

MINUTES
CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
MOUNT CHARLESTON LODGE, CABIN 24
5355 KYLE CANYON ROAD, LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89124

BOARD RETREAT

Friday, August 14, 2015

8:32 a.m.

Roll Call: Members Present
Linda E. Young, President
Chris Garvey, Vice President
Deanna L. Wright, Clerk
Kevin L. Child, Member
Erin Cranor, Member
Carolyn Edwards, Member
Patrice Tew, 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; Rick Neal, Chief of Staff, Office of the Chief of Staff; Mike Barton, Chief Student Achievement Officer, Instruction Unit; Jhone Ebert, Chief Innovation and Productivity Officer, Innovative Teaching and Learning Unit, Technology and Information Systems Services Division; Billie Rayford, Interim Chief Educational Opportunity Officer, Educational Opportunities Unit; Nathan Trenholm, Director, IDS – Instructional Data Services, Assessment, Accountability, Research and School Improvement; Nicole Rourke, Executive Director, Government Affairs, Community and Government Relations; Patricia Saas, Director, FACES – Family and Community Engagement Services, Community and Government Relations; Elizabeth Carrero, Executive Manager, Office of the Superintendent; Cindy Krohn, Executive Assistant to the Board, Board Office; Lisa Burkhead, Principal, Victoria Fertitta Middle School; and Trisha Hathy, Assistant Principal, Victoria Fertitta Middle School.

FLAG SALUTE

Trustee Cranor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPT AGENDA

Adopt agenda, except note reference material provided for Items 3.01, 3.02, 4.01, 4.02, and 4.04 and move Item 3.03 to follow Item 6.01 as 6.01a.

Motion: Garvey Second: Child

ADOPT AGENDA (continued)

Trustee Edwards requested that the full reference material for Item 4.01 be provided to the Board.

Staff agreed to provide that reference material electronically to Trustee Edwards.

Vote on Trustee Garvey's motion was unanimous.

Trustee Wright and Trustee Tew were not present for the vote.

BOARD MEMBER ARRIVES

Trustee Tew arrived at the Board meeting at 8:38 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION RELATED TO STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Presentation and discussion regarding data and progress toward Board governance policy, Appendix A, E-2: Student Achievement, Goal #4, related to increasing the percentage of parents feeling welcome at school and informed of their child's progress, and Goal #5, related to increasing the percentage of students who feel safe and happy at school.

Ms. Ebert and Mr. Trenholm discussed the Districtwide survey specifically related to Goal 4 having to do with parent engagement and Goal 5 having to do with student safety.

Dr. Barton talked about how data creates action, and he said the Fertitta model is an example of this.

Ms. Burkhead and Ms. Hathy spoke about the changes that have been made and programs that were implemented at Victoria Fertitta Middle School to change the climate at the school to enhance student achievement and students' experience.

Ms. Rourke and Ms. Saas shared programs and services offered through The University of Family Learning.

BOARD MEMBER ARRIVES

Trustee Wright arrived at the Board meeting at 9:49 a.m.

UPDATE ON ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES

Presentation and discussion regarding advanced placement (AP) course taking patterns within the Clark County School District.

UPDATE ON ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES (continued)

Ms. Ebert and Dr. Barton gave an update on Goal 6 related to advanced placement (AP) courses.

RECESS: 10:00 a.m.

RECONVENE: 10:17 a.m.

APPROVE BALANCED GOVERNANCE™

Approval by the Clark County School District Board of Trustees to determine if the Board will begin planning and implementation of a Balanced Governance™ model to replace or enhance Policy Governance®, the current governing structure of the Board of Trustees, as recommended.

The Board discussed what they each felt Balanced Governance™ was and how this governance model could help the Board function more efficiently and have student achievement be more of their focus.

Trustee Edwards questioned whether the Board could move forward on this without being in violation of the Superintendent's contract and suggested that these items may need to be placed on hold until a discussion is had on the Superintendent's current contract.

Ms. Miller agreed that the Board would have to have the Superintendent's agreement to change the governance model and said other aspects such as monitoring and evaluation would have to be negotiated with the Superintendent.

RECESS: 11:35 a.m.

RECONVENE: 1:30 p.m.

APPROVE BALANCED GOVERNANCE™ (continued)

Trustee Garvey stated that Ms. Miller indicated that the next step in this process should be to address the Superintendent's contract should the Board decide to move forward with Balanced Governance™.

