

# Galileo Academy of Science and Technology



1150 Francisco Street, San Francisco, CA 94109 (415) 749-3430

January 8, 2014  
Mr. Myong Leigh  
Deputy Superintendent  
Policy and Operations

Dear Mr. Leigh:

The Galileo Academy of Science and Technology's School Site Council (SSC) is comprised of parent, student, teacher, and administrative representatives per the SFSUSD and SF CA Guidelines. As you know one of the main objectives of the SSC is to advise the school regarding the planning, budgeting, implementation and evaluation of the School Site Plan.

Thank you for your response to our previous inquiry seeking clarification to the rationale behind the changes in the budget formulation from the Spring budget allocation and the Fall final allocation. Based on your response, it appears that reduction of the per pupil spending from the Spring to the Fall was to fund the "buffer" increases that were provided to elementary and middle schools. As we prepare to move into the Spring budget cycle for next school year, we are inquiring if the Spring budget numbers can be relied on for our planning purposes.

As you know school site councils are comprised of volunteer members whose responsibility it is to provide guidance and recommendations on the school year budget advice and recommendations to the Principal. Last year, the members spent many hours discussing and debating how to develop a budget that supported the students the best. It was very frustrating that after all those long hours spent, the final Fall budget included unanticipated budget cuts.

In years past, school site councils have been given different scenario budgets that take into account the possible changes between the Spring and Fall budgets. This was a much more transparent process. We would like to respectfully request that the district provide the Spring budget numbers in good faith that the per pupil spending formula will not change from Spring to Fall and that there will be no unannounced buffer cuts introduced in the Fall.

If the district is unable to make such assurances, then we request full disclosure of the potential reductions to funding from Spring to Fall (beyond reductions that are due to reduced enrollment).

In light of the promises made by the district when encouraging parents and other stakeholders to support Proposition 30, we hope that the District is committed to making budget allocation decisions that are transparent and with a clear process.

We would very much appreciate that the District provide a thorough explanation of the upcoming budget allocation process at the March 1<sup>st</sup> School Site Planning Summit.

We look forward to your response.

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Signed by :

*Jeetu Viji* Jan 8, 2014  
SSC Chairperson Date

*[Signature]* 1.8.14  
Principal Date

*Paula Singh* 8 JAN 2014  
Name Date

*Bettie Grinnell* 1/8/14  
Name Date

*[Signature]* 1/8/14  
Name Date

*Julie Nelson* 1/8/14  
Name Date

*Milano Escobar* 01/08/2014  
Name Date

*[Signature]* 1/8/14  
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*[Signature]* 1/8/14  
Name Date

*Brandon J. Lee* 1/8/14  
Name Date

Name Date

Name Date

Name Date