BOARD COMMUNICATIONS – MAY 19, 2023

TO: Members of the Board of Education
FROM: Superintendent, Robert G. Nelson, Ed.D.

SUPERINTENDENT – Robert G. Nelson, Ed.D.
S-1 Robert G. Nelson Superintendant Calendar Highlights

BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL SERVICES – Patrick Jensen, Interim Chief Officer
BFS-1 Kim Kelstrom School Services Weekly Update Reports for May 11, 2023

COMMUNICATIONS – Nikki Henry, Chief Officer
C-1 Zuleica Murillo Translation and Interpretation Services Update

INSTRUCTIONAL DIVISION – Dr. Natasha Baker, Chief Officer
ID-1 Marie Williams Tutor.com Update

OPERATIONAL SERVICES – Paul Idsvoog, Chief Officer
OS-1 Deana Clayton Agreement between Fresno Unified and Facilitron Inc.
Fresno Unified School District
Board Communication

BC Number S-1

From the Office of the Superintendent
To the Members of the Board of Education
Prepared by: Robert G. Nelson, Superintendent
Cabinet Approval:

Regarding: Superintendent Calendar Highlights

The purpose of this communication is to inform the Board of notable calendar items:

- Site visit to Lori Ann Infant Center
- Gave interview with Monty Torres, FOX26, regarding “Culture of Retaliation”
- Met with Executive Cabinet
- Gave interview with Nancy Price, GV Wire, regarding Prop 28
- Spoke at the Cohort XVII Graduation Celebration
- Attended and gave Keynote at the Tutor.com Staff Meeting
- Met with DeWolf carpentry students
- Held bargaining session with Fresno Teachers Association
- Attended C2C Leadership Council Meeting
- Participated in Fresno Day with Wallace virtual meeting

Approved by Superintendent
Robert G. Nelson Ed.D.Date: 05/18/2023
From the Office of the Superintendent  
To the Members of the Board of Education  
Prepared by: Kim Kelstrom, Chief Executive  
Cabinet Approval: 

Regarding: School Services Weekly Update Reports for May 11, 2023

The purpose of this board communication is to provide the Board a copy of School Services of California’s (SSC) Weekly Updates. Each week SSC provides an update and commentary on different educational fiscal issues. In addition, they include different articles related to education issues. The SSC Weekly Update for May 11, 2023 is attached and includes the following articles:

- Lease-Leaseback in the Courts Again – May 04, 2023
- Taxing Corporations, Closing Prisons? Gavin Newsom Weighs Options to Close California’s Deficit – May 09, 2023
- A Larger Deficit, Economic Uncertainty and Unclear Revenues: California’s Boom Turns Bust – May 09, 2023

If you have any questions pertaining to the information in this communication, or require additional information, please contact Kim Kelstrom at 457-3907.

Approved by Superintendent
Robert G. Nelson Ed.D.  

Date: 05/19/2023
DATE: May 11, 2023

TO: Robert G. Nelson
Superintendent

AT: Fresno Unified School District

FROM: Your SSC Governmental Relations Team

RE: SSC’s Sacramento Weekly Update

May Revision to Be Released on Friday, May 12

On Friday, May 12, 2023, Governor Gavin Newsom will release the May Revision, which is the final opportunity for the Governor to update his revenue projections prior to the enactment of the State Budget in June.

The Governor will hold a press conference on his revised State Budget at 10:00 a.m. on Friday morning. You can view the press conference on the @CAgovernor Twitter page, the California Governor Facebook page, and the Governor’s YouTube page.

In its April finance bulletin, the Department of Finance reported that General Fund cash receipts were $4.7 billion below the 2023-24 Governor’s Budget forecast, meaning the state economy continues to soften. With this in mind, we will be looking for the following education and economic issues when the Governor presents his revised State Budget tomorrow morning:

- **Budget Deficit**—In January, Governor Newsom projected that the state faced a $22.5 billion budget deficit. With revenues coming in below projections, how much larger is that deficit?

