

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

ADOPTION OF FINAL BUDGET

Monday, May 21, 2018

5:34 p.m.

Roll Call: Members Present
Deanna L. Wright, President
Carolyn Edwards, Vice President
Lola Brooks, Clerk
Linda P. Cavazos, Member
Kevin L. Child, Member
Chris Garvey, Member
Linda E. Young, 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, Ancillary Support; Jason Goudie, Chief Financial Officer, Finance Department, Operational Services Unit; Cindy Krohn, Executive Assistant, Board Office; Elizabeth Carrero, Executive Manager/Director II, Office of the Superintendent; and Jeanetta Edmond, Administrative Secretary II, Board Office.

FLAG SALUTE

Trustee Garvey led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPT AGENDA

Adopt agenda, except note reference material provided for Item 3.02.

Motion: Brooks Second: Edwards Vote: Unanimous

Trustee Young was not present for the vote.

BOARD MEMBER ARRIVES

Trustee Young arrived at the Board meeting at 5:36 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Autumn Tampa said she wished there was a way for people to be more involved. She said employees should understand that their salaries are based on the laws of the State of Nevada.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (continued)

Terri Shuman asked if surplus is based on seniority, why then are people with less seniority still in their positions while people with more seniority lose their jobs. She asked if an employee is on the Qualified Selection Pool (QSP) list for a given position why that person is not able to “bump” and move into that position. She asked that the contract language be changed to address this.

Michelle DeMaio asked why high school graduations are being held at the Thomas and Mack Center and the Orleans if CCSD does not have any money. She asked why the graduations could not take place on the school campuses. She asked why Trustees have retreats and how much those retreats cost who pays for them.

Dylan Munoz said not having enough teachers is going to limit education for kids. He said it is not fair not to pay teachers like his mother.

Angie Sullivan said teachers are aware that at least four Trustees did not want to honor the teacher contract in the arbitration ruling. She said the Clark County Education Association (CCEA) is willing to collaborate but not willing to be a lesser partner. She said not honoring the teacher contract costs the taxpayers and teachers.

PUBLIC HEARING, 2018-2019 TENTATIVE BUDGET

This is the time and the place that was advertised for the public hearing on the tentative budget per Nevada Revised Statutes 354.596, and interested persons shall be given an opportunity to be heard concerning the 2018-2019 Tentative Budget of the Clark County School District.

Trustee Brooks read the statement into the record.

Public Hearing

Steve Brown said the District received \$318 million in additional funding over the last two years and another \$140 million in attrition, and he asked what happened to that money.

Autumn Tampa said she felt there was not enough time for her to go through the budget information and be able to speak as clearly on it as she would have liked to. She said a member of the public would have a difficult time being able to understand the budget as it is laid out. She questioned why the District does not have money. She expressed frustration that it does not seem to matter that she works very hard.

Michelle DeMaio said the District portrays teachers as greedy because teachers expect a pay increase based on their contract. She said U.S. News states that Nevada has the largest class sizes in the Country. She stated that the District and teachers spend over \$1 million every contract almost every year in negotiation and arbitration fees. She said the District designs a budget with the intent of never honoring the pay schedule agreed upon.

PUBLIC HEARING, 2018-2019 TENTATIVE BUDGET (continued)

Public Hearing

Jennifer Steele said she has not seen the Board yet fight for their students, teachers, or District. She said she has been writing letters asking for financial support for education and actively fundraising to try and fill the deficit that will be caused by school budget cuts. She asked the Trustees what they have been doing. She asked the Board to vote for the students when they vote on the budget.

Stephen Augspurger suggested instead of making cuts to schools, the Board use the Ending Fund Balance, and if that is not enough, repurpose attrition dollars. He said he believes also that the Board would be able to declare a fiscal emergency.

Doug Marsh said there needs to be more accountability from the District because cutting teachers and making class sizes larger is not going to lift the District. He said when there are large class sizes, teachers cannot give proper attention to those students.

Terri Shuman said the vote in favor of the contract for incoming superintendent Dr. Jesus Jara was disrespectful to all CCSD employees. She asked the Board to reconsider the salary and make the contract for 18 months and give Dr. Jara the opportunity to prove himself.

Tammy Villarreal-Crabb, principal, said her teachers work very hard and believe in their students. She said there are over 40 students in the 4th- and 5th-grade classrooms, and losing a teacher due to budget cuts would be devastating.

