



Mt Diablo Unified School District

Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services
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Steven Lawrence
Superintendent

MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 30, 2010

TO: Steven Lawrence, Superintendent

FROM: Pete Pedersen, Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services

RE: **Proposed Budget Reduction in Building Security Budget (Program 5221):
Reduction in Use of Contracted Security Services through Creation of Two (2)
Additional Security Operations Worker Positions**

Since the inception of the fixed, in-house security program in 1981, the District has relied on contracted, private security vendors/guard services to provide scheduled roving security to inspect school sites for security breaches, facility-related emergencies, vandalism and unauthorized facility use during the nights and weekends. As a result of the manner in which the in-house Security Operations team was originally staffed and budgeted we have been wholly dependent on these contracted services to walk and inspect sites to identify and report such problems and situations. Our in-house Security Operations team has been deliberately staffed to a commensurate level so as to be able to respond to, and address those problems reported by the contract security guards in the field.

While the use of, and reliance upon private vendors for field security purposes may have initially been deemed the most practical and efficient manner in which to insure District-wide security, the ongoing challenges and problems associated with the dependence on these contracted services over the past three decades compel us to diligently reconsider both the manner and the extent to which we use said services. The past thirty years of dependence on contract security have been replete with chronic, and frequently abrupt and calamitous incidents of failed contract performance, unprofessional and questionable staff comportment and, or shoddy business administration by a seemingly endless series of vendors. This well documented succession of difficulties was most recently punctuated just last month, with a sudden notice that our most recently retained contract security vendor would be unable to provide contracted services as they were ceasing to conduct business. And though we were successful in securing interim contract services for the remainder of the school year I am respectfully recommending that, effective 7/1/2010, we abandon the regular use of contracted security services for the purpose of providing roving security and instead, look to provide these same services through the expansion of the existing in house Security Operations team.

Documentation reveals that in Fiscal Year 2007 the District expended over \$321,854.83 on contract security services. In Fiscal Year 2008, largely attributable to District mandated route consolidation and a repeated inability of vendors to provide requested services, total expenditures in outside security operating Budget Reduction

costs were reduced to \$257,441.43. And, in Fiscal Year 2009, again largely the result of District required route and staffing consolidation as well as an increasingly problematic failure of vendors to provide necessary services, total costs for outside security services were \$144,523.92. Final projected costs for contract security were in 2009-10 are estimated to total approximately \$150,000.00. Bear in mind though, that this projected expenditure total is appreciably less than it otherwise might be had the vendors been able to provide the necessary staffing resources regularly requested by Maintenance and Operations throughout this past school year. Total Building Security budgets for those same years have been \$234,140.00, \$280,140.00, \$366,257.00 and \$335,000.00 respectively. The budget developed for Building Security (program 5221) for 2010-11 is \$292,000.00.

In an effort to at once both reduce general fund expenditures related to building security and to dramatically enhance the quality, continuity and manageability of district security operations we are recommending that, effective 7/1/2010, the District abandon the regular use of contract security services for routine roving security purposes and instead, create two (2) additional full-time Security Operations Worker positions to assume the scheduled tasks heretofore performed by the outside vendors. By rescinding the January 26, 2010 Board action eliminating one (1) Security Operations Worker and by creating one (1) additional position the District will have the staffing resources to provide roving security services throughout all shifts presently covered by contract security as well as all three shifts, twenty-four hours a day, during the weekend. By exercising this proposal, costs for the Building Security Budget (Program 5221) for Fiscal 2010-11 would be reformatted and the total program budget reduced as follows:

• Rescission of 1/26/2010 elimination of one (1) Security Operations Worker position	\$59,936
• Creation of an additional Security Operations Worker position	\$57,515
• Supplemental outside security contracts	\$24,200
• Materials, supplies, monitoring contracts, etc	\$87,500
Total revised budget for Building Security (Program 5221) for 2010-11	\$229,151

Recognizing both the potential for a general fund budget reduction of \$62,849 as well as a dramatically improved Security Operations program with increased presence and greatly enhanced manageability I am respectfully requesting that we be given permission to submit a docket petitioning Board action on this matter.

Your consideration of this proposal is greatly appreciated.

cc: Jeff McDaniel
Marc Fabie
Rob Greathouse