

MINUTES
CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
EDWARD A. GREER EDUCATION CENTER, BOARD ROOM
2832 E. FLAMINGO ROAD, LAS VEGAS, NV 89121

ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD AND WORK SESSION

Wednesday, January 7, 2015

8:00 a.m.

Roll Call: Members Present
Erin Cranor, President
Linda E. Young, Vice President
Patrice Tew, Clerk
Kevin L. Child, Member - Elect
Carolyn Edwards, Member
Chris Garvey, Member
Deanna L. Wright, Member

Pat Skorkowsky, Superintendent of Schools

Also present were: Mary-Anne Miller, Board Counsel, District Attorney's Office; Carlos McDade, General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel; Kim Wooden, Deputy Superintendent, Educational and Operational Excellence Unit; Mike Barton, Chief Student Achievement Officer, Instruction Unit; Joyce Haldeman, Associate Superintendent, Community and Government Relations; Nicole Rourke, Executive Director, Government Affairs, Community and Government Relations; Craig Stevens, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, Community and Government Relations; Brenda Larsen-Mitchell, Assistant Chief Student Achievement Officer, Performance Zone 8; Kristy Keller, Assistant Chief Student Achievement Officer, Performance Zone 11; Cindy Krohn, Executive Assistant to the Board, Board Office; Elizabeth Carrero, Executive Manager, Office of the Superintendent; Jaymes Aimetti, Principal, Rex Bell Elementary School; Karen Johnson, Principal, C. H. Decker Elementary School; Elizabeth Smith, Principal, P. A. Diskin Elementary School; Shaun Cochran Hall, Principal, Howard Hollingsworth Elementary School; Travis Warnick, Principal, Shadow Ridge High School; Patti Chance, Planning Director for the M.A. in Urban Leadership School of Environmental and Public Affairs, University of Las Vegas, Nevada (UNLV).

FLAG SALUTE

Trustee Wright led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Gene Collins said he has documentation that shows that answers to the test at the Academy of Individualized Study (AIS) were taken home by individuals, and he said that some Board members were aware of this. He said he would like to postpone "assignment" of Board members until these issues can be addressed.

ADOPT AGENDA

Adopt agenda.

Motion: Edwards Second: Garvey Vote: Unanimous

ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES—PRESIDENT

Discussion and possible action on the election of the Office of the President.

Trustee Garvey nominated Trustee Young for the Office of the President.

Motion to close nominations.

Motion: Edwards Second: Tew Vote: Unanimous

Public Hearing

Gene Collins congratulated Trustee Young and said the community looks forward to addressing the concerns that have been brought forward.

Vote for Trustee Young for Office of the President was unanimous.

ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES—VICE PRESIDENT

Discussion and possible action on the election of the Office of the Vice President.

Trustee Wright nominated Trustee Edwards for the Office of the Vice President.

Trustee Young nominated Trustee Garvey for the Office of the Vice President.

Motion to close nominations.

Motion: Wright Second: Edwards Vote: Unanimous

Trustee Edwards said she would welcome the opportunity to support Trustee Young in her work as vice president and feels that Trustee Garvey would do a great job as well.

Trustee Garvey spoke about the direction she would like to see the Board go in moving forward, continuing the work that has been started under the leadership of Trustee Cranor as Board president.

Trustee Young asked Trustee Garvey if she would be able to be more involved now than in the past due to her work schedule.

ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES—VICE PRESIDENT (continued)

Trustee Garvey said yes, she believes because of some of the changes the Board has made with regard to leadership roles for all Trustees, she would now have a greater amount of flexibility within her role and with her schedule. She said it is also helpful that the Board is willing to be more flexible with the scheduling of the Board officers meetings.

Trustee Edwards declined the nomination for the Office of the Vice President.

Vote for Trustee Garvey for the Office of the Vice President was unanimous.

ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES—CLERK

Discussion and possible action on the election of the Office of the Clerk.