- **Proposition 98 Reserve and Rainy Day Fund**—Will the Administration declare a budget emergency and propose to withdraw dollars from the Proposition 98 Reserve and/or state Rainy Day Fund to balance the Budget?

- **Deferrals**—Will the Governor consider deferrals (rather than cuts) to balance the Budget and keep core programs whole?

- **COLA**—Will the Administration propose to fully fund the 8.22% statutory cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) and other K-12 categorical programs?

- **LCFF Equity Multiplier**—Will the Administration propose any changes to the $300 million LCFF Equity Multiplier and corresponding accountability system changes that were unveiled in his January proposal?
• **Proposition 28**—Will the Administration propose any language to help with the implementation of Proposition 28?

• **Reductions**—Will the Governor retain his January proposals to reduce the Arts, Music, and Instructional Materials Discretionary Block Grant by $1.2 billion, his proposal to reduce the School Facility Program by $100 million, and his proposal to delay $550 million for the Preschool, Transitional Kindergarten, and Full Day Kindergarten Facility Grant Program? Will he propose any other cuts or delays to help balance the Budget?

We will use subsequent *Sacramento Updates* to keep you apprised of the Governor’s revised State Budget proposals and how the Legislature shapes their version of the Budget, which is constitutionally required to be approved by both houses by June 15, 2023.

*Leilani Aguinaldo*
Lease-Leaseback in the Courts Again

By Brianna García, Patti F. Herrera, EdD, and Wendi McCaskill
School Services of California Inc.’s Fiscal Report
May 4, 2023

On April 27, 2023, we had yet another court ruling in the more than decade’s long court battle on the legality of lease-leaseback. The California Supreme Court opined on one aspect of the legal proceeding in the Davis v. Fresno Unified School District (Davis) case and, in its opinion, found that the lease-leaseback arrangement was not a “contract” within the meaning of Government Code Section 53511 because the district had access to local bond funds to fully fund the project and, “therefore, payment did not depend on the lease-leaseback arrangement or even completion of the project.”

Let’s take a step back. Education Code Section (EC §) 17406—known as lease-leaseback—allows a school district to enter into a lease for real property belonging to the district for a minimum of $1 per year if the lease requires the lessee to construct or provide for the construction of a building(s) that will be used by the school district during the term of the lease and provides that title to the building(s) vest with the school district at the expiration of the lease term. While lease-leaseback can be used by school districts to finance school construction projects, many school districts have utilized this provision as a construction delivery method.

In 2012, the Fresno Unified School District (USD) entered into a lease-leaseback agreement for the construction of a new middle school. Shortly thereafter, a local contractor filed suit to invalidate the agreement. There have been subsequent court actions since the first challenge was issued that have dealt with multiple aspects of the lease-leaseback statute—some, but not all, in direct response to the Davis case—though all have had implications for lease-leaseback. We have covered the various decisions over the years, and briefly, they are:

- “California Court of Appeal Weighs in on Lease-Leaseback” (September 2014 Fiscal Report)—On September 10, 2014, the California Court of Appeal, Fourth Appellate District, weighed in Los Alamitos Unified School District v. Howard Contracting, Inc. and held that EC § 17406 exempts school districts from following competitive bidding requirements.

- “Recent Court Opinion Regarding Lease-Leaseback May Impact School Districts” (June 2015 Fiscal Report)—On June 1, 2015, the Fifth Appellate District found that in order for a school district to utilize lease-leaseback and avail itself of the exception to competitively bid projects, three things must be present: a genuine lease, a financing component, and occupancy of the facilities by the school district. The court further found that there was “no express provision in the statutes limiting school district’s use of lease-leaseback arrangements to situations where the school district funds are not otherwise available.”

- By the Way . . . The California Supreme Court Declines to Review Davis v. Fresno Unified School District” (August 2015 Fiscal Report)—On August 26, 2015, the California Supreme Court denied Fresno USD’s request to review the Fifth Appellate District’s decision and depublish that opinion.