"Motion to have us vote on whether we would like to do that next step by entering into a conversation about renegotiating Superintendent Skorkowsky's contract to be adapted to a Balanced Governance Structure™ and have him bring back what he would need to have changed within his contract, possible evaluation tools that he would be open to and what criteria of roles and responsibility guidelines would be something he would be open to consider."

Motion: Garvey Second: Cranor

There was some discussion on what the motion meant in terms of how the Superintendent and the Board would move forward.

Trustee Edwards stated that there was nothing in the Board agenda language that allows for discussion of the Superintendent's contract.

APPROVE BALANCED GOVERNANCE™ (continued)

Trustee Garvey said she believes this falls under "...begin planning and implementation of a Balanced Governance™ model..." in the agenda item.

Trustee Edwards said she was concerned that the Board would be violating the Open Meeting Law (OML) since discussion of the Superintendent's contract was not included in the agenda.

Ms. Miller offered that she does not believe this to be a discussion regarding the Superintendent's contract, but that the Board is asking the Superintendent to consider whether Balanced Governance™ is a viable option, and she believes this falls under beginning planning and implementation.

Trustee Cranor suggested amending the motion to simply invite the superintendent to reflect back to the Board in whatever context he chooses on the possible feasibility of Balanced Governance™.

Trustee Garvey agreed with that amendment.

Trustee Cranor also agreed as the second to the motion.

Trustee Wright questioned whether it is necessary to move to another copyrighted or trademarked governance model as opposed to the Board developing their own, and she suggested spending the professional development funds in other areas.

Trustee Garvey rescinded her previous motion.

Motion to not move forward until hearing the Superintendent's reflections on today's discussion.

Motion: Garvey Second: Cranor Vote: Unanimous

Trustee Young noted that Items 4.02, 4.03, and 4.04 would not go forward.

APPROVE MODIFY CURRENT BOARD POLICIES TO A BALANCED GOVERNANCE™ MODEL

Approval to enter into an agreement with Dr. Thomas L. Alsbury, Balance Governance Solutions™, to begin modifying current board policies to a Balanced Governance™ model at an approximate cost of \$5,000.00, to be paid from FY16, Fund 1000000000, Cost Center 5340000000, as recommended.

APPROVE GRANT OPPORTUNITIES WITH COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Approval to seek community partnerships for grant opportunities that could assist the Clark County School District Board of Trustees to off-set costs associated with the implementation of the Balanced Governance™ Model, as recommended.

APPROVE ADDITIONAL SERVICES AVAILABLE FROM DR. THOMAS L. ALSBURY, BALANCE GOVERNANCE SOLUTIONS™

Approval to request additional services from Dr. Thomas L. Aslbury, Balance Governance Solutions™, including, but not limited to, consultation and facilitation of policy revision of all relevant Clark County School District Board of Trustees Policy Governance® policies to the Balanced Governance™ format, external evaluation by Balance Governance Solutions™, using the Balanced Governance Standards™ tool, facilitation of discussion regarding results of the Balanced Governance Standards™ tool, external evaluation by Balanced Governance Solutions™, using the Individual School Board Member Stabilizing Characteristics™ tool, facilitation of discussion regarding results of the Individual School Board Member Stabilizing Characteristics™ tool, comprehensive observation and external evaluation of all board meetings, and for the Board to prioritize a list of requested services and other items as deemed necessary to this process, as recommended.

APPROVE BOARD WALK

Approval for the Clark County School District Board of Trustees to initiate a school and community activity that promotes health and wellness, as recommended.

Trustee Young shared the concept of “Board Walk,” which is an activity or event designed to promote health and wellness. She recommended beginning the planning and forming a committee of staff and Trustees and perhaps planning one event for this year.

Superintendent Skorkowsky recommended enlisting the help of the Partnership Office and different staff that could offer assistance. He offered to put together a committee of which Trustee Young would be a member of to explore the potential of this program and begin planning.

AGENDA PLANNING: ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Trustee Garvey requested an agenda item to discuss the Superintendent’s reflection of today’s discussion on Item 4.01.

The Trustees and the Superintendent agreed to have that item come forth on the August 27, 2015, Board meeting agenda.

DISCUSSION AND REQUEST FOR SPECIAL MEETINGS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

EMPLOYEE LABOR RELATIONS AND CLOSED SESSION

Approval of closed session pursuant to NRS 288.

Motion: Wright Second: Garvey Vote: Unanimous

EMPLOYEE LABOR RELATIONS AND CLOSED SESSION (continued)

RECESS: 2:11 p.m.

RECONVENE: 2:25 p.m.

ADJOURN: 3:33 p.m.