Trustee Young nominated Trustee Wright for the Office of the Clerk.

Motion to close nominations.

Motion: Edwards Second: Garvey Vote: Unanimous

Vote for Trustee Wright for the Office of the Clerk was unanimous.

RECESS: 8:18 a.m.

RECONVENE: 8:21 a.m.

APPROVE BOARD REVIEW OF THE CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES' GOVERNANCE POLICY APPENDIX: DEBRIEFING DOCUMENTS

Approval regarding suggestions for future modifications, additions, language changes, and deletions to Governance Policy Appendix: Debriefing Documents, as requested in Reference 2.04. By direction of the Board, any changes recommended at this meeting will not be implemented unless adopted by the public policy review process at a regular meeting of the Board of School Trustees.

Trustee Edwards referred to Reference 2.04 and said she would like to offer some suggestions for some areas the Board might want to incorporate in its debriefing document; specifically, numbers 1, 4, 9, and 10.

Trustee Young agreed with Trustee Edwards' comments and said she would like the Board to consider adding number 12.

Trustee Cranor said she was in support of adding those items to the debriefing document.

Trustee Wright said she was also in support of adding those items mentioned to the Board's document.

APPROVE BOARD REVIEW OF THE CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES' GOVERNANCE POLICY APPENDIX: DEBRIEFING DOCUMENTS (continued)

Trustee Edwards suggested that some of these items could replace items currently in the Board's document, and the other items should be added. Specifically, she suggested replacing the current item d with number 10, replacing item e with numbers 1 and 4 and adding numbers 9 and 12. She said if the Trustees agreed, she would offer to bring those changes back for the Board's consideration.

Trustee Garvey said she was in support of Trustee Edwards' suggestions.

ADOPT AGENDA (continued)

Superintendent Skorkowsky requested that Item 3.01 follow Item 3.05 and notified the Board that reference material was provided for Item 3.05.

Motion to move Item 3.01 to follow Item 3.05 as 3.05a and note reference material provided for Item 3.05.

Motion: Wright Second: Edwards Vote: Unanimous

INVEST 2015 PRESENTATION

Presentation and discussion of iNVEST 2015.

Superintendent Skorkowsky presented Road to the Future 2015, the new iNVEST plan developed by the county superintendents over the past year to move education forward.

Trustee Edwards expressed support of this document and plan. She said she was disappointed that there were no trustees or superintendents on the Committee for Education Reform but hopes that would be considered in the future. She asked if the Superintendent was looking for approval of this document.

Superintendent Skorkowsky said there is no action necessary and this is simply a presentation and discussion, but the Board's support is appreciated. He said the Nevada Association of School Boards (NASB) has already adopted the document.

Trustee Edwards suggested that it would make a strong statement if the county boards endorsed this document as well.

Superintendent Skorkowsky said he would bring this item back on the January 22, 2015, agenda.

Trustee Wright also expressed support of the information presented in this document. She said she would like to discuss expanding the work week for teachers to support professional development. She said it is important to continue to have discussions with parents and community members and other elected officials about what happens to taxpayer funds that were originally collected for education and then were used by the state to fill other budget areas.

INVEST 2015 PRESENTATION (continued)

Superintendent Skorkowsky offered to provide this presentation with notes electronically to the Trustees so they may present it at their parent and community meetings.

Trustee Garvey said she is glad to see the early intervention piece in this plan, as well as the professional development. She expressed support of endorsing this document.

Trustee Edwards noted that in addition to education dollars, other CCSD capital funds have reverted back to the state, as well.

Trustee Young said teacher salaries need to be increase so the District can be competitive.

Trustee Tew expressed her support of this document, and she agreed with having a trustee or a superintendent on the Committee for Education Reform as mentioned by Trustee Edwards.

Trustee Cranor said she appreciated the superintendents working together as a state and said she is looking forward to the school boards across Nevada working together.

