

FSF Working Group: Meeting #6 Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: September 29th, 2022

Meeting Time: 4:00 PM – 5:30 PM

Members Present: Alan Ong, Dr. Angela Green, Chris Caruso, Dia Bryant (Co-Chair), Elizabeth (Liz) Haela, Elizabeth Kennedy, Ellen McHugh, Gabrielle Cayo, Geneal Chacon, Gregory Faulkner, Jan Atwell, Jasmine Gripper (Co-Chair), Joanne Buckheit, Juvanie Piquant, Kaliris Salas-Ramirez, Kana Ervin, Lara Lai, Marina Marcou-O'Malley, Mary Vaccaro, Melessa Avery, Michael Athy, Michael Mulgrew, Paullette Healy, Reana Akthar, Santa Soriano Vazquez, Sarita Subramanian, Sheree Gibson, Tazin Azad, Ted Leather, Tom Sheppard, Chair Rita Joseph

NYC Department of Education Staff Present: Emma Vadehra, Dan Weisberg, Seritta Scott, Benjamin Schanback, Erin Gehant, Rana Khan, Elizabeth Hoffman, Jenna Lyle, Amalia Orman, Benjamin Cosman, Michelle Paladino

All presentations from the meeting are available on the NYC Department of Education website at: <https://infohub.nyced.org/reports/financial/financial-data-and-reports>

1. Welcome from Co-Chairs

COO Emma Vadehra welcomed and thanked the group, and introduced Co-Chair Jasmine Gripper. Jasmine reviewed the meeting agenda, and provided a reminder to the group that as the end of October deadline approaches, it is critical to focus on providing final recommendations to the Chancellor.

2. NYC Public Schools Demographic Data

Jasmine then introduced the DOE team from the Research and Support Policy Group (RPSG) to share information about K-12 enrollment that the group had previously requested.

Ben Cosman from RPSG presented to the group data on K-12 enrollment trends, from the 2013-2014 school year through the 21-22 school year. The presentation included a review of overall enrollment trends in NYC Public Schools, charter schools and private schools, overall and in terms of specific demographic subgroups.

Ben also presented data on small schools in NYC, in response to questions from the group, including the distribution of small schools by grade level and the total number of schools of various sizes.

The group asked a range of questions on the demographic presentation, which the NYC Public Schools team brought back and later presented additional answers and analysis. (Questions and answers are posted as “Additional Meeting Materials.”)

3. Second Round of Modeling Proposals for Discussion

Emma introduced the second round of modeled proposals for discussion, and shared that these proposals were developed in response to requests from the Working Group Members, and

modeled by the NYC Public Schools Finance team. All proposals provided an overview of the proposal, and the impact of the proposal on different schools, types of schools and communities.

Ben Schanback, interim CFO of NYC Public Schools presented to the group on the proposals including:

- A review of Portfolio Weights and the total fiscal allocation for the weights.
- A proposal to add concentration weights, which provide additional funding for schools based on concentration of need, not just individual student characteristics.
- A proposal to address the issue of breakage in special education classrooms, by creating new weights for special education students in small schools.
- A proposal to poverty as a weight in addition to maintaining the current academic intervention weight.
- An analysis of the impact of changing how teacher salaries are accounted for in school budgets, to allow schools to charge for each teacher at the average city wide teacher salary, rather than the average school level salary (and then move around dollars accordingly after FSF is distributed to cover actual salaries).

After each proposal, the WG then engaged in a question and answer session and discussion.

4. End of Meeting Survey and Next Steps

Co-Chair Jasmine Gripper wrapped up the meeting and reminded the group of the schedule ahead to finalize the recommendations to the Chancellor by the end of October. Jasmine also asked the group to complete the end of meeting survey as it asked for volunteer report writers as well as for opinions from the group on their preferred recommendations to date. Jasmine then closed the meeting for the group.