

BERKELEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

TO: BSEP P&O Committee
FROM: Becca Todd, District Library Coordinator
Pasquale Scuderi, Assistant Superintendent for Educational Services
DATE: April 19, 2016
RE: Recommendation for Expenditures in 2016-17 from the Library portion of the Berkeley Public Schools Educational Excellence Act of 2006 (BSEP)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Berkeley Schools Educational Excellence Act of 2006 allocates 7.25% of the available BSEP revenues annually:

“to provide student access to quality school libraries which shall be maintained by providing library staff to operate the District’s K-2 school and other specialized libraries, and by allocating revenues for books, materials, ~~books~~ and equipment for the school libraries.”

EXCELLENCE - At the heart of the matter is the importance - and joy - of pursuing ideas and information through reading. Our students are served by skilled library staff, working with high quality resources, in print and online. Our libraries are open and staffed every school day, and provide 24/7 online access to curated resources via the Internet.

EQUITY - We provide Internet access and printing capacity for students who don’t have these resources at home. We are increasing our information literacy and digital citizenship instruction to develop stronger skills online. Our book lending collections augment reading options outside of the cla 002il-3(t)-3(0.92 .r)-, .02 Tc -0.002 13 3.968 472 0 [(o)22(i)-1(I)113(r)-l(t)8(al)(r)-2(i)es, pm an3(o)1b(i)-3(p)2(i)-3 alone?”). The library is a safe space, a third space, a sanctuary.

ENGAGEMENT - Choice of reading material plays a crucial role in one’s engagement with the material; our libraries promote such choice, and opportunities to “get lost in a book” in print, audio, and/or online. Our libraries promote collaboration and community through shared readings, computers, and projects, in addition to upholding individual interests.

ENRICHMENT - Through author and illustrator visits, book clubs, special projects (art, coding, tech squad) and other recess options, our students know that the library is a likely source of materials, ideas, staff support - and students! - with whom to enrich their own growth and development.

Program Objectives

Our library program aims to foster curiosity, creativity and critical thinking - and of course, a love of reading. Our focus is to provide a wide range of print and digital books, online resources and curricular programming to address every student’s academic and independent reading needs. We work with classroom teachers, staff and families to deepen reading engagement, build digital literacy and digital citizenship, and improve student achievement for each and every student.

Program Summary

BSEP monies fund the library staffing and resources throughout the Berkeley public school system. Recognizing the integral role school libraries play in our children’s education, the Berkeley Public

The proposed budget for 2016-17 reflects a rise in staffing costs due to increases in the STRS and PERS retirement programs, as well as raises and step and column increases, and anticipates the implementation of the Classification and Compensation study which is still pending as of this writing. It reflects a reduction in materials and technology upgrades funded through BSEP library monies.

The following recommendation is for the allocation of funds for the Purpose of Libraries in accordance with BSEP/Measure A.

Library Staffing **\$1,694,400**

The staffing model shown below, with 13.06 FTE classified staff and 8.2 FTE certificated staff, follows the same structure as the previous year with only a 0.1 FTE increase for the Elementary Library Media Technician/Specialist at Jefferson due to the increased enrollment at Jefferson, bringing that position into alignment with the other elementary schools with student populations greater than 400.

Elementary Teacher Librarian TSAs	1.60	FTE
Elementary Library Media Technicians/Specialists*	9.60	FTE
Middle School Teacher Librarians	3.00	FTE
Middle School Library Media Technicians	1.86	FTE
BHS Teacher Librarians	2.00	FTE
BHS Library Media Technician	0.80	FTE
BTA Teacher Librarian	0.60	FTE
Central Media Library Technician	0.80	FTE
District Library Coordinator	1.00	FTE

* Note: The Elementary Library Media Technician job title is expected to change to Library Media Specialist. Therefore the term Technician/Specialist will be used throughout this document when referring to the classified elementary library staff.

District Library Coordinator **1.0 FTE**

The District Library Coordinator administers the annual library plan for the district, overseeing staffing, collection development, technology upgrades and professional development throughout the school library system. Through on-site visits, monthly meetings and periodic workshops, the District Library Coordinator guides the school level library staff in staying abreast of library and information literacy trends, and integrates districtwide initiatives into the library program. The District Library Coordinator also has a leadership role facilitating the Instructional Technology team (aka DigiTech) in collaboration with the Technology Director.