- “Appellate Court Upholds Lease-Leaseback” (May 2016 Fiscal Report)—On May 4, 2016, the Second Appellate District ordered publication of its decision in McGee v. Balfour Beaty Construction, LLC, et al. (McGee) where, on April 12, 2016, the court upheld the validity of lease-leaseback. In this case, the Second Appellate District rejected the Fifth Appellate District’s ruling that a lease-leaseback contract is invalid unless it includes these three additional elements. In this case, the court held that a plain reading
of the law governing lease-leaseback only requires that a school district own the land, that it leases the premises for purposes of construction, and that title vest in the school district at the end of the lease term. The court argued that the Davis decision improperly added requirements to the statute.

- **“Another Appellate Court Upholds Noncompetitive Bidding for Lease-Leaseback Contracts”** (June 2017 Fiscal Report)—On May 2, 2017, the First Appellate District weighed in on the question of lease-leaseback contracts and whether they can be entered into without competitive bidding. In California Taxpayers Action Network v. Taber Construction, Inc., et al., the court agreed with the Second Appellate District’s decision in McGee, finding that competitive bidding is not a requirement of a lease-leaseback contract.

Now, with this latest opinion, the California Supreme Court is sending the case back to the trial court and the determination that appears to be on the table is whether or not the contractor hired by Fresno USD will have to return the $36.7 million Fresno USD paid as part of the lease-leaseback contract. The California Supreme Court takes care to note that its decision pertains to “the specific lease-leaseback arrangement at issue,” potentially providing an opening to construct lease-leaseback contracts that could withstand future legal challenges on the grounds litigated in the Davis case.

The result of these various rulings is a patchwork of legal decisions into which the Legislature has weighed when, as early as 2014, it began making changes to the lease-leaseback provisions in response to litigation. With Assembly Bill (AB) 1581 (Buchanan, Statutes of 2014), the Legislature required school districts whose projects fall under Public Contract Code Section (PCC §) 20111.6(a), and who utilize lease-leaseback, to adhere to the prequalification requirements noted in PCC § 20111.6. In 2015, AB 566 (O’Donnell, Statutes of 2015) was enacted and required prequalification for all public projects regardless of the funding source. AB 2316 (O’Donnell, Statutes of 2016) eliminated the authority for school districts to issue a lease-leaseback contract without advertising for bid, established a competitive bidding process for awarding lease-leaseback contracts, and allowed a contractor to be paid reasonable costs furnished by the contractor if a lease-leaseback contract entered into prior to July 1, 2015, is found to be invalid by a court. Other bills have made minor tweaks in the last few years.

We imagine, after reading this article, you are asking yourselves, “So, where does this leave us?” First, given the legal minefield involved, we continue to advise school districts to consult with their attorneys before entering into a lease-leaseback agreement. Second, while the courts and the Legislature have made changes to lease-leaseback, none have invalidated the option in its entirety, though they appear to be narrowing the potential uses to cash strapped districts who need lease-leaseback authority in order to finance and construct needed facilities with the ability to pay for them over time.

There are numerous ways, including lease-leaseback, by which school districts can fund their facilities projects. At our upcoming Construction Basics and Accounting webinar, we will discuss the options available to make capital facilities programs a reality.
Lawmakers will need to grapple with options on how to balance the 2023-24 State Budget as the economy continues to soften and state revenues continue to come in below projections.

**Taxing Corporations, Closing Prisons? Gavin Newsom Weighs Options to Close California’s Deficit**

By Maggie Angst and Lindsey Holden
*The Sacramento Bee*
May 9, 2023

Gov. Gavin Newsom’s revised budget proposal, which he is expected to introduce Friday, sets the stage for a month of bitter debates over how to fill a multi-billion-dollar budget deficit in the upcoming fiscal year.

