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Dr. Peter Bang-Knudsen

8489 Madison Avenue NE * Bainbridge Island, Washington 98110 * (206) 842-4714 * Fax: (206) 842-2928

To: Dr. Peter Bang-Knudsen, Superintendent
From: Randi Ivancich, Technology Director
Date: August 30, 2018
Re: Monthly Report on Technology Levy and Planning

Technology Levy Budget Summary

This summary provides information on the total encumbrances (outstanding and paid) to date applied to the 2017/2018 fiscal school year. The 2017/2018 technology levy budget is comprised of funds from the 2014 and 2017 BISD technology levy collections. (Slight variations in the totals are due to rounding.)

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|---|--------------------|
| SY 2017/2018 Technology Levy Budget Capacity | \$2,272,758 |
| Purchase Orders (Commitment to Pay when Invoiced) | <u>\$2,271,689</u> |
| Interim (Working) Balance | \$ 1,069 |

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| SY 2017/2018 Technology Levy Budget Capacity | \$2,272,758 |
| Paid Invoices | <u>\$2,006,507</u> |
| SY 2017/2018 Remaining Balance ("in the bank") | \$ 266,251 |

Teaching and Learning

Technology staff are checking, updating and reconnecting classroom and office technologies, contributing to a successful start of the school year for students and staff. The technologies include phones, printers, projectors, interactive equipment, Window computers, Chromebooks and iPads, and the related network cabling and management systems.

As we modified and adjusted our technology projects, we made the decision to postpone some hardware work related to changing the presentation surfaces so the tech levy could purchase Chromebooks for grades 5 and 6, the same model as what is currently in grades 3-7. Grades 5 and 6 were using early generation Chromebooks. These new devices are part of the planned replacement cycle. This early purchase allows students to start the school year with the new touchscreen Chromebooks.

This year, all classrooms have whole class audio systems. These systems have a teacher microphone, worn around the neck with a lanyard, and a handheld microphone for voice enhancement. The systems also enhance media sound from the projectors. Whole class sound systems decrease sound interference from physical factors like ambient noise and distances between people in the room, reduce voice strain, and provide greater accessibility options for students and staff with hearing loss. These sound systems will deliver clear audio, from voice or media, across the whole classroom to provide all students with equal access to instruction.

Infrastructure

The network cabling has been upgraded at both Ordway Elementary and the Commodore building. This was a major undertaking to get both projects completed in the summer and it required coordination with staff from maintenance, custodial, technology and capital projects. This was truly a team effort!

Due to the significant remodel work at Commodore, the maintenance work to support K-4 program changes and the significant custodial work, Tech. Dept. would especially like to thank Glen Tyrell, Bernie Mejia and Dane Fenwick for their regular and frequent communications with the Technology Department staff to get summer work completed successfully.

Communications and Productivity

Led by Erin Bischoff, BISD Community Relations Coordinator, and in coordination of initiatives led by Erin Murphy, BISD is increasing its awareness and supports for modern communications systems that include text messaging and web site accessibility. We will share more information with staff and the school board directors as we develop our plans and research support options.