

7.3

Governor Newsome has stated that he has allocated \$2 billion dollars in his 2021-22 proposed budget, so with a total of \$10.5 billion dollars, I would expect that you will be able to fund a portion of those funds for the continued education for the students who attend the George Washington Carter School of Arts and Science, in addition to the Arts programs that are fundamentally enriching for the students throughout this great state, especially since California is the richest state in the Union. In fact, so rich that its economy is worth more than most countries in the world.

Agenda Item 7.3

Comments by Nikki Milevsky, first vice-president of the Sacramento City Teachers Association (SCTA), to the Sacramento City Unified School District (SCUSD)

January 14, 2021

Good evening. I'm Nikki Milevsky, the First Vice-President of the Sacramento City Teachers Association. Since the school board last met, two significant budget developments have occurred that should create the foundation for a new era in our District, a fitting beginning to our new school board.

First, in late December, the federal government passed a second COVID relief package that, according to EdSource, will result in an additional \$66.1 million for Sac City.

Approximately three weeks later, last Friday, Governor Gavin Newsom presented his initial state budget for 2021-22 that includes the highest amount of funding ever in California history for K-12 education.

The impact on the Sac City budget is significant.

Using the District's assumptions in its First Interim Budget as our baseline, Newsom's Budget increases LCFF revenue in Sac City by \$16 million in 2021-22, and \$24.5 million in 2022-23. The State budget also gives Sac City nearly \$4 million in relief on CalSTRs and CalPERs which together with the LCFF increases are enough for Sac City to present a Second Interim Budget that has a POSITIVE CERTIFICATION, meeting the minimum 2% reserve fund threshold in each of the three years of the budget.

This does not include the additional \$30 million the District may qualify for based on Governor Newsom's Early Action Proposals related to In-Person Instruction Grants and Expanded Learning Time. It also does not include the various enhancements included in the Governor's budget concerning categorical programs.

Unfortunately, under the previous school board leadership, the District staff was encouraged to manipulate financial data and continually misrepresent the financial condition of the District. Even with this year's outrageous projected expenditures of 110 million dollars more than the district actually spent last year, this expanded funding allows this school board to start its tenure by approving a Positively Certified budget.

The recent great budget news gives this board the opportunity to put all that in the past.

It's time to turn the page. Let's use this opportunity to work together to make Sac City the Destination District for California and give our students the education they deserve.