

MMSD Board Presentation

Additional Thoughts and Comments on MMSD School Fees Report

By

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Introduction

- The District Administration's Report on Fees
 - Did not provide the School Board with Information to take next steps
 - Does not provide parents or the community with adequate information
 - Presented inaccurate information about strings



Parents and the Community Need Complete Information & Big Picture

- Why are there school fees today?
- What are the costs of Extra-Curricular activities?
- How do Extra-Curricular costs compare to instructional costs?
- What happens when fees don't cover costs?
- What are some suggestions for your consideration?



Category	<u>02-03</u> <u>Actual*</u>	<u>03-04</u> <u>Budget*</u>
Rev. \$ /Participant Parent \$ /Participant District \$/Participant	\$ 55 (12%) \$ 63 (13%) <u>\$355 (75%)</u>	\$ 50 (10%) \$ 38 (8%) \$ 396(82%)
Cost Per Participant	\$ 473 (100%)	\$ 484 (100%)

(MMSD '03-'04 Budget for Extracurricular Sports is \$1.99 million.)*

^{*}Source: MMSD Budget and MMSD staff work. Excludes costs such as buildings, maintenance, benefits?

Comparison of Relative Costs of Service for Different Activities

<u>Category</u> <u>(Participant)</u>	Cost/Student
Sport A (Hockey) Avg. Cost for Sports (4,100 participants) Sport B (Cross Country)	\$1,200*/participant \$ 484/participant \$ 200/participant
K-12 All Music Curriculum (19,572 participants)	\$ 238** /participant
Elem. Math (10,988 students) Elem. Science Elem. Physical Education Elem. Art	 \$ 990** /student \$ 495**/student \$ 297**student \$ 198**/student
Administrative Contracts (\$15,000,000/24,888 students)	\$ 603 per student

Source: * MMSD Staff Data.

^{**} MMSD budget and staff data. Excludes costs such as buildings, maintenance, some benefits, special education, social services, etc.

Participant is used when a student can be in two activities – 1 child could participate in soccer and volleyball. That would be one student but 2 participants



Why Are There Fees Today?

- Fees pay for school <u>activities not required by</u> <u>state law</u> but are valuable to our children's education.
- There have been exponential increase in costs of special education and ESL. These unfunded legal mandates hit the District's bottom line under revenue caps less money for school activities.



When Fees Don't Cover Costs

Focus on Strategic Priority —

Instructional Excellence –

- improving student achievement;
- offering challenging, diverse and contemporary curriculum and instruction



Important Board Questions/Discussions

- What Can the District Afford
- What Alternatives Exist
- Equity
 - Across schools
 - Across students



When Fees Don't Cover Costs

- MMSD is Already Feeling the Trade-Offs for Extra-Curricular Activities When Funding is Under Revenue Caps:
 - \$250,000 in LMC cuts in '03-'04.
 - Teachers are paying for student supplies.
 - PTOs are paying for supplies and summer school.
 - Delay in start of foreign language class by 2 years. DPI recommends beginning in Grade 5.
 - Increased class sizes for music and art.
 - Decreased Talented and Gifted funding.
- Revenue Caps are Here for Now.....



Information Not Needed

- Simple Comparison of Fees with Other Wisconsin Districts Not Useful
 - You do not know other districts'
 - Total extracurricular sports budgets
 - Budget/student (participant)
 - District budget shortfall
 - Outside funding



Information Board Needs

- Total Extra-Curricular Budget
 - District outlay of revenue cap funds
 - Revenue and gate receipts
 - Private fundraising contributions
- Cost/student (participant) to District
- Instructional Cuts



Next Steps - Needed But Not Being Taken

- Develop an equitable funding plan operating funds, fees, fundraising, partnering/sponsorships, etc.
- Begin meaningful discussions now. Parents, kids and the community can't wait year after year for in depth discussions to begin.
 - hearings or surveys will not get the job done.