

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

April 21, 2020

SUBJECT:

2020– 2021 Budget Calendar – Proposed Revision

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The School Board adopted the 2020 – 2021 budget calendar at its October 8, 2019, meeting in accordance with Board Policy DBG *Budget Adoption Process* which requires the Aiken County Board of Education to adopt a budget calendar by November 1 each year. The budget calendar now requires revision as result of COVID-19.

ADMINISTRATIVE CONSIDERATION:

The most significant dates on the District’s budget calendar are:

April 14, 2020	Budget work study
April 21, 2020	First reading of budget
May 12, 2020	Budget hearing
May 26, 2020	Second/final reading of the budget

The State is expected to pass a continuing resolution to operate at 2019 – 2020 levels pending an anticipated return of legislative bodies in September and October 2020 to resume 2020 – 2021 budget discussions. While State allocations are expected to remain in line with 2019 – 2020 to start the new fiscal year (with potential changes as result of the September and October deliberations), there are some changes the District must accommodate in its 2020 – 2021 budget, with or without changes in the State budget.

The Administration proposes the following budget calendar revisions:

May 12, 2020	First reading of the budget*
May 26, 2020	Budget hearing*
June 9, 2020	Second/final reading of the budget

*Board Policy DBG *Budget Adoption Process* requires a tentative budget (i.e., first reading) submission to the Board on or before the second Tuesday of May. The same policy requires that a budget hearing be held before the fifteenth day of June or within 30 days of the state appropriations bill.

A budget work study could be added for May 5, 2020, if deemed necessary. In all likelihood, any changes to the budget would be limited and could be discussed at the time of the first reading.

[An alternate proposal could move the budget hearing to June 9, 2020, and second/final budget reading of the budget on June 23, 2020. This timeline would be similar to the budget timeline of two years ago and prior when the three readings of the budget were required.]

When the State resumes its budget talks in Fall 2020, the District could resume budget discussions to focus on amendments to its original 2020 – 2021 budget.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve proposed revisions to the 2020 – 2021 budget calendar.

PREPARED BY:

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