

# Point Loma Cluster Schools

*Road Mapping The Future  
through Cluster Governance*

# Overview

## About the Point Loma Cluster

The Point Loma Cluster consists of ten public schools located in the Point Loma area of San Diego, California. Part of the San Diego Unified School District, the Cluster has 10 schools which serve over 6,000 students in grades K-12.

## About the Point Loma Cluster Schools Foundation (PLCS)

In 2006, a group of parents, teachers, and principals from each school engaged in a strategic planning process to develop a unified vision for the Point Loma Cluster. Called the Point Loma Cluster Schools Foundation (PLCSF).

## PLCS Vision

The Point Loma Cluster Schools, through innovative practices and collaborative efforts, will be the model of educational excellence; inspiring passionate life-long learners, critical thinkers, unbounded achievers, and responsible global citizens.

## Governance

How do we best support the work of our Strategic Plan?



[www.pointlomacluster.com](http://www.pointlomacluster.com)

# Cluster At A Glance

## Cluster Quick Facts

- 10 schools
- Over 6,000 students / App. 500+/- per grade
- 15% English Language Learners
- 45% Qualify For Free Lunch
- 30% GATE students
- 14% Students with disabilities
- 67% Proficient in English Language Arts (2009)
- 66% Proficient in Math (2009)
- Student Population
  - 1/3 grades K – 4
  - 1/3 grades 5 – 8
  - 1/3 grades 9 -12



# Researched Governance Models

- Charter – School by School
- Cluster wide charter
- Create School District
- Cluster Governance (Current focus)
  - Incremental
  - Structural

# Superintendent /Board Comment

- Creative idea, its time has come...(you're) a very engaged community ...
- **-Interim Superintendent Bill Kowba**
- This is the type of innovation this district is looking for...looking for it to be a reproducible model...  
**-Katherine Nakamura, SDUSD Board Member**
- I like what your doing in the Point Loma cluster and I appreciate it...  
**-Sheila Jackson, SDUSD Board Member**
- These folks are exploring--- it is a pilot and nonbinding.....This is a collaborative group...they may came up with some shared (programs/resources/line items).  
**-John de Beck, SDUSD Board Member**
- I am very excited about this... such groups don't have effectiveness unless they can look at the budget.... I think this is a really good idea. This is not letting the board off the hook with the budget  
**-John Lee Evans, SDUSD Board Member**
- I think the work you have done is a terrific example to the rest of the district. Much of i21 came from your work, I applaud what you are doing....thank you for coming in partnership and coming to the board, I support this....  
**-Richard Barrera, SDUSD Board President**

## WHAT IT ISN'T

An attempt to go charter

An attempt to take money from one school for use at another

One group from our community telling others what is best.

## WHAT IT IS

An opportunity to tie our cluster's synched vision to budgets in our cluster

Instead of: "this is just the way things are done"---  
"we might have a new, different or better idea"

Budget cuts are coming—  
Either we are told what our schools will look like, or we can let them know what is best for our community.

# Cluster Governance Model

[ two parts ]

We have approval from SDUSD Board to explore a cluster governance model...what could it mean?

