

Subject: Report: High Admin Costs per Pupil - Excessive Legal Fees - SC Oversight
Date: Monday, June 17, 2013 4:51:22 PM Eastern Daylight Time
From: Miguel Echavarri
To: John Hutchins
CC: Erin Mulcahy

Category: Schools

Dear John,

Attached is the report that I mentioned to you last week. Would you confirm receipt of this email and attachment? (Thanks!)

As discussed, the report focuses on 3 key areas.

(1) Administration costs per pupil (for CCRSD): These costs have escalated significantly since the current administration took office in 2008 and are now double (to triple) the costs associated with peer schools. The only exception is Lincoln.

(2) Excessive legal fees: The report highlights the District's high legal fees (almost triple those of the town's) as an example of weak fiscal oversight within the administration budget. For instance, the District regularly pays its attorneys \$835/hour and has even been billed \$995/hour for legal services.

(3) School Committee (SC) Oversight: The report questions whether a misinterpretation by SC chairs, regarding their relationship with the superintendent, is responsible for a lack of oversight and the current out-of-control spending by administration officials. For instance, in email correspondence earlier this year, the SC chairs stated that the superintendent was their leader and that they did not have authority over the legal services budget.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with questions and/or to request supporting documents.

Also, would you please let me know when this email is forwarded to the members of FinCom and to Tony Logalbo? Once FinCom has received the report, I plan to forward (as a courtesy) this email to the School Committee, Board of Governance, Board of Selectmen, Diana Rigby and Chris Whelan.

Thank you for your time,

Sincerely,

Miguel Echavarri
210 Border Road
978-369-5157