

**Issaquah School District
Executive Limitations Monitoring Report**

**EL-5 ACTUAL FINANCIAL CONDITION AND ACTIVITIES
(Internal Annual Report)
August 26, 2021**

***The Superintendent certifies that the District is in compliance with EL-5
with no exceptions***

With respect to the actual, ongoing financial condition and activities of the District, the Superintendent shall not cause or allow the development of fiscal jeopardy or material deviation of actual expenditures from Board priorities established in Ends policies.

Interpretation

I interpret this to mean that we will manage the District’s program and budget to avoid any risk of fiscal jeopardy or material deviation of actual expenditures from the Board-adopted budget.

Evidence of Compliance

I certify that the District is not at risk of financial jeopardy as demonstrated by ongoing and periodic financial reports and compliance with the following limitations contained in this policy.

The Board was previously provided copies of the [2019-20 State Accountability Audit Report](#) and the [2019-20 Financial Statement and Federal Single Audit Report](#). These reports state that the District is accountable for public resources and has “complied, in all material respects, with applicable state laws, regulations, and its own policies, and provided adequate controls over the safeguarding of public resources.” The 2019-20 Annual Audit was the 19th consecutive “Clean” audit, where no findings or management letter items have been issued. This achievement was recognized during the annual audit exit conference and recognized at a business meeting of the Board.

1. The Superintendent shall not fail to settle payroll and debts in a timely manner.

Interpretation

I interpret this to mean that all staff salaries, payroll taxes and benefits shall be processed and paid according to timelines established by law, District regulation and negotiated agreements.

Evidence of Compliance

I certify that all payroll obligations, including payroll taxes and benefits were processed and paid in a timely manner during the period of July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Payroll is processed on a monthly basis and employees are paid on the last “banking day” of the month. Contracts and timesheets submitted by the Human Resources Department and by employees are audited by the Payroll Department to ensure accuracy and appropriate authorization. The payroll process is completed at least three working days in advance of payday to ensure that all employees are paid in a timely manner. Ninety-nine percent of employees are paid by electronic deposit directly to their bank accounts. For staff participating in this process, it has eliminated late payroll checks due to delayed delivery by the postal service. Payment of income tax deductions, social security taxes and retirement taxes are also submitted electronically in order to ensure timeliness.

Payments to vendors are processed weekly in order to ensure timely payment and eligibility for discounts. All invoices are reviewed and audited to verify receipt of goods or services. All payments are separated by General Fund, Capital Projects Fund, Transportation Fund or ASB Fund in order to maintain separation of capital and operational items.

Procedures have been established to ensure compliance with generally accepted accounting principles, District regulation and governmental laws. Internal controls have been implemented to maintain separation of duties, timely depositing/processing, adequate supporting documentation, and adequate review/supervision.

Payments on principal for long-term debt along with accrued interest are processed directly by King County through the Bank of New York in the months of December and June.

The District has an excellent record of maintaining credible resource management and systems of internal control. The annual state audit summary concluded:

- “The District complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended August 31, 2020.”
- “We reported no deficiencies in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be significant deficiencies.”
- “We identified no deficiencies that we consider to be material weaknesses.”
- “We noted no instances of noncompliance that were material to the financial statements of the District.”

2. The Superintendent shall not allow tax payments or other government ordered payments or filings to be overdue or inaccurately filed.

Interpretation

I interpret this to mean that all government payments and reports shall be processed within the timelines prescribed.

Evidence of Compliance

I certify that all government payments and reports were processed and/or paid in a timely manner during the period of July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The District has numerous city, county, state and federal reports, grant applications or payments to process. The Finance Department monitors reports and filings that are essential to District operations and/or have funding attached to them. During the last year the District has not lost or jeopardized any funding due to the timeliness or accuracy of these reports. Following is a list of the major required reports or grant applications:

- [Budget \(F195\)](#)
- [Annual Financial Statement \(F196\)](#)
- [Enrollment reporting for funding \(P223 and P223H\)](#)
- [State, federal and private grant applications/claims](#)
- Payroll reports for taxes and benefits
- Accident and claims reports for insurance purposes
- COVID-19 Reporting (learning modality, technology use, etc)

3. The Superintendent shall not fail to follow aggressive bidding procedures which maximize value to the District.

Interpretation

I interpret this to mean that the District will strictly following state law and District regulation in regard to purchasing bidding.