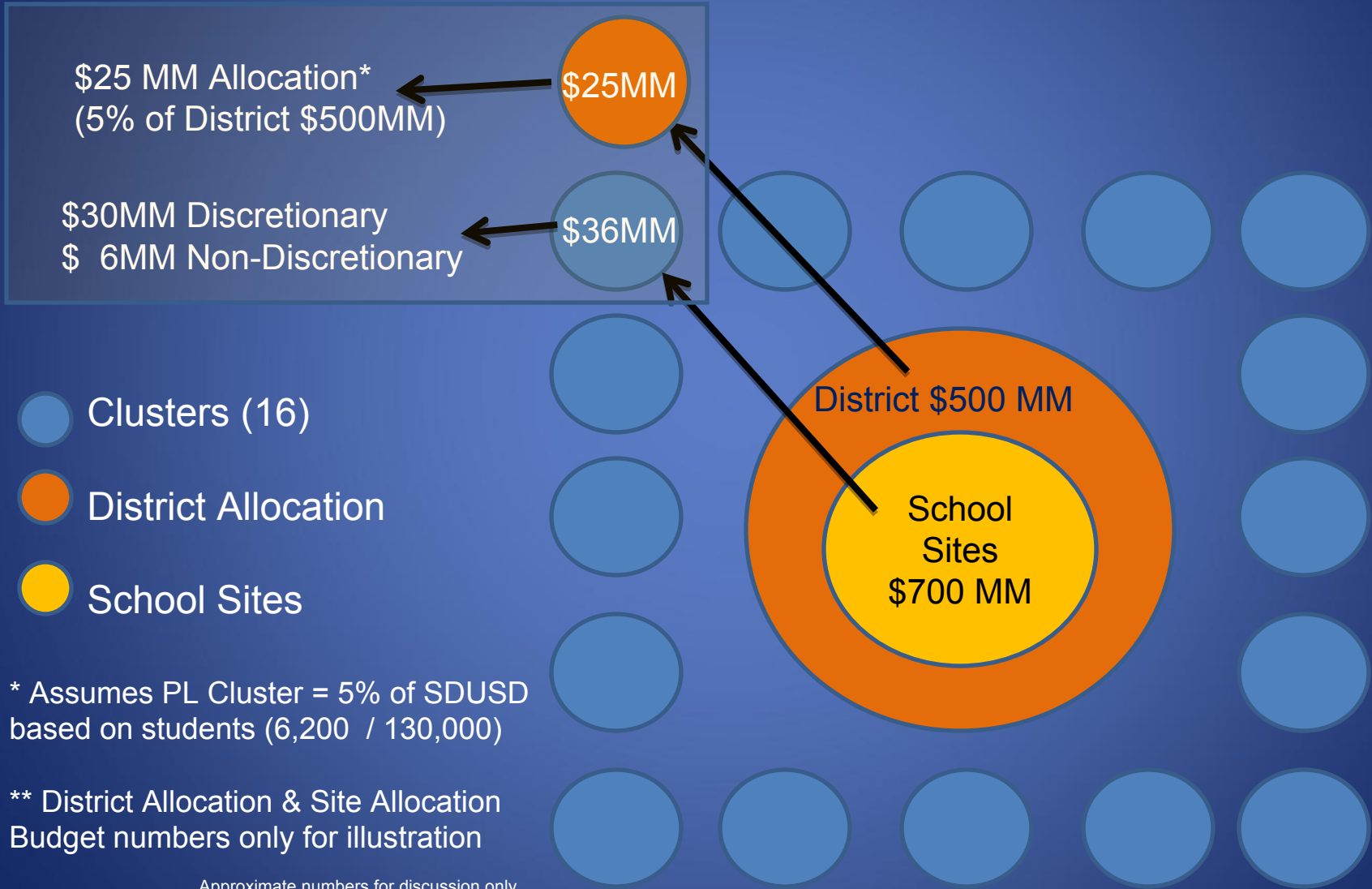
Cluster Governance [collaboration within the cluster]

- Collaboration –*How would we organize ourselves?*
- Synched Vision –*Strategic Plan work!*
- Leadership –*What is best to support our work?*

Budget Synergy [to support Governance]

- School Site Level – *can we collaborate with what we have?*
- District Allocation – *ask for our portion to support plan?*
- Control of specific funds -*related to shared vision/strategic plan?*

# Budget Allocation



\$25 MM Allocation\*  
(5% of District \$500MM)

\$25MM

\$30MM Discretionary  
\$ 6MM Non-Discretionary

\$36MM

District \$500 MM

School Sites  
\$700 MM

● Clusters (16)

● District Allocation

● School Sites

\* Assumes PL Cluster = 5% of SDUSD based on students (6,200 / 130,000)