Options on the table could include more delayed funding or outright cuts to programs, borrowing money internally or closing prisons. Some lawmakers are also pushing a plan to raise corporate taxes — a prospect that Newsom has already said he won’t support.

“I think one of the most important things to understand is there is no silver bullet,” said Scott Graves, director of research at the California Budget & Policy Center. “There are lots of ways of solving a shortfall. It doesn’t have to be cuts.”

Newsom in January released his $297 billion spending plan for 2023-24 and projected the state would face a $22.5 billion deficit.

But state revenue collected since then has lagged behind projections. And financial issues at the national level, including an unresolved standoff over the federal debt limit, rising interest rates and banking instability, stand to grow the state’s shortfall.

The Legislature must approve a new budget by mid-June.

**How will Gavin Newsom fix California’s budget problem?**

Newsom’s original 2023-24 budget proposal called for cuts in transportation and climate initiatives, deferred spending on capital improvements and a series of “trigger reductions” that could be restored if economic conditions improve. The governor refrained from tapping into state reserves in case a recession hit and the state’s fiscal position worsened.

Consistent with his January proposal, Newsom is unlikely in his May revision to propose any drastic cuts to social services or some of the state’s largest priorities, including health care, education and homelessness.

Democrats in the state Senate last week released their own detailed proposal for addressing the deficit. The 38-page plan, titled Protect our Progress, included a bold proposition to cut taxes on small businesses and raise the state tax rate on major corporations, such as Coca Cola and Walmart.

Senate Budget Chair Nancy Skinner, D-Berkeley, said during an April budget press call the tax increase would affect only the biggest corporations, or 2,500 total companies.
She framed the corporate tax hike as a partial reversal of federal cuts former President Donald Trump signed into law in 2017. Skinner said the increases represented a chance for California to take the lead on rolling back those tax breaks, as national leaders refuse to do so.

“Back in D.C., we’ve got House Speaker Kevin McCarthy blocking President Biden’s efforts to partially reverse those Trump tax cuts,” Skinner said. “And, meanwhile, McCarthy and others are holding the nation and world economies hostage demanding economy-killing cuts to recently-enacted climate, safety net and infrastructure investments.”

The Senate Democrats’ plan, which would raise billions of dollars annually for the state, sets the stage for a robust debate over the next month over the merits of using taxes as an avenue for helping to fix the state’s budget problems.

The Newsom administration has already rejected the idea.

Anthony York, a spokesperson for the governor, said Newsom would not support any new tax increases or “massive ongoing spending.”

“It would be irresponsible to jeopardize the progress we’ve all made together over the last decade to protect the most vulnerable while putting our state on sound fiscal footing,” York said in a statement.

Democrats divided over tax hikes

Publicly, the Assembly Democratic caucus has remained silent on the matter, refraining from comment on the Senate’s proposal. The caucus has not offered its own plan, aside from a budget blueprint members put forward in December.

Privately, however, moderate and progressive Democrats are split over the corporate tax cuts. The Sacramento Bee obtained letters that moderate Assemblywoman Jacqui Irwin, D-Thousand Oaks, and progressive Assemblyman Alex Lee, D-San Jose, sent to Assembly Budget Chair Phil Ting, D-San Francisco, outlining both sides of the debate.

Lee’s letter suggests the Assembly “mirror or adopt a similar approach to the Senate Budget Proposal,” including corporate tax hikes, tax breaks for small businesses and “working class Californians” and restored funding for “critical investments.”

Irwin’s letter criticized the Senate’s plan to raise taxes, saying it would “jeopardize our state’s long-term economic stability.”

“We aren’t currently in a recession, but we certainly could be headed into one,” Irwin said in an interview. “And I think we have to be really insistent in living within our means.”

“If we expect businesses to invest in California, we need to provide more stability, not less,” she added.

