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To: Director of Operations Matt Quinones
Superintendent Tamu Lucero
From: Board of Finance
Date: October 29, 2024

On October 28, 2024, the Board of Finance held a special meeting to discuss and formalize a list of questions regarding the construction of the new Westhill High School. As we expect a request soon for a revised, higher appropriation for Westhill, presumably in early 2025, we would ask that these questions be answered at our next regular meeting on Wednesday, November 13.

1. The square footage of Norwalk High School is 166 gross square feet per pupil according to publicly available sources. The comparable figure for Westhill is 185 not including the ag science building, and 202 including it. Please account for the difference.
2. Are students in the ag science program counted towards the design enrollment of 2,458 students?
3. How many general purpose classrooms and labs are in the Ag Science building? How much usable space is there excluding common spaces and specialized spaces like greenhouses?
4. Does the ag science building count towards the square footage eligible for reimbursement?
5. Have additional value engineering savings been identified beyond those on the SPSBuilds website?
6. Does the new Westhill have any regional components requiring enrollment of out-of-district students?
7. What percentage of the construction cost of Strawberry Hill was deemed ineligible?
8. What percentage of the total budget did Norwalk budget as contingencies and escalation prior to the bid?
9. Has the scope of the building changed since the education specification that was used to determine the original and revised state approvals?

10. How many times may we return to the state for a higher appropriation? If there is a limit, does the change from the original budget to the current \$305 million state authorization count toward that limit?
11. When does the administration intend to apply to the state for an increased authorization?
12. How much money has been expended to date and how much reimbursed by the state? Please provide a month-by-month accounting of expenditures and reimbursements.
13. Is there capacity at AITE and SHS to allow a reduction in the size of Westhill? What would the savings be from a reduction in design enrollment?
14. What is the cost of the geothermal system and how much is the potential tax credit?
15. What is the current and projected city staffing to manage the construction of Westhill, Roxbury and other projects?