



MEMO

TO: Policy Committee

FROM: Robyn Faraone, Director of Strategic Partnerships

DATE: November 1, 2021

SUBJECT: District Foundation Policy 7.10.030-P and School-based Groups and Fundraising at Portland Public Schools 7.10.020-P

The Fund for PPS has a website that provides the history and comprehensive information on the topic of school-based foundations: <https://fundforpps.org/localschoolfoundations>. Scroll down to the bottom of the page and click on the tabs entitled: [Compare](#), [Explore](#) and [FAQs](#).

In addition, here is a [Budget Heatmap with Foundation FTE](#) prepared by the Budget and SPP departments which summarizes school demographics and the staffing paid for from school-based foundations in the last four years. Updated 2021-22 will be available in the first week of December, as that team prepares for the next budgeting cycle.

Below are answers to the other questions raised at the October 19th Policy Committee Meeting.

1. What do other districts do regarding FTE?

[Lake Oswego Schools Foundation](#)- Fundraises for FTE in one central pot.

[Beaverton Education Foundation](#)- No fundraising for FTE. Centrally pools money.

[North Clackamas Education Foundation](#)- No fundraising for FTE.

[Foundation for Vancouver Public Schools](#)- No fundraising for FTE.

[Alliance for Education](#) (Seattle Public Schools)- Raises money for district wide programs but also "supports 120 school-based groups, booster clubs, etc.," that pay for FTE, with fiscal services. This group has asked questions about the PPS model to potentially bring more equity to their current practices.

2. What specific staff positions have been purchased for the last three years with foundation dollars? What is the PPS Parent Fund being spent on?

You can find the number and type of position funded with foundation dollars in the [Budget Heatmap with Foundation FTE](#), and how PPS Parent Funds are typically spent in the [PPS Parent Fund Grant Descriptions](#). We do not have reliable data on the actual positions added with foundation dollars because until this year, the District allowed schools to pay for the lowest paid staff with their grants, not necessarily the actual position added.

3. What are the leverage points that we can influence?



MEMO

The District allows PTAs and other school-based entities to pay for services that directly impact the school environment and education at those schools (e.g. indoor & outdoor facilities improvements, contracts with educational nonprofits). PPS has to approve of these purchases, so these are potential leverage points for increasing equity.

4. What would be the timing of any changes to policy that would be least disruptive?

If the Board were going to change the rules for school-based foundations and their ability to fundraise for FTE, it would need to become effective in a new fiscal year (July 1, 2022) because fundraising is already underway this year which will be used for 2022-23.