A battle to reverse proposed climate and transportation cuts

To fill the projected $22.5 billion deficit anticipated in January, Newsom proposed significant cuts to climate initiatives and transportation projects. That included a $1.1 billion reduction in funding for zero-emission vehicle programs over five years and paring back $2 billion for future transit construction projects.
Asked then why he targeted these two sectors, the governor cited the magnitude of the budgets, calling them “unprecedented.”

Transit and climate advocates have spent the past four months lobbying legislators and the Newsom administration to reallocate funds so that transit agencies, struggling with declining ridership since the pandemic, can operate.

“Ending subsidies for the oil and gas industry is consistent with the state’s climate goals and could provide an important alternate source of revenue to continue to ensure California leads the way in staving off the worst impacts of climate change,” leaders from more than two dozen environmental groups wrote in a letter to the governor on Tuesday.

The Senate Democrat’s budget plan adopted several of the advocates’ recommendations. It included rejection of proposed cuts and delays in funding for the climate and transportation sectors and allowing transit agencies to use funds for operations as a bridge until a permanent fix is identified.

Michael Pimentel, executive director of the California Transit Association, a nonprofit trade organization representing California’s transit industry, called the Senate’s support “the clearest sign of progress.”

Although Pimentel doesn’t know what the governor’s revised budget will entail, the administration is hosting two listening sessions with transit agencies this week to explore proposals for addressing their near-term problems. While it’s unlikely those proposals would be reflected in this week’s proposed budget plan, the conversations could shape the final budget that must be passed next month.

Note: The federal debt ceiling negotiations could make the state’s budget shortfall worse if Congress is unable to come to a deal and the nation defaults on its financial obligations.

**A Larger Deficit, Economic Uncertainty and Unclear Revenues: California’s Boom Turns Bust**

By Nicole Nixon

*CapRadio*

May 9, 2023

When Governor Gavin Newsom unveils his revised budget proposal later this week, it will likely include a larger deficit than the $22.5 billion his administration predicted in January.

But even more concerning to his administration than the growing shortfall?

Recent bank failures, climbing interest rates and a high-profile fight over the federal debt limit all pose considerable risks to the economy and California’s revenues.

If the country defaults on its nearly $32 trillion in debt, it would “have a substantial impact on California,” said H.D. Palmer, deputy director of the state Department of Finance.
“The disruption in the financial markets would be dramatic, and that affects us significantly because of the effect that the financial markets have on our revenue stream,” he said. Palmer also pointed to a White House report warning that a default could lead to upwards of 8 million lost jobs.

Silicon Valley Bank, First Republic and Signature Bank “each had a big footprint in California” and their collapses leave risk in the financial sector, Palmer said.

On top of those looming uncertainties, the state still isn’t sure exactly how much money it has to work with this year because of delayed tax filing deadlines. After severe storms caused major damage in counties around the state, the federal government pushed the tax filing deadline for most Californians to Oct. 16. Newsom ordered the same for affected counties.

The state’s Department of Finance estimates about $35 billion in personal income and business tax payments will be delayed until the new deadline.

“By virtue of moving that tax deadline into mid-October, we don’t have that cash in hand now,” Palmer said. “So we can’t measure how close those receipts actually came to our forecast.”

That forecast was already grim in January, when the Newsom administration projected a $22.5 billion shortfall. Since then, monthly revenue forecasts have consistently fallen below projections, meaning Newsom and state lawmakers will likely have a larger budget hole to fill.

The governor’s January spending plan included nearly $4 billion in “trigger cuts” to climate and transportation programs — which will now likely take effect — along with more than $7 billion in delayed funding for other initiatives.

Despite the deficit, Newsom has pledged to protect multi-year investments to fund universal pre-kindergarten and health care for all undocumented workers, two of his top social priorities. “I think that’s going to be something that you will see in this budget,” Palmer said. “We want to make sure that we protect those core programs.”

California has $23 billion in rainy day reserves, but the governor has hesitated to use those funds unless the economy enters a recession. Legislative leaders including Speaker Anthony Rendon have been more open to dipping into the state’s rainy day fund.

