



Board of Education Questions for Board Staff: Round 1
2020-21 Proposed Budget

Date: April 10, 2020

Round 2 Questions	Sections 6, 8 & 9, and Round 1 Follow-up Questions
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<u>Questions on Sections 6, 7 & 8</u>					
2.1	<p>Agency temporary staff line was increased- while I understand that we have moved items around the Board needs to cut and make sacrifices too- why is there an increase here?</p> <p>The Agency Temporary Staff line was increased by \$4,000 as part of the BOE Staff budget mid-year cuts that took place in December, 2019. This line has traditionally been overspent in prior years, and funds the camera operators and translation services for the public during Board meetings, and for office coverage when staff is out.</p> <p>(Section 6, p. 7) [note cross-listed with District Question 2.15]</p>				
2.2	<p>The total decrease in the auditor general budget line only reflects \$8,850 – but on the next page it reflects a whole FTE being cut- with this cut the savings only amounted to the \$8K?</p> <p>The position eliminated from OAG had a figure of \$76,787 attached to it. Although I do not know how this salary figure was determined, it is the amount that was assigned to the position in the 2020-2021 template that was eliminated. I am unable to explain what happened during process to create the budget which resulted in my department only having a decrease of \$8,850.</p> <p>The line from my template is included below:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 15%;">B001</td> <td style="width: 55%;">Asst. to the Auditor General</td> <td style="width: 15%;">023</td> <td style="width: 15%; text-align: right;">76,787</td> </tr> </table> <p>(Section 6, p. 7) [note cross-listed with District Question 2.16]</p>	B001	Asst. to the Auditor General	023	76,787
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2.3	<p>General counsel position is added in this area- this needs to be moved back. In addition we made no cuts while we expect our schools to make cuts. This is wrong- in addition in the October 10th, 2019 Van White told City council “ I will recommend to my colleagues that we immediately institute a hiring freeze on all vacant BOE positions; institute a 13% cut on our existing BOE budget and that those funds be immediately returned to help reduce the current deficit.” Keeping this position in while our deficit has grown further disqualifies his statement as a truth to the City. Overall total should reflect cuts here not growth.</p> <p>Please refer to District Administration Response in 2.17 (Section 6, p. 8) [note cross-listed with District Question 2.17]</p>
2.4	<p>Why are utilities included in the BOE budget?</p> <p>The roll up category is utilities, but it is a cellular phone expense. It is the Auditor General’s district phone. This expense has historically remained as a direct charge to the OAG budget. All other phones are centrally billed, so you do not see the expense for the remaining Board of Ed phones separately.</p> <p>(Section 6, p. 7) [note cross-listed with District Question 2.33]</p>
2.5	<p>There seems to be one extra position in the Board of Education’s budget. The board needs to finalize this discussion with respect to whether we will keep that position open and available.</p> <p>This position is a determination that only the Board as a whole can make.</p> <p>(Section 6, p. 8) [note cross-listed with District Question 2.34]</p>