APPROVE STANDING ITEMS – 2015 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Prior to each legislative session the Board of School Trustees has endorsed a list of standing items. This platform provides the District's lobbying team the Board's position on a host of issues that may be raised during the course of the session. Approval of the standing items for the 78th Regular Session of the Nevada Legislature as requested in Reference 3.03.

Mrs. Haldeman, Mrs. Rourke, and Mr. Stevens presented the 2015 Legislative Platform for the Board's consideration.

Trustee Wright expressed appreciation for the addition of class size reduction, literacy across all subject areas, and personal data privacy to the Legislative Platform.

Trustee Edwards suggested that the Board needs to have a discussion regarding "the sanctity of an elected school board" and what that means. Regarding whether a board should be elected or appointed, she said she feels school boards should be locally elected, but she would support legislation that would require professional development for boards.

Mrs. Haldeman said it would be appropriate to add another point to the Legislative Platform regarding professional development for board members.

Trustee Edwards said she would request an agenda item to discuss that topic.

Trustee Garvey said she would support that discussion.

APPROVE STANDING ITEMS – 2015 LEGISLATIVE SESSION (continued)

Trustee Young also agreed with Trustee Edwards' comments regarding the sanctity of an elected board and the professional development piece. She said she would also like to demonstrate effective and respectful communication with the Board and to keep the focus on the students. She said in terms of the standing items listed here, there needs to continue to be support for teachers.

Public Hearing

Jason Lamberth said in previous legislative sessions, the Board has lobbied against bullying legislation or attached a fiscal note or greatly modified the language deleting all language that would have a fiscal impact. He said that does not coincide with the heading in Reference 3.03, "Support policies and programs already in existence or previously presented to the Legislature some of which may require funding," and more specifically with the bullet point "Safe and respectful learning environments."

Trustee Cranor asked Mrs. Haldeman to briefly talk about the plan for the Board's support of that item.

Mrs. Haldeman said staff would keep the Board updated throughout the legislative session. She clarified that the District has been very supportive of anti-bullying efforts. She said that heading is part of an ongoing directive to avoid unfunded mandates. She said staff does work with legislators and does make fiscal notes when legislation comes forward that would have a fiscal impact on the District's budget.

Mrs. Haldeman suggested that the Board add another item related to professional development for school Boards to be included when this document is brought back with the sex education update.

Trustee Edwards said the item she is going to request to come back regarding the sanctity of an elected board is going to be broader than the topic of professional development, but she would agree to have it come back at the same time as the sex education update.

Motion to accept the 2015 Legislative Platform as presented.

Motion: Edwards Second: Young Vote: Unanimous

FUTURE BUILDING PROGRAMS: CONTINGENCY PLANS

Presentation and discussion regarding contingency plans for future building programs.

Dr. Barton, Ms. Keller, Mr. Aimetti, Ms. Johnson, and Ms. Smith presented the Hazard Impact Probability Committee's conclusions and recommendations.

Trustee Young wondered what happens in a situation where the school is inhabitable, and students must be sent home. She asked if there was a community plan with the schools whereby students would have a place to go if they had to be sent home and parents were at work, such as a church or a recreation center or other community agency or organization.

FUTURE BUILDING PROGRAMS: CONTINGENCY PLANS (continued)

Ms. Keller agreed with Trustee Young's comments and suggested working with the School-Community Partnership Office to become liaisons with the community organizations.

Superintendent Skorkowsky noted that there are procedures that need to be followed to ensure that students are safely transported from school to another facility or to their home. He said it is a challenge to find alternative sites for students in case of school closures.

Trustee Tew asked if there are protocols in place for immediate action. She suggested compiling a volunteer list for people to help in different capacities in times of need.

Trustee Child suggested developing a safety or hazard application for smart phones to help get the message out quickly. He also suggested having portable air conditioning units or generators ready to be brought in.