Senate Democrats proposed increasing taxes on large corporations and lowering them for small businesses. Newsom has indicated most tax increases would be a nonstarter, though his January budget includes renewing a tax on Medi-Cal insurers. The governor allowed the Managed Care Organization tax to expire in 2019. If renewed until 2026, it’s expected to bring in more than $6 billion over three years.

California isn’t alone in its financial woes this year, according to Lucy Dadayan, a researcher with Urban Institute’s Tax Policy Center. Other states with budgets that rely disproportionately on high-income earners and capital gains taxes are also looking for ways to fill deficits, including New York and Massachusetts.

That’s partially because wage growth has not kept pace with inflation, Dadayan said.

“The service industry has been recovering and we know that the people employed in the service industry are not major contributors to the tax system because they make less income compared to other high-paying jobs,” she said.
Another significant contributor to California’s treasury is revenue generated through initial public offerings — or companies taken public. After a record year in 2021, IPOs plummeted in 2022.

“Those IPOs generated significant revenues for states” in last year’s budget cycle, Dadayan said. “Especially California — where firms are located — and New York and Connecticut, where deals were brokered.”

The expected deficit is a far cry from the $100 billion surpluses California had in the previous two budget cycles and represents the feast-or-famine reality of California’s progressive tax system.

“Unfortunately, it feels like the revenue boom is over for many states, and [California] should be prepared for much weaker revenue and economic growth in the coming year,” Dadayan said.

Newsom is scheduled to unveil his revised budget proposal on Friday. After that, he and state lawmakers will negotiate over a final spending package. State law requires that a budget pass both chambers of the Legislature by June 15 and be signed by the governor before the new fiscal year begins on July 1.
Regarding: Translation and Interpretation Services Update

The purpose of this communication is to provide the Board with an update regarding developments of the Translation and Interpretation Services Department this 2022/23 school year.

The mission of the Translation and Interpretation Services Department is to “provide consistent access to language support districtwide”. With the Board’s continued investment, the department has worked on streamlining two-way communication support to families, students, and staff districtwide. To date, we have supported over 400 interpreter requests in at least 25 unique languages using our in-house staff, other Fresno Unified language support staff, and two nationwide interpreting and translation agencies, Alboum and Propio.

The launch of service providers Alboum and Propio facilitated on-demand audio and video conference calling at ten pilot school sites. After the pilot in January, Propio has remained our on-demand language platform used for everyday family two-way communication with office managers, attendance clerks, registrars, and school nurses, to name a few, and continues to lead our first district multi-lingual language line, Family Connect.

During our pilot, our service provider Alboum did not fall short of on-demand service calls to families but has been most practical for meetings with multiple administrative staff and families, such as student study teams (SSTs), initial Individualized Education Plans (IEPs), eligibility meetings, administrative meetings, and other student and family needs. Alboum has also been the preferred provider of document translation support for languages of limited diffusion for their quick and professional turnaround services.

Since the start of our districtwide expansion, consistency and localization of language have remained one of the primary goals of the department. As such, the first practice in place to standardize language practices was implementing our language memory tool Smartling. Smartling is a language translation management system that embeds consistency of language, improving the quality and efficiency of our translation requests.

Future growth of standard language localization practices include an internal examination of content analysis over the summer months to update the performance of our Smartling memory tool. In addition, we plan to establish a language advisory team with students, families, district staff, and the community to assess our current use of language as it relates to localization in September 2023.

If you have questions pertaining to the information in this communication, or require additional information, please contact Zuleica Murillo at 457-3988.

Approved by Superintendent

Robert G. Nelson Ed.D.