Teacher Librarians **7.2 FTE**

Background information - Teacher Librarians hold two credentials: a California Teaching Credential, and a Teacher Librarian Services Credential. Our Teacher Librarians also have a Master in Library and Information Science. The following narrative describes the difference between the Elementary Teacher Librarians, which are District TSA positions, and the Secondary Teacher Librarians, which are school site-based positions.

Elementary - We will maintain the certificated staffing at the elementary level. In 2015-16, we had 1.6 Elementary Teacher Librarian TSAs serving the 11 elementary schools. The Elementary Teacher

Librarian TSAs develop lessons and resources aligned with the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) and the Teachers College Reading and Writing Program (TCRWP), and often model their use in instruction.

There is an urgency for Teacher Librarian instruction and collaboration at the elementary level with the growing use of online resources by our younger computer users. We are striving to bring consistency, equity and full implementation to our Digital Citizenship instruction. Digital Citizenship encompasses much more than the early notions of “cyber safety”, including issues about privacy, security, relationships and communication, cyberbullying, creative credit and copyright. As we grow in our use of digital resources, we need to teach skilled and responsible use of those resources, and more fully integrate information and computer literacy instruction into all subject areas. Teacher Librarians have this cross-curricular, information and computer literate instruction as their core focus.

The Elementary Teacher Librarians have established deeper instructional articulation between departments, are collaborating with classroom teachers, other district TSAs, and are a core component of the DigiTech Instructional Technology team. We continue to align and update our school library resources with the standards, respond to district-wide initiatives such as the **Toolbox** curriculum and **Welcoming Schools**, participate in the **We Need Diverse Books** campaign, and integrate the strategic use of ebooks, audiobooks and academic databases in addition to our strong print resources.

Secondary - For the 2016-17 school year, our secondary Teacher Librarian staffing ratio is the same. We have a Teacher Librarian at each middle school, a 0.6 FTE Teacher Librarian at B-Tech Academy, and two Teacher Librarians at Berkeley High School. Our middle and high school Teacher Librarians provide

At the high school level, the 0.8 FTE Library Media Technician position at BHS is an 11 month position

stimulating students' selections for free reading and pursuing individual interests. Library books can range from \$11-\$30 in cost, with nonfiction titles tending toward the higher end of the range. This budget contains a reduction for new book acquisition from \$15/student to \$7/student; additional funding calculated at roughly \$4/student will be dedicated from central funding for this one year shortfall. (Note: At our 22 : 1 books/student ratio, we are above the California average of 20 : 1, and slightly under the national average of 25 : 1.)

Bilingual, TWI and Transitional Kindergarten Collections - \$0

The funding for an additional allotment for the Bilingual and TWI libraries is being carried through central funding for this school year, and will continue to augment materials for students at our Bilingual and TWI schools who are stud

Each library has student computer workstations and instructional technology equipment such as an LCD projector, projection cart, screen, and speakers. Some have a small collection of ipads and/or chromebooks. An ongoing cycle of maintenance and upgrade of this network of computers and other equipment is needed to keep our libraries responsive to patrons' needs, and is coordinated in conjunction with the Technology Department. Due to financial constraints, this proposed amount has been reduced by \$15,000 for the 2016-17 school year.

Library Services Office - \$5,000

The District Library Coordinator's office handles ongoing needs such as materials promoting author/illustrator visits, posters for the California Young Reader Medal and the Cook Award for STEM Picture Books, brochures of resources, materials for professional development, reading promotions, and in-town transportation costs.

Additionally, the District Library maintains a web page of central services and school site library links for staff and families at library.berkeleyschools.net/. All of the library collections of the K-12 schools and the Central Media Library are searchable online. Each of those libraries maintains virtual library web pages guiding students to additional resources appropriate for their studies.

(CA school library statistics - cde.ca.gov/ci/ct/cf/cefschoollibraries.asp)

Ending Fund Balance (June 30, 2017)

14,252