Business Manager Update
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1. **21-22 Audit**

   A couple of board members have asked and, we did receive official communications from DPI that our audit for the 21-22 fiscal year is officially late. Normally, by now (depending on the year, either the December or January meeting) you would have officially 'received' or 'reviewed' the annual audit and I wanted to make sure to give you a heads up on why.

   Basically, it was a perfect storm of the timing of when we switched our post-employment benefits for teaching staff, me going out on leave when Isaiah was born, and me having a brain fart, thinking I had sent an email.

   Beyond the Business Office and our auditors at KerberRose, there is a third party that plays a significant part in putting together our audit – Key Benefits Corporation (KBC). KBC puts together the post-employment benefit actuarial report that goes into the audit. Generally, we get the information KBC needs to them by late spring or early summer each year. As we communicated that we were on the precipice of changing up our post-employment benefit plan for our teachers, we decided to hold off until everything was finalized. This included having to wait for some of our staff to make a decision on whether they would choose health insurance or TSA contributions. The choices were due right about the time I was coming back from paternity leave. I thought I hit send on an email when, in fact, I did not. So, when we got to the time that the audit was due, we realized we did not have this actuarial piece.

   We quickly got back a hold of KBC to get the ball rolling again on the actuarial report. That part usually takes 8 to 10 weeks. We got KBC everything they needed by mid-January so, we are currently about halfway through them working through what they need to and my hope is that we will have something for you at next month's meeting.

2. **22-23 Membership Audit**

   We have officially been chosen this year for a membership audit. To be clear, our being chosen has nothing to do with my first informational topic. Each year, DPI randomly selects 25% of the schools in Wisconsin for a Membership Audit. The best way I can explain it is that there are four year blocks and schools do not know which year of those four that they will be chosen for a membership audit. We went through one four years ago and, the last membership audit before that one was eight years prior.

   It is nothing to be concerned about and there is nothing we will need from you. Basically, we work with our regular auditors to take a deeper look at our student counts and our processes around counting students. There is certainly a possibility that we have an adjustment to our counts but we do not expect any major adjustments, especially with how Casey Manders has taken over the student data systems and really, taken our process to the next level.

3. **Year End Projections**

There are no major updates between last month's projections and this month's projections. We did see our year end surplus projection grow from about $60,000 to the $94,000 you see this month. There are two main reasons for that.

First, with our expenses, specifically in the non-capital expenses category, we're starting to see the projections for the tech department sort of catchup a little bit. I believe I mentioned this in December but, as opposed to previous years where we saw the technology (IT) department have their big expenses in December, January, or June they had some major expenses in August and September (a server update and Chromebook purchase). Second, we continue to see large returns from our investment account with PMA/WISC. Whereas I had our annual budget for interest at $14,000, we received almost $15,000 in interest in January.

As we look ahead and see the ebbs and flows of our projected surplus, it continues to be my recommendation that we take any surplus we might have and put it towards catching up our TSA contributions for staff.

4. **Experiential Design murals installed**

I mentioned, at the board retreat, that our murals from elevate97 were going to be installed this week. As of the writing of this (Thursday, the 9th), most of the installation is complete and it looks awesome! If you haven't yet, I would encourage you to take a couple of extra minutes to look at the finished products by the High School English classrooms, the High School office and our District office. We have already received many 'WOW's and compliments from staff, visitors, and students, and are excited for these to be centerpieces and points of pride for Sturgeon Bay for years to come. As a teaser, here is a picture I took as the crew was putting finishing touches on the main piece.