Date: 05/19/2023
Propio One - Family Connect Metrics

On-demand use by minutes per month

*drop in April minutes used reflects spring break

Interpretation Minutes

Data by Language to date

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Key Metrics

Satisfaction Rating 91.5%

24 Unique Languages

1,265 Calls

17,864 Minutes
Alboum Live Interpreter Session Totals

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Alboum Interpreter Support
From the Office of the Superintendent  
To the Members of the Board of Education  
Prepared by: Marie Williams, Ed.D., Instructional Superintendent & Edith Navarro, Administrator  
Cabinet Approval: 

Regarding: Tutor.com Update

The purpose of this board communication is to provide the Board with an update regarding Tutor.com. Fresno Unified has partnered with Tutor.com for three years to provide students from kindergarten through 12th grade with on-demand tutoring. To date there have been over 9,700 hours of tutoring with 5,167 unique sign-ins. For the 2022/23 school year, there have been 1,120 hours recorded with 1,055 unique student sign-in sessions.

A new regulation was put in place at the start of the 2022 academic year that required all vendors working with Fresno Unified to be locally fingerprinted via the California Department of Justice process, in compliance with the CA Ed. Code. Tutor.com tutors are located all over the United States as the platform is strictly digital. However, over 550 tutors have been fingerprinted and are able to serve our students from 2:00 p.m. daily to 11:00 p.m. This number is growing with the expectation that over 1200 tutors to be available by the end of the 2023 academic year. Some highlights of Tutor.com are:

- Tutoring is available in English and Spanish.
- Tutoring courses have been expanded in upper-level math, world languages, and science.
- There are over 200 different content courses Fresno Unified Students can receive homework help with, the most popular continues to be math.
- Of students responding to a post-session survey:
  - 96% of students rated their Tutor.com session as excellent or very good.
  - 92% of students stated they would recommend Tutor.com to a friend.

Tutor.com has also developed a new service that will be available at the start of the new school year, August 2023. Teachers will be able to upload assignments and assign Tutor.com tutoring for students. The program also comes with a monitoring report so teachers and parents can record finished assignments. Professional Learning will be available to teachers using the PL Summit Summer 2023 platform on August 03 and 04, 2023.

If you have any questions pertaining to the information in this communication, or require additional information, please contact Edith Navarro at 457-3748.

Approved by Superintendent  
Robert G. Nelson Ed.D. 
Date: 05/19/2023
Regarding: Agreement between Fresno Unified and Facilitron Inc.

The purpose of this communication is to provide the Board with information on a recommended agreement between Facilitron Inc. and Fresno Unified School District (FUSD) for utilization of their cloud-based facility rental platform for the management and rental of district facilities. Facilitron is recommended by staff to add efficiency and transparency relative to the California Civic Center Act (CCA). The CCA provides that school facilities and grounds should be made available for use by the community for appropriate civic, cultural, welfare, or recreational purposes.

Facilitron is a public spaces marketplace founded in 2014 as “the Airbnb of public spaces”. They have school district partnerships in 31 states and with over 11,000 campuses; partnering with 6 of the top 10 largest U.S. school districts.

Community Renters Benefits:
- Community-facing rental sites allow for easy and equitable access by all community members
- Search and request facilities based on location, capacity and real-time availability
- Photos, pricing, and availability improve user experience and increase booking success rate
- Customer support team for renters to answer questions and help place requests

District Management Benefits:
- Facilitron can serve as the single system-of-record unifying calendars for internal events and external community events
- Easy to review and approve requests with customizable approval levels per facility
- Facilitron’s business services off-load tasks such as invoicing, payments, refunds, insurance verification, and customer support
- Data reporting and analysis to drive revenue, efficiencies, and shape policy

Facilitron utilizes a transaction-based business model with no out of pocket costs or licensing fees. Instead, a 10% commission fee of the total facility use amount collected monthly is deducted with the remaining 90% remitted to the district. The 10% commission fee is built into the facility use rate. There is no charge for setup, and there is no fee for groups that use FUSD facilities free of charge.

If you have any questions pertaining to the information in this communication, or require additional information, please contact Deana Clayton at 457-3074.