

**ITEM FOR ACTION****BUDGET COMMITTEE MEMBER VACANCY AND SELECTION****SUMMARY**

In February 2026, the school board appointed a community member to fill the budget committee vacancy for Zone 4. The appointee has made no further contact beyond submitting their application, and the district has been unable to reach them after numerous attempts by email and telephone. Board leadership and district administration recommend declaring the position vacant and reappointing the previous committee member to complete the term.

**BACKGROUND**

The budget committee is composed of the seven elected school board members and seven appointed community members, one from each board electoral zone. Budget committee members serve three-year terms.

There were two budget committee vacancies in 2025–26 due to completed terms: Zone 4 and Zone 7. The district received one application to serve in the Zone 4 position. The application was reviewed and moved forward for board consideration for appointment. In February 2026, the board approved appointing the sole applicant, Tarek Chaibederraine, to fill the vacancy for Zone 4.

Since submitting their application, the appointee has made no further contact. The administration and board leadership have been unable to reach them after numerous attempts by email and telephone. They did not appear for the Budget 101 work session with the budget committee in March.

After consultation with board leadership on next steps, in order to ensure a full complement of diverse community voices participating in the budget process, it is recommended to fill the position. Board leadership has reached out to the previous Zone 4 budget committee member, Alok Mehrotra, and they are willing to volunteer to serve another term for Zone 4.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Because the district has been unable to contact the Zone 4 budget committee appointee, it is recommended that the board rescind the appointment of Tarek Chaibederraine and declare the position vacant. Due to time constraints, since the key steps in the budget committee process will take place next month, board leadership and district administration recommend waiving the typical selection process and reappointing Alok Mehrotra for the Zone 4 budget committee position and term.

**SUGGESTED MOTION**

I move to:

- Declare the Zone 4 budget committee position vacant,
- Waive the typical process for soliciting applicants, and
- Appoint Alok Mehrotra to the Zone 4 budget committee position.

**Belong. Believe. Achieve.**