

BERKELEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

TO: Board of Education
FROM: Donald Evans, Ed.D., Superintendent

DATE: September 17, 2014
SUBJECT: Request for Assistant Principal at Malcolm X Elementary

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

A confluence of factors in recent years, including the addition of transitional Kindergarten programs, increases in total enrollment across the district, and significant variations in the sizes of elementary facilities across BUSD, have generated some significant challenges across the district in terms of classroom and enrichment space.

Last Spring, the Board received a proposal that included a staffing formula based on the size of the school and specific student populations. With this new staffing proposal, several schools received increased resources and support. Unique to Malcolm X was an additional .5 Teacher on Special Assignment to support a variety of school functions and initiatives.

Recent visits to the site by the Director of K-8 Schools, as well as multiple discussions between the Principal and district staff, have prompted a reconsideration of the 600-student threshold that was initially determined to trigger the allocation of an Assistant Principal at Malcolm X; District staff is recommending that that threshold be reduced to 550 students.

As of September 10, 2014, enrollment at Malcolm X has reached 559 students and district staff is now recommending that an Assistant Principal be appointed provisionally to support the site for the remainder of the school year.

The allocation is intended to support the school community in addressing some of the supervisory challenges directly associated with the recent increases in student enrollment at Malcolm X. This additional administrative staffing will enable the principal to better plan and facilitate professional development, supervise and evaluate staff, and monitor the implementation of LCAP-funded programs and supports including the Response to Intervention and Instruction (RTI2) process for universal student screening.

This addition of an Assistant Principal will also provide greater flexibility for the use of the additional .5 teacher on Special Assignment (TSA) position that was allocated to Malcolm X prior to the beginning of the school year.

Staff is also recommending that a review of this allocation's effect or impact be completed in mid-January.

District Staff will continue to examine other resources that could possibly be made available to Malcolm X in the near term including literacy support and special education.

Staff continues to consider and assess the ongoing impact of district-wide enrollment increases projected by a comprehensive demographics study completed last January.

POLICY/CODE

Ed Code 60605.7, Board Policy 6011, Assembly Bill 86

FISCAL IMPACT

\$99,878 (pro-rated)

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Approve funding for the position.