

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

JOINT MEETING WITH THE ATTENDANCE ZONE ADVISORY COMMISSION

Wednesday, September 4, 2013

8:01 a.m.

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

Pat Skorkowsky, Superintendent of Schools

Also present were: Carlos McDade, General Counsel, Legal Office; Donna Mendoza Mitchell, Deputy General Counsel, Legal Office; Kim Wooden, Deputy Superintendent, Educational and Operational Excellence Unit; Jeff Weiler, Chief Financial Officer, Budget and Finance Division; Kirsten Searer, Chief of Staff and External Relations, External Relations Unit