Superintendent Skorkowsky said the District has portable chillers, which can take 24-48 hours to install. He said almost all schools have generators that would only require fuel.

Trustee Wright stated that in the pairing up of Jack and Terry Mannion Middle School to Miller Middle School in the temporary school closure plan, the schools are a far distance apart, and she suggested that Mannion students go to Burkholder, Brown, or Greenspun middle schools instead. She said she would be asking for better communication with parents in case of emergencies or changes in the normal schedule in transportation, such as a parent hotline.

Mr. Stevens agreed with Trustee Wright's suggestion.

Trustee Edwards questioned how schools are allowing people to pick up children in such emergencies who are not on the list to pick that child up. She said that is going to have to be addressed. She said a parent may not want a neighbor or noncustodial parent picking up their child.

Trustee Garvey said another consideration needs to be instances where families have neighbors on their child's list for pickup, but those neighbors are unable to get to the school. She said another area that needs to be discussed is not only what short-term and long-term solutions can be developed for those situations that are out of our control, but also what can be done to help mitigate those types of circumstances and avoid having to institute those emergency measures.

Superintendent Skorkowsky addressed how the District can prepare for insurmountable growth if need be at a particular school site if the District is unsuccessful at gaining capital. He said capping a school's enrollment has been done in the past and is an option and converting schools to a year-round calendar is also an option. He said instituting double sessions is also a reality.

FUTURE BUILDING PROGRAMS: REVENUE UPDATE

Presentation and discussion of revenue updates regarding future building programs.

Mr. McIntosh presented the capital fund revenue update to the Board.

Trustee Edwards asked if there has been any discussion about requesting that the legislatively imposed commercial property tax abatement be lifted.

Mr. McIntosh said the District has been working with other local governments in reviewing abatements and their impact on all local governments and whether there is something that could be done legislatively to change the rates.

Trustee Edwards suggested having a discussion regarding including property tax abatements in the 2015 Legislative Platform.

URBAN LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM BOARD PRESENTATION

Presentation and discussion on the implementation of the Urban Leadership Development Program, between the Clark County School District and the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, beginning January 2015.

Dr. Barton, Mr. Warnick, Dr. Hall, and Dr. Chance gave an update on the Urban Leadership Development Program.

Trustee Young said she would like to see the District move in the direction of promoting teacher leadership and placing an emphasis on the importance of teachers' roles.

Trustee Garvey said perhaps this program had a different impact on newer administrators than it did the more experienced administrators. She suggested tailoring this program to the needs of the specific attendees in the future. She asked about the individuals who completed leadership training in the past.

Dr. Barton said there is a new process in place for applying to get into leadership, and some of the people that had applied in the past were invited to attend training modules.

BOARD MEMBER LEAVES

Trustee Garvey left the Board meeting at 11:24 a.m.

URBAN LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM BOARD PRESENTATION (continued)

Trustee Cranor agreed with comments made by Trustee Young.

BOARD MEMBER LEAVES

Trustee Edwards left the Board meeting at 11:24 a.m.

AGENDA PLANNING: ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Trustee Tew requested an agenda item for discussion of the School Board Student Advisory Committee and possibly having the Board committee be under the supervision of the Superintendent instead.

Trustee Wright requested an agenda item to discuss the rules governing redevelopment, such as proximity of bars to schools. She said she would also like an agenda item to discuss the Transportation Department's communication plan and recommendations.

Superintendent Skorkowsky said staff is in the process of exploring the possibility of creating a CCSD emergency communications application where transportation alerts could be posted.

Trustee Wright asked if the Board could receive an update in six to eight weeks.

Superintendent Skorkowsky agreed to provide that update to the Board, and he invited Trustee Wright to participate in the process.

DISCUSSION AND REQUEST FOR SPECIAL MEETINGS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

ADJOURN: 11:28 a.m.

*Motion: Wright Second: Tew Vote: Unanimous
Trustees Garvey and Edwards were not present for the vote.*