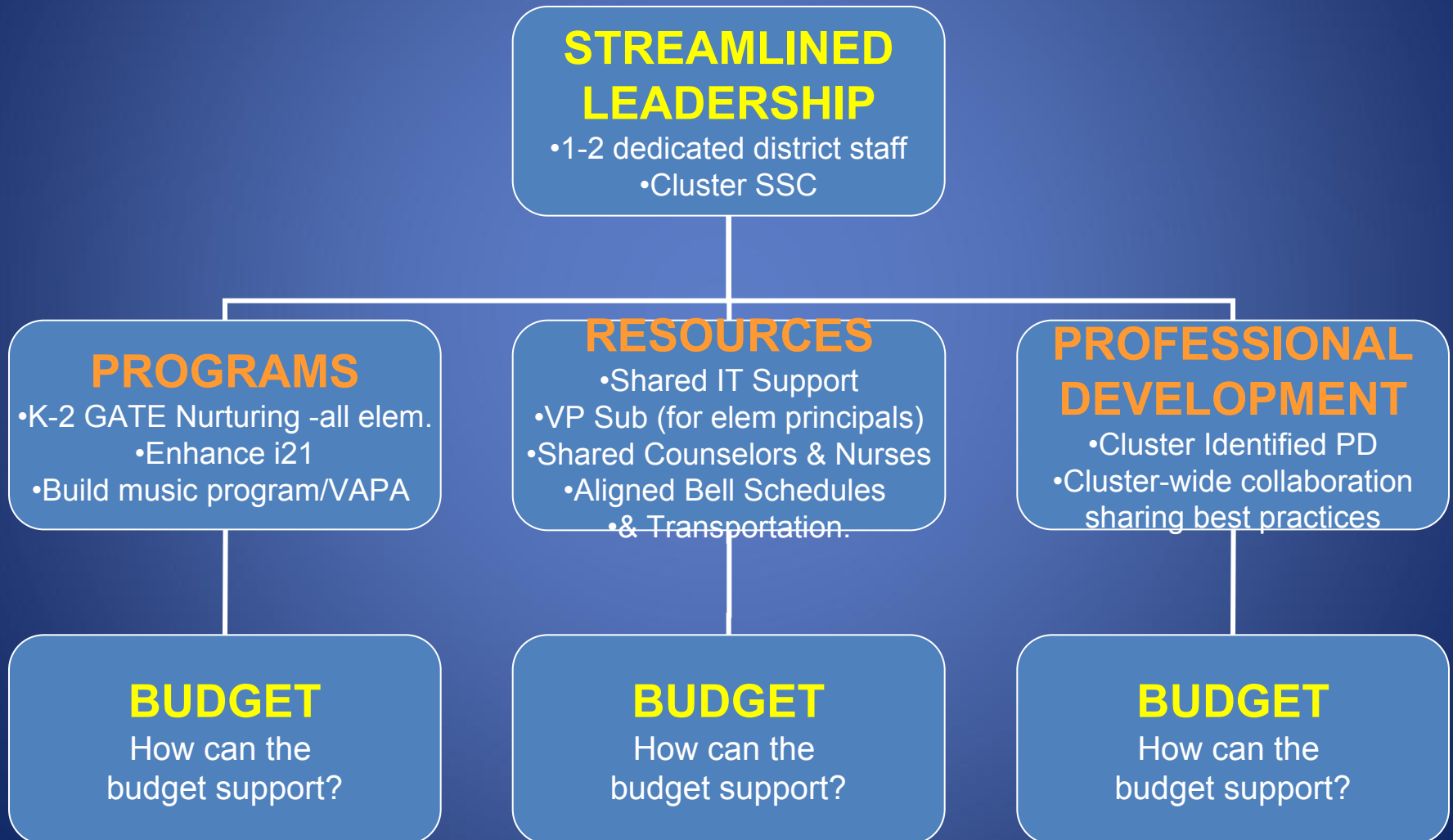
\*\* District Allocation & Site Allocation Budget numbers only for illustration

Approximate numbers for discussion only.



# GOVERNANCE

How can we collaborate in our cluster to build capacity and improve learning environments?



# Next Steps

## 1. Get the facts

build a timeline

define pilot scope with district

## 2. Reach out to community

to community --Email, survey, blog, school site meetings

## 3. Get ideas & feedback on:

Leadership synergy

Budget synergy

## 4. Timeline