Rebecca Colbert talked about the rising class sizes at her son's and daughter's schools. She said having 50 students in one class is not safe, nor is it a productive learning environment. She said it is unconscionable that schools would be asked to cut more than central office.

Lisa Eukel said Las Vegas is one of the most famous cities on the planet, and the District should have money from the casinos, hotels, real estate, and from the marijuana tax. She said CCSD is among the worst school districts in the country. She asked that the Board stop voting for pay raises for themselves and the superintendent, stop hiring consultants and creating new positions until the schools are fixed.

Tamara Henderson talked about the deep budget cuts her daughter's school is facing and would include the loss of teachers and the librarian. She said the schools are overcrowded and each year cuts continue. She said we cannot continue to underfund education.

ADOPT 2018-2019 FINAL BUDGET

Adoption of the 2018-2019 Final Budget and authorization for members of the Board of School Trustees to file as required by Nevada Revised Statutes 354.598, as recommended in Reference 3.02.

ADOPT 2018-2019 FINAL BUDGET (continued)

Mr. Goudie presented the 2018-2019 Final Budget as shown in Reference 3.02.

There was discussion regarding how the District is funded and how everyone needs to work together to increase funding for education.

Public Hearing

Steve Brown stated that a presentation given by Mr. Goudie puts per pupil funding for CCSD at \$9,000 per year. He said the top paid District employees make over \$100,000, and he suggested not filling those positions when those employees leave the District.

Autumn Tampa said there is a perception issue in terms of the budget shortfall. She said she believes there needs to be a change in culture in bringing everyone together so the communication aspect is very important. She said she would like to help formulate a plan, such as having all associate superintendents hold meetings with principals about legislative issues and politics and then have principals explain the legislative process for creating the budget to their staff.

Michelle DeMaio said if the Board wanted support from the public, it needs to be more transparent with the budget. She referred to items in the budget such as special programs and other non-instructional services.

Robert McGoldrick disagreed with removing teachers and staff to address the budget shortfalls when there are other areas that could be cut. He said the staff at Doris French Elementary School would be willing to work with anyone who shares the same goal of empowering and educating children. He said he does not believe the Trustees truly understand the stress teachers are under on a daily basis, and he challenged the Trustees to stand in their shoes for a week.

Tracy Leonard said she was grateful that her daughter graduated in 2017. She asked if the District allocates money to schools and then takes it away, if the District has a budget for litigation, if the District receives 32 percent of its funding from the State and 62 percent of its funding from Clark County, and if there is an internal audit in place before Dr. Jara comes in so that he could be supported.

Trustee Cavazos asked what would need to be done to table or postpone this decision.

Superintendent Skorkowsky said staff would have to post an agenda tomorrow for a Friday meeting, but the Trustees' calendars are so full they could not hold a meeting before June 4, and at that point staff would not be able to get the documents filed in order to be in compliance with the law.

There was further discussion by the Board. They agreed that because of the time constraints in filing the documents, they needed to move forward with the budget as presented but continue to work toward making changes and working together to increase funding.

ADOPT 2018-2019 FINAL BUDGET (continued)

Motion to approve.

Motion: Edwards Second: Young Vote: Yeses – 5 (Brooks, Edwards, Garvey, Wright, Young); Noes – 2 (Cavazos, Child)

The motion passed.

AGENDA PLANNING: ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Trustee Cavazos requested a summary of the District's current policy on random marijuana testing of teachers.

Superintendent Skorkowsky said the District only tests employees if there is an indication of impairment.

Trustee Young requested an agenda item to discuss handwriting curriculum for students, an agenda item to discuss equity and diversity training for Board members, and an agenda item regarding the Nevada Plan.

Trustee Child requested an agenda item to discuss the reading, writing, and math curriculum.

Superintendent Skorkowsky noted that the Notice of Intent for the gender diverse policy would be on the June 14, 2018, Board meeting agenda.

DISCUSSION AND REQUEST FOR SPECIAL MEETINGS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Jessica Maleskey said she believes the Board members are removed, and she invited them and Dr. Jara to visit her classroom and sit in the students' seats and be part of the class.

ADJOURN: 8:37 p.m.

Motion: Edwards Second: Brooks Vote: Unanimous