

Diana Baca Board Report

September 2025

**Solar Array Monitoring and Maintenance:**

We met with three solar monitoring and maintenance companies. Two of the three visited our sites in person. We received two quotes. The first quote was approximately \$17,825 for the first year, with a note that there would be an escalation rate increase based upon the consumer price index in successive years. Their quote did not include cleaning. We did not request a quote from the second company due to slow responses and disorganized answers, although they did inspect the arrays in person but provided no data.

The final quote was from Alternative Energy Solutions who, after inspecting the arrays, provided a comprehensive data report of our current system. They have been very responsive and exhibit a genuine desire to provide excellent service. Their quote includes cleaning and data monitoring for \$19,752 for all three sites annually.

To provide the data capture necessary for monitoring, we had to reinstate the contract with Also Energy who installed the monitoring equipment originally. The cost for 2025-26 is \$5,060 for all three sites. This will be an annual expense regardless of the company we choose for maintenance. Should we go forward with Alternative Energy Solutions, the total cost for solar monitoring and maintenance in 2025-26 will be \$24,812.

Alternative Energy Solutions also gave us the option to lock-in the annual price of \$19,752 for three years. We can terminate the agreement with 30 days' notice if needed.

**Allocation of Pupil Grants to Walden Academy Charter School**

Walden Academy has notified Willows Unified School District of its intent to file an application for new construction. They own a five-acre parcel at 815 Pacific Avenue in Willows upon which they wish to build a new facility. As part of their application process, and because Walden Academy is in our attendance district, we are required to update our Form SAB 50-01 which determines our new construction eligibility baseline based on future enrollment projections. They also require a board resolution certifying our projections and declaring our unhoused students (pupil grants) and how many we wish to allocate to Walden Academy. We can allocate up to 188 pupil grants based on the Form SAV 50-01 calculations. The impact of allocating pupil grants would **permanently** reduce our ability to build for these students in the future. Our consultant, Hancock, Park and Delong, said it is common practice for districts to allocate zero pupil grants.

**State Allocation Board (SAB) Funding Status as of July 31, 2025:**

The State Allocation Board (SAB) maintains a list showing the status of funding for modernization and construction reimbursements. The following is our current standing on the lists:

Modernization: There are a total of 831 unfunded applications. Since the May SAB meeting, our WIS project has moved up the list by 23 applications. We are number 690, in May we were number 713. This funding is anticipated in the Spring of 2028.

New Construction: There are a total of 307 unfunded applications. Since the May SAB meeting, the WIS and MES projects each have moved up the funding list by 11 applications. For WIS, we are number 71, in May we were number 82. This funding is anticipated in the Spring 2027. For MES we are number 170, in May we were number 181. This funding is anticipated in Spring 2028.

The total amount of reimbursement anticipated for these projects is \$6,031,627 and has been built into the multi-year projections.

**Year End and 2024-25 Audit:**

Year End closing is going very well. This report will be brought to the board at the October 9 meeting. We will be moving into the final phase of the 2024-25 audit soon after the final closing.

**Five Year Master Plan:**

Emmett, Steven and I will begin reviewing the existing plan to start working on updates/revisions. It is hoped that we will begin this review within the next few weeks.

**Technology Plan:**

Eric Chavez and Nelson Slen have been working on updating our technology plan. We hope to bring a draft to the board by the November 2025 board meeting.