## MEMO TO: BOARD MEMBERS DR. JOHN SIMPSON <br> FROM: BRUCE ELLERMAN <br> SANDY WILEY

DATE: APRIL 24, 2017

## RE: <br> 2017-18 ADMINISTRATIVE SALARY STRUCTURE

The District Administrative Salary Committee has been meeting for the past few months with the objective of developing a model structure that would bring internal fairness and consistency to administrative salaries within the District while also being externally competitive with other St. Louis County school districts. These efforts resulted in the model framework that accompanies this memo.

This model framework, similar to the teacher salary schedule, is benchmarked on St. Louis County school district median salary levels. However, several important differences are also present. Specifically, while the teachers' salary schedule and comparative data consists of various distinct channels and steps, there is no such differentiation in the administrative arena. Instead, the administrative median data and schedule largely consists of a single salary and years' experience data point for each building and central office administrative position. As a result, it is necessary to impute salary credit values to reflect years of experience. However, no further adjustment for degree level was considered necessary as the median salary data already incorporates that factor.

A further difference is simply in the number of positions in the county population. Obviously, there are far more teachers in St. Louis County than there are building principals. And there are more building principals than Assistant Superintendents. These smaller population sample sizes can and do lead to more mathematical variability when medians and averages and percentages are computed. Nonetheless, there are generally still enough administrators in most building and central office administrative positions around St. Louis County to yield reasonably reliable results from a statistical standpoint.

Finally, while the duties, workload and responsibilities of a teacher tend to be very similar from one district to the next regardless of district size or structure, there can be less comparability for some lower incidence administrative positions-especially as the districts vary in size and organizational structure. This can make administrative salary comparisons more difficult.

In spite of these challenges, the Administrative Salary Committee believes the accompanying model framework represents a giant leap forward in providing a fairer, more equitable, consistent
and competitive salary structure for district administrators. Specifically, it is based on St. Louis County school district median salaries and years of experience, adjusted as follows:

1) Goal of $3 \%$ above the St. Louis County median salary for median years of experience;
2) Experience credit of $1.5 \%$ given for each of first 8 years of experience $>$ county median;
3) Experience credit of $0.5 \%$ given for each additional year of experience beyond that;
4) For those below the salary goal, an equity adjustment is made in amount of $50 \%$ of difference-i.e. salary goal should be achieve over a 2 year period;
5) For those already at or above the salary goal, a minimum $2 \%$ increase is provided.

As the comparison salary data was collected and analyzed, it became apparent that unlike teacher salaries, administrative salaries in Webster Groves School District had instead generally fallen slightly behind the county median curve for most positions and individuals in those positions. It was this realization that resulted in the need for the equity adjustment outlined in 4) above. While the cost of beginning to act on this data by implementing this new salary model for 2017-18 results in slightly higher than average increase in the administrative salary budget-specifically about a $4.93 \%$ increase-it is a necessary step in fairly and consistently compensating administrative staff within the district and to remaining competitive with other districts for the best administrative talent.

Members of the Administrative Salary Committee include:
Tony Arnold, Principal-Avery
Marty Baker, Director-Ambrose Family Center
Kris Denbow, Assistant Superintendent-C\&I
Jean Dugan, Board of Education
Bruce Ellerman, Interim CFO/COO
Dwight Kirksey, Interim Assistant Principal-WGHS
Todd Roberts, Assistant Principal-Hixson
John Simpson, Superintendent
John E. Thomas, Assistant Principal-WGHS
Sandy Wiley, Assistant Superintendent-HR
Julie Wuch, Principal-Edgar Road

2016-17
Revised:
Allowance for Year 1 through Yea
Allowance for Additional Years
Goal \% above StL County Median

4/17/2017

| 8 | $1.50 \%$ <br> $0.50 \%$ <br> $3.00 \%$ |
| :--- | :--- |

ssues:
) Some district admin staff have limited comp's (communications, early childhood, stu svcs, const mgr)
2) Size of district and level of responsibility of some positions may vary greatly at Director level