Evidence of Compliance

I certify that the District maintained strict compliance with state law and District regulation regarding purchasing and bidding during the period of July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The District maintains a very aggressive bidding and purchasing program. The vast majority of District purchases fall under the scope of items purchased under bid. State law and District regulation require that, when the cost of supplies or equipment exceeds \$40,000 or a public works contract exceeds \$40,000, quotes or formal bids will be called for. Between \$40,000 and \$75,000 quotations from three different sources are required. Purchases exceeding \$75,000 require public notice in a newspaper and formal bids. The District also utilizes [KCDA](#), [US Communities](#), [WSCA](#), (Washington State General Administration), [National Intergovernmental Purchasing Alliance](#), and other inter-governmental agreements (piggybacking) to ensure we are complying with applicable state bid law and procuring the best product at the best price point.

Both quotation and bid processes allow vendors to bid items of different brands, but of equal quality. The Purchasing Department evaluates the writing of bid specifications to ensure that long-term quality is a criteria included when appropriate. The District works with architects and consultants for assistance in maintaining specifications for high quality and long life buildings and equipment when there is a cost benefit to doing so.

A major function of the Purchasing Department is to safeguard the District against conflict of interest. Staff making purchasing recommendations may not have a personal interest in recommending the award of a contract for materials or services.

Between 95% and 100% of items in the following list are purchased by bid process:

- Office supplies and equipment
- Classroom supplies and equipment
- Computers and peripheral equipment
- Vehicles
- School buses
- Fuel
- Tires
- Milk
- Bread
- Pizza
- Audio visual equipment
- Vending machine inventory
- Yearbooks
- Construction projects
- Major replacement or repairs of roofs, carpets, wall coverings, parking lots, sidewalks, HVAC, etc.

4. The Superintendent shall not fail to aggressively pursue receivables after a reasonable grace period.

Interpretation

I interpret this to mean that the District will promptly discontinue services being provided for tuition or fees when there is failure to pay. The District will turn receivables over to a collection agency after a reasonable attempt to collect the amount owed.

Evidence of Compliance

I certify that the District maintained a very prudent collection practice during the time period of July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. Customers were contacted immediately when an account became past due. All accounts were turned over to a collection agency if an individual did not make arrangements for payment of the debt. The administration also brings forward uncollected receivables to the Board on an annual basis. In December of 2020, the District via [resolution 1158 wrote off \\$28,836 of uncollectible receivables](#). This is 0.27% of all invoiced revenue for fiscal year 2019-20.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The District also has several online payment platforms in the areas of ([School Age Care](#)), [Food Service](#), and building related fees.

The major areas generating accounts receivable issues are as follows:

- [School Age Care](#)
- [Building Rentals](#)

5. *The Superintendent shall not fail to maintain an unrestricted reserve fund within the range of 3-7% of the general fund budget.*

Interpretation

I interpret this to mean that the District will maintain an unrestricted reserve fund within the range of 3-7% of the general fund budget.

Evidence of Compliance

I certify that the District's total reserve [\\$42,317,930 was 12.21% of the 2020-21 General Fund Budget \(\\$346,818,592\) on September 1, 2020](#). The *unrestricted undesignated (unassigned)* reserve (\$18,860,002) was 5.44% of the 2020-21 General Fund Budget on September 1, 2019. Total ending fund balance for fiscal year 2019-18 as a percentage of actual expenditures was 13.78%.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The proposed 2021-22 General Fund Operating Budget targets an unassigned (unreserved) ending fund balance of 3.91% (of budgeted expenditures); additionally this budget sets aside, \$3,500,000 for future school facilities. \$1,000,000 is reserved for unexpended and obligated building funds. The Board emergency reserve stands at \$1,000,000 and there is an additional committed amount of \$108,220 for District imprest accounts, \$7,349,708 is also designated for uninsured risk, inventory pre-paid items (required by a change in accounting standards) and the budget also sets aside \$500,000 for other contingencies. Total equity reserves will decrease from an estimated beginning fund balance of \$44,000,000 to an estimated 7.8% of operating expenses (\$27,000,000).

6. *The Superintendent shall not fail to maintain sufficient reserves for start-up operating costs associated with new schools.*

Interpretation

I interpret this to mean that the District will maintain sufficient reserves to cover the initial start-up costs of opening a new school. This cost continues on a prorated basis until the District gains a growth in enrollment equal to the housing capacity of the new school.

Evidence of Compliance

Following the passage of the 2016 bond measure that funds four new schools the District has maintained the fund balance reservation to \$9,000,000 through the 2020-21 operating budget. Given that the District will be opening Cougar Mountain Middle School and Cedar Trails Elementary this fall, the District has lowered the reserve funds to only include set asides for the opening of the 4th comprehensive high school in the amount of \$3,500,000. This fund balance reservation will increase/decrease depending upon enrollment growth and the timing of the opening of the new facilities.

- 7. The Superintendent shall not use the Board-designated \$1,000,000 emergency reserve fund for any purpose other than emergency capital equipment or facility repair/replacement needs, nor fail to maintain the fund at an adequate level.*

Interpretation

I interpret this to mean that the District will maintain an emergency reserve fund of \$1,000,000 for the purposes of this monitoring period; unless otherwise authorized by the Board.

Evidence of Compliance

I certify that the District emergency reserve fund is \$1,000,000, as demonstrated by the most recent financial report.

- 8. The Superintendent shall not undertake capital building projects without assurance of available funding.*

Interpretation

I interpret this to mean that the administration will not recommend that the Board award a bid for a building project without assurance of available funding.

Evidence of Compliance

I certify that all current building projects have sufficient available funding to complete the projects. Funding for all projects is demonstrated in the most recent financial report.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The funding for all projects is determined prior to a bid award. The Board is given Budget Status reports reconciling all sources of funding with the District’s Capital Facilities Plan.

- 9. The Superintendent shall not expend more funds than have been received in the fiscal year unless revenues are made available through other legal means, including the use of fund balances and the authorized transfer of funds from reserve funds.*

Interpretation

I interpret this to mean that the administration will not manage the budget of the District in a manner that causes the depletion of fund balances and reserve funds to a greater degree than the parameters established in #5 of this delineation.

Evidence of Compliance

I certify that unreserved fund balances at fiscal year-end will be within the 3% to 7% target proscribed by the Board. The fund balance as a percentage of the 2020-21 Operating Budget (\$346,818,592) as of April 30, 2021 is detailed as follows:

• Unreserved/Undesignated Fund Balance	\$14,046,264 (4.05%)
• Emergency Board Reserve	\$1,000,000 (0.29%)
• Reserved for Inventory/Pre-Paid	\$6,849,708 (1.98%)
• Building Carryover	\$1,000,000 (0.29%)
• Reserved for Uninsured Risks	\$500,000 (0.15%)
• Reserved for other contingencies	\$500,000 (0.15%)
• Reserve for Boundary Change	\$1,000,000 (0.29%)
• Reserve for Curriculum	\$1,000,000 (0.29%)
• Reserve for COVID	\$1,500,000 (0.44%)
• High School Schedule	\$1,000,000 (0.29%)
• Reserve for Future Schools	\$9,000,000 (2.60%)
• Imprest Fund Reserve	\$108,220 (0.04%)

Total Fund Balance as of 5/31/2020: \$37,504,193(10.82%)

Note: All reservations of fund balance are evaluated on an ongoing basis, depending on financial volatility and District needs assessment. The fund balance amounts as of 4-30-2021 are the current financial position of the most recently reconciled month and Budget Status Report. This is a snapshot and is not reflective of estimated ending fund balance, which is estimated to be approximately \$44,000,000 in total or 12.46% of the proposed 2021-22 operating budget. Equity reserves will be adjusted at fiscal year-end pursuant to the approved 2021-22 budget and final financial statement amounts.

10. The Superintendent shall not indebt the organization or create obligations over a longer term than revenues can be safely projected or fail to establish provisions for modifying obligations in the event of revenue loss.

Interpretation

I interpret this to mean that the administration will not recommend approval of contracts or other obligations that would draw the District's unrestricted undesignated fund balance below 3%.

Evidence of Compliance

I certify that all current obligations can be met within parameters of projected revenues.

11. The Superintendent shall not permanently transfer unencumbered monies from one fund to another.

Interpretation

The District budget is made up of five funds: General, Capital Projects, Debt Service, ASB, and Transportation. I interpret this to mean that, without Board action, the administration will not transfer money from one fund to another in an amount that exceeds the amount authorized in the annual budget.

Evidence of Compliance

I certify that the administration has not transferred unencumbered money from one fund to another that exceeds the amount authorized by the Board in the annual budget.

Board Approval: August 26, 2021