

**THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA**  
**OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS**  
440 NORTH BROAD STREET, SUITE 102  
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19130-4015

MEMORANDUM

To: Council President Darrell Clarke  
Chairman, City Council Committee of the Whole  
Councilwoman Jannie Blackwell  
Chair, City Council Committee on Education

From: Rodney J. Oglesby, Esq.  
Executive Director, Government Relations

Date: May 20, 2014

RE: School District of Philadelphia Staff Responses to Council Members' Questions – Supplement

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**Question #1:** Identify what the District funding request would be if (a) there was a "reasonable statewide funding formula" in place and/or (2) charter reimbursement was in place

The District has requested \$440 million in new, recurring revenues in order to accelerate the transformation of the City's schools. We are, however, unable to provide an answer regarding the District's funding request based on the assumption of a "reasonable statewide funding formula" without knowing the parameters of the formula. However, the three publications provided below will begin to provide a sense of the investment gap and of what the District has lost owing to the lack of a per-pupil funding formula.

**Publication 1:** According to a study released in 2007 by Augenblick, Palaich and Associates, using 2005-2006 data, the per-pupil investment in Philadelphia would need to increase by over \$4,000 in order to meet the state's performance expectations. The full report can be accessed using the following link: <http://www.apaconsulting.net/uploads/reports/6.pdf> .

**Publication 2:** More recently, Matthew Steinberg and Rand Quinn from the University of Pennsylvania released a study indicating that 2009-2010 investment in District students fell well short of what was necessary to provide adequate educational services to students. Based on their estimates, the investment in Philadelphia students is only 68% of what it should be. This study was prepared for the Philadelphia City Council Committee on Education and can be accessed using the following link:  
[http://www.gse.upenn.edu/pdf/school\\_funding\\_summary\\_findings\\_steinberg\\_quinn.pdf](http://www.gse.upenn.edu/pdf/school_funding_summary_findings_steinberg_quinn.pdf).

**Publication 3:** The District released a Financial Supplement to its Action Plan v.2.0 which outlines the value and impact that additional investments could have for District students. It also provides a comparison to educational investments that are being made by neighboring

Districts and states. The document can be accessed using the following link:  
<http://philasd.org/announcements/actionplan/financial-supplement.pdf>

The three publications have also been included in the e-mail as Appendix 1, Appendix 2, and Appendix 3.

With regard to the charter reimbursement, if the Charter School reimbursement were to be re-instituted today based on the historical formula, the District would receive approximately \$180 million in revenues.

**Question #2:** List and description of all college/university partnerships with District schools; include all high schools in list and identify those without partners

Below is a list of active partnerships with higher education institutions. This list is by no means exhaustive; however, it will provide the reader with a sense of the breadth of opportunities that are currently underway. The Office of Strategic Partnerships has launched the “Partnership Census,” an electronic data capture tool designed to register all organizations who partner with the District to provide an accurate and up-to-date inventory of programmatic activity citywide. Preliminary results will be available in Fall 2014. Additional information is available upon request.

INSTITUTION	DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY
<b>Community College of Philadelphia</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exploring the concept of building an “alternative senior” year by providing 1,000 12<sup>th</sup> grade students with opportunities to take college level classes; students could earn up to 12 college credits prior to high school graduation.</li> </ul>
<b>Temple University</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support for programmatic implementation at Duckery Elementary and Dunbar Promise Academy.</li> <li>• Lead applicant for the HUD Choice Neighborhood Grant which will target supports for Duckery &amp; Dunbar.</li> <li>• Coordination of MESA STEM Program out of the College of Engineering</li> <li>• Coordination of Let’s Get Ready, SAT prep Program</li> <li>• Coordination of workforce development and student leadership programs out of the University Community Collaborative of Philadelphia</li> </ul>
<b>Teacher Education Alliance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Teacher Education Alliance is a collaborative of universities who are involved in teacher preparation with the goal of improving teacher effectiveness.</li> <li>• The Alliance includes: Temple University; La Salle University; West Chester University; Arcadia University Penn State University; Holy Family University; Drexel University; University of Pennsylvania</li> </ul>
<b>Drexel University</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Serves as the lead partner organization for McMichael, Powel, and Martha Washington.</li> <li>• Provides investments in the areas of climate and safety, summer programming, academic support, etc.</li> <li>• Co-Chair on the Empowerment Zone Education Committee to coordinate</li> </ul>

<b>University of Pennsylvania</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support for the Penn Alexander School</li> <li>• Support for the Lea School via the Graduate School of Education to provide afterschool programs, behavioral and social supports and professional development</li> <li>• Support for workforce development and school based services out of the Netter Center for Community Engagement. The work of Netter supports Sayre, West Philadelphia, Lea School and Penn Alexander</li> <li>• PHENND Network supports (8) Americorp Vista Partnership Coordinators at (6) schools, the Office of Strategic Partnerships and the Charter Office.</li> </ul>
<b>West Chester University</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exploring programming to support a revised teacher prep program to potentially support the (2) new high schools, to be located in North Philadelphia.</li> </ul>
<b>Arcadia University</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partnership with the Black Male Engagement Center</li> </ul>
<b>Universities Offering College Preparatory Opportunities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arcadia University</li> <li>• Bryn Mawr College</li> <li>• Community College of Philadelphia</li> <li>• Delaware Valley College</li> <li>• Dickson College</li> <li>• Drexel University – Civic Engagement</li> <li>• East Stroudsburg University of PA</li> <li>• Edinboro University</li> <li>• Elizabethtown College</li> <li>• Harcum College Upward Bound</li> <li>• Harrisburg University</li> <li>• Holy Family University</li> <li>• La Salle University</li> <li>• Millersville University</li> <li>• Montgomery County Community College</li> <li>• Moore College of Art</li> <li>• Penn State University</li> <li>• St. Joseph’s University</li> <li>• Rutgers-Camden</li> <li>• Temple University</li> <li>• Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology</li> <li>• University of Pennsylvania – Upward Bound / Talent Search</li> </ul>
<b>Peirce College</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support for YouthBuild Charter School, YEAR-UP Program</li> </ul>
<b>Harcum College</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• iLEAD program which supports accelerated school students seamlessly transitioning into an associate’s degree program</li> </ul>
<b>Cheyney University</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Administration of the CALL ME MISTER program (Mentors Instructing Students Towards Effective Role Models) to increase the number of African-American males in the field of education.</li> </ul>
<b>Harrisburg University</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exploring implementation of a STEM program in Overbrook High School</li> </ul>

**Question #3:** Detail the impact of layoffs and reductions from the \$96M in cuts (school by school if possible), with particular focus on the following questions: What does the reduction in police mean mapped out? What do you mean by 'only basic' for special ed.? What does fewer facilities staff mean? What is the impact of cuts to alternative ed.?

The District is unable to provide a school-by-school impact analysis regarding the \$96 million in cuts as services and functions are spread across all schools. However, it is accurate to say:

- The District will lay off over 1,000 staff members, including more than 800 teachers
- Every school will experience increased class sizes and increase number of split classes

- Every school will receive fewer maintenance services
- A significant number of high school students will no longer receive transportation support

Please see Appendix 4 for the proposed cuts and their projected implications for schools across the system.

**Question #4: Provide backup for the estimate of \$75 million in revenues for the cigarette tax**

Please see attached Sales Tax Legislation exhibit (Appendix 5).

**Question#5: Provide a list of who should have to pay more in order to fund the District's request**

The School District of Philadelphia has requested a revenue analysis from the City Finance Office. We will provide this information as soon as it is made available to the District.