

ED Report – February 2020

Academic Update:

Map and mClass testing is in the process of being finalized and a school-wide analysis will be completed to measure student growth. These reports will be shared at an upcoming board meeting.

Portfolio conferences are still underway and some have been rescheduled due to school weather related cancellations.

Enrollment Data for 2019 - 2020:

Update as of 2/20/20

Grade	Total # of students	Change
K	35	
1	37	
2	38	
3	39	
4	38	
5	38	
6	74	1 withdrawal – family change moved to base school
7	75	
8	75	
TOTAL	449	

Student withdrawals through January are comparable to prior year.

Demographics and Enrollment Data:

	Wake County Public Schools	The Exploris School 18-19	The Exploris School 19-20
Black	22.7%	10%	12%
Hispanic	18%	7%	7%
Asian	9.2%	2%	2%
Multi-racial	3.8%	5%	8%
Non-Hispanic White	45.8%	75%	71%
Other	.3%	1%	1%
Free and Reduced Lunch	32.2%	10.8%	12.7%

Personnel:

- **Board approval is requested to accept Terri Bullock as the long term kindergarten maternity leave replacement.**
- **Board approval is requested to approve the following individuals as tutors using ACCESS grant funding**
 - **TaVshea Danielle Smith (external)**
 - **Shannon Hardy (internal staff)**
 - **Helene Elliston (internal staff)**

Operations:

The school is investigating visitor management systems that will perform screening of visitors using the sex offender registry list and provide visitor badges upon check in. The equipment will be paid for using the school safety grant and PTO funding.

We are also planning for the implementation of volunteer background checks on all volunteers for the 2020-2021 school year. The PTO has generously agreed to fund parent /guardian background checks to support the school.

Board approval is requested to approve the updated background check policy. The revised policy is attached for your review.

Fire Drills

Elementary School - 1/23/20

Middle School – 2/10/20

Enrollment and Admissions for 2020-2021

Applications received as of 2/20/20 – 1,072

Open Seats – 77 – assuming reduced class sizes for K (17) and 1st (18) – (\$50K budget impact)

- Board & Staff – 3-
- Siblings - 54
- FRL - 98

Lottery will be Held – 3/6/20

Finance:

2019-2020 Budget Update

The Finance committee met to review the year to date revenue updates, expenditures, and project future impacts. The budget was updated to reflect the budget amendments approved at last month's board meeting. Based on YTD activity, we are projecting an end of year surplus of

\$228,400.43. The balance sheet and income statement along with the YTD budget report are attached for your review.

The Finance committee met and discussed the budget, current surplus, and 401K eligibility and school match for part-time employees at the committee meeting on February 4, 2020. The 401K match budget is based on the total salary budget so there would not be any incremental financial impact. We believe that our part-time staff are also entitled to this employee benefits.

Board approval is requested to modify the employee handbook and allow for part-time employees to receive the 401K match according to the plan guidelines.

2020 – 2021 Budget Process

Budget input meetings have been held with all teams at the middle and elementary campus to identify remaining needs for 2020 and plan for the 2020 – 2021 budget. A budget input session was held by the finance committee on February 4th after school to allow for additional input. A staff survey on class size was also used to provide additional input to the budget process. The first internal draft of the budget will be created by the end of March and presented to the Board at the April board meeting.

Five Year Projections

The five year projections were reviewed and updated at the 2/19/20 finance committee meeting. Updated financials were provided to BB&T for a re-evaluation of our bond financing capacity. We would like to understand our minimum and maximum capacity for borrowing based on our current size and our anticipated growth.

Board approval is requested to approve the Underwriter Letter of Intent with BB&T so that they can provide full underwriting estimates of our bond capacity. The agreement is nonbinding and may be terminated at any time without penalty or costs.

Facilities Update:

Tri-Properties scheduled a tour for the facilities committee of a property that just hit the market located at 111 Hargett Street. The facility has 3 stories, 31,288 square feet, was recently renovated, and is located near Nash Square. This is an ideal location for Exploris to remain a downtown school. The sale price is \$8.9 M. Jeremy is evaluating the cost/feasibility of expansion required to add an additional floor. We are also exploring the option of partnering with the church across the street to lease their gym and excess classrooms as another alternative for expansion. The property brochure is linked below for your review.

Tri Properties also held a video conference with the facilities committee on 2/19/20 to provide an initial search of available properties for review and discussion. The full package is also attached for Board review and discussion. They are also having meetings with Shaw University and St. Augustine's on behalf of Exploris.

The properties with the most potential at this time are:

- 111 Hargett Street – Brochure link [here](#)
- 554 Hargett Street - Treasuring Christ

- Bain Water Plant – lease option only – video [here](#)
- 7 acres of undeveloped land in Southeast Raleigh
- Temporary location of Wiley elementary school in Garner
- Shaw and St. Augustine partnership/land/building
- Possible block for sale along New Bern Avenue

Legal Facilities Update:

The developers have engaged a new attorney and will provide a response within 60 days.

The legal complaint against our developers was filed on 1/17/20 in Superior Court in Wake County and all information was shared with the Board in an email on 1/17/20. Our attorneys have recommended the following response to any inquiries about our complaint. **"We are unable to comment on matters in active litigation and our complaint speaks for itself."**

Future Meetings:

The next Board Special Board meeting is scheduled on March 24, 2020 at 4:30 at the Middle School.