

WCCUSD Community Budget Advisory Committee

Resolution

Concerning: *The Expenditure of MRAD (Maintenance and Recreation Assessment District) Funds within WCCUSD*

Approved: Meeting of the WCCUSD Community Budget Advisory Committee (CBAC)
January 23, 2007

Whereas:

1. The West Contra Costa Unified School District has benefited from a special assessment on local property owners since 1994 for minor improvements to school facilities that benefit the general community.
2. There is no requirement in the assessment itself for any particular method of distribution in terms of school sites.
3. The current system is a hybrid involving the distribution of some MRAD money to a central fund and some MRAD money to individual schools by a formula although school projects are still ultimately subject to central approval.
4. A more complicated hybrid system for distributing MRAD funds results in less transparency in the decision-making process because of its greater ambiguity.
5. A fully centralized system for distributing MRAD funds would more fully accommodate needs for multi-year projects and for extreme needs.
6. A fully centralized system would force school communities to be more aware of other schools' needs.
7. A fully centralized system would enable the development of clearer criteria for prioritizing.
8. A fully centralized system might also create greater concerns in the areas of:
 - a. Fairness to school needs
 - b. Appropriateness of expenditures

Be it resolved:

1. MRAD funds should be allocated centrally without any use of a fixed formula for distribution by school.
2. It should be affirmed that MRAD funds will be spent only on WCCUSD facilities.
3. A broadly-based District committee (referred to here, for convenience only, as "the MRAD Committee"), including parent and community representatives, for the distribution of MRAD funds will be established.
4. The MRAD Committee will establish a set of criteria for how MRAD funds should be spent on WCCUSD facilities projects and programs. These criteria will be reviewed annually by the MRAD Committee.

5. The MRAD Committee will establish and publicize a process by which School Site Councils may apply for the use of MRAD funds on projects or programs at their schools.
6. The MRAD Committee will ensure that school communities are adequately notified of the meetings and process of the MRAD Committee.
7. Proposed and implemented MRAD expenditures by school will be memorialized through timely postings on the District Web site.



Charles Cowens
Chair
WCCUSD Community Budget Advisory Committee