-quality, tuition-fee, public school options. These schools are overseen by both PUSD and other authorizing bodies, including the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE). While held accountable and overseen by their authorizers, charter public schools operate as their own 501(c)3 nonprofits, and must make locally-based, independent decisions to meet their student and community needs.

For these reasons, it is necessary that charter public schools have their own representation on the ad-hoc committee for the implementation of Measure J. Again, the City Council should appoint a committee member from the PUSD-area charter community to represent charter school students and families, who are surely deserving of an equitable share of the new revenues approved by voters for, as stated in language of Measure J, “Pasadena public schools.”

Hon. Mayor Tornek
City of Pasadena
July 16, 2018

We are available to discuss CCSA's position on this matter in greater detail. Please feel free to contact me at your earliest convenience.

Best Regards,

Chris Copolillo
Director, Regional Advocacy

California Charter Schools Association

cc: Pasadena City Council

Councilmember Tyron Hampton, District 1

Councilmember Margaret McAustin, District 2

Councilmember & Vice Mayor John J. Kennedy, District 3

Councilmember Gene Masuda, District 4

Councilmember Victor M. Gordo, District 5

Councilmember Steve Madison, District 6

Councilmember Andy Wilson, District 7

Cassy Horton, Managing Director, Regional Advocacy, Greater Los Angeles