PROPOSITION 301 FAST FACTS

What is Proposition 301?

In the fall of 2000, an initiative was passed by the residents of Arizona, creating a funding stream for public education from sales tax and the Arizona Land Trust monies. Since sales tax collections and investments proceeds may fluctuate; monies available for 301 to school districts also can <u>fluctuate</u>. The intent of the majority of the Proposition 301 K-12 funding is to 1) increase teachers' salaries, 2) increase accountability among public educational institutions and 3) reward high performing teachers.

How is the money broken down?

Monies from Prop 301 are earmarked for spending in various areas of education. The majority of the funding for K-12 districts falls into one of three categories, each with specific criteria. The percentage funding per category is established per the State of Arizona: Base Salary at 20%, Performance Pay at 40%, and Other at 40% of the Total Class Site Funds received for all School Districts. The Legislature approves the amount of overall funding that is expected to be expended each year for 301 Funds (this has been subject to change per the State of Arizona economy). MUSD uses State of Arizona projections and funding formula when it approves its Annual Budgets for these Funds. The approved Budget for a school district each year establishes the expense limits for each fund. The past few years the revenues have fluctuated up and down and have not been very predictable or stable.

- Base Salary (Fund 11) 20% of total received by school district (increases to teacher base salaries and employment related expenses) per State of Arizona funding formula.
- Performance Pay (Fund 12) 40% of total received by school district (compensation increases and employment related expenses based on performance) per State of Arizona funding formula.
- -Other (Fund 13) 40% of total received by school district (five other spending options are given for these funds class size reduction, teacher development, AIMS intervention programs, dropout prevention programs, teacher liability insurance and employment related expenses) per State of Arizona funding formula.

Who is eligible to receive the Prop 301 money?

MUSD has defined certified staff as anyone on a District salary schedule who also holds an Arizona Department of Education certificate and provides services to students. Administrators and psychologist have been determined by the State not to qualify for these funds.

What were the expenditures in 2016/2017 for each category?

- Base Salary (20%) The District budgeted for 4% additional salary to each qualifying teacher's base salary. The District expended \$601,228 in Fund 11, \$474,933 for teacher salaries and \$126,295 in employment related expenses.
- Performance Pay (40%) The District expended \$959,287 in Fund 12, \$806,712 for teacher salaries and \$152,575 employment related expenses for performance-obtained pay.
- Other (40%) The District expended \$979,673 in Fund 13, \$787,013 for teacher salaries and \$192,660 employment related expenses for 20 teachers to reduce class size in classrooms.

What were the expenditures in 2016/2017 Performance Pay category?

The District budgeted \$994,084 and expended \$959,287 and paid 299 teachers salaries and related benefits for performance-obtained pay.

Who decides how the 301 categories are spent each year?

The State of Arizona has established specific compliance laws that school districts must follow. For example the 20%, 40%, and 40% per category and fund cannot be changed by a school district. The funding formula is based on Student ADM and must be used each year when setting the budgets for each category.

- -Base Salary (20%) The addition to base salary is established thru Board Action and has to be addressed in teacher contracts, salary schedules and through the budgeting process.
- -Performance Pay (40%) Each plan is approved at sites and through the budget process. The district has its overall plan approved by Board Action. The accounting for the performance pay is done through the Business Department's Payroll Officer, and reviewed by the Director of Business Services and Human Resources Director, before funds are approved for payroll distribution by Board Action.
- Other (40%) The spending options are per the recommendation of the Superintendent and approved through Board Action in the budgeting process. The District has historically used these funds for lower class sizes.

What are the budgets for each category for Fiscal Year 2017/2018?

The budget limits are established by State of Arizona funding formula for each category.

- -Base Salary The District budgeted for 4% <u>additional salary</u> to each qualifying teacher's base salary. The District budgeted \$853,548 (\$660,576 for salaries and 192,972 for employment related benefits). <u>This amount is subject to change, based on the ADE reconciliation process and MUSD's December's Budget revision.</u>
- Performance Pay The District budgeted for \$1,106,356 (\$881,466 in Salaries and \$224,890 in Benefits) to be paid out for Performance Pay and employment related expenses for qualifying teachers at the end of the year. This amount is subject to change, based on the ADE reconciliation process and MUSD's December's Budget revision.
- Other The District budgeted for \$1,003,470 (\$802,776 in Salaries and \$200,694 in Benefits) for 20 additional teachers' salaries and employment related expenses to reduce class size. This amount is subject to change, based on the ADE reconciliation process and MUSD's Budget revisions.

Who reviews the 301 budgets and expenditures besides the School Board and MUSD Administrators?

MUSD reviews spending in each fund with the School Board in its Monthly Financial Report presented in board meetings, these are also posted on the District Web Site for public, and staff review. MUSD also has an Independent Audit performed each year on the entire District, that includes a comprehensive review of the 301 Funds and each category. The District's Audit is published on ADE's website and is available for review at the District's Administrative Offices. The District also sends its records to the Arizona Auditor General for review and they compile a Class Room Site Fund Report that is published in the spring of the following year.

The Arizona School Board Association also has provided a fact sheet for Proposition 301. Please see the link http://www.azsba.org/static/index.cfm?contentID=158 – you can copy and paste it into your browser.

FY18 Budget

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FY17 Actuals

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