

Los Altos School District  
**Citizens Advisory Committee for Finance**  
Meeting Notes – December 11, 2024

Attendees

**Committee Members, present:** Jon Michaelson (Chair) Gary Hedden, Stella Kam, Peipei Yu, Curtis Cole, Kelli Riccoboni,  
**Absent:** Fred Gallagher, Laura Tekler, Alex Shroeder  
**Staff:** Erik Walukiewicz  
**Guests:** None

1. **Call to Order:** Jon called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.
2. **Public Comment:** There were no members of the public present.

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of September 18, 2024 Meeting were approved.

**District and Financial Update:** Erik Walukiewicz (Assistant Superintendent of Business Services) reported that the first interim budget update will be presented by staff to the Board of Trustees December 16. The district is financially in a "solid position," is committed to staying solvent, and has managed this by careful attention to spending and staff reductions as appropriate. There are areas of ongoing concern. First, the Charter School expense is currently \$10.6M/year. The use of existing LASD facilities and staff could manage this at about half the cost. Second, general operation expenses have been using COVID relief funds which are now depleted. Third, there are underfunded State-mandated programs such as Universal Meals (deficit \$864k) and the TK classes (a \$1.9M program). Fourth, contract negotiations are just starting and the district has low pay scales compared to nearby districts.

The next CACF meeting is scheduled for January 22<sup>nd</sup>. Subject to change to Jan 23<sup>rd</sup>.

3. **Ad Hoc Subcommittees:**

4. Communication. Laura Tekler (absent). No report, but work will begin next month.
5. Enrollment. Gary Hedden. No report, but it was announced that a demographer has not been hired due to a very high bid.
6. Facilities. With the passage of Measure EE, Jon Michaelson led a discussion on setting priorities and a timeline based on the Facilities Master Plan.
7. Membership. Curtis Cole reported that two new members will be presented to the Board December 16 for approval.
8. Operations. Fred Gallagher (absent). No report. Expenses were discussed above by Erik, and for revenue, property tax growth is holding steady at 5.5%/year.
9. Special Projects. Peipei Yu. No report.

5 **Other Business: Adjournment:** Jon adjourned the meeting at 8:16 pm.

**2024–25 Meeting Schedule:**

Aug 23	Sept 18	Oct 23	Dec 11	Jan 22	Feb 26	Mar 26	Apr 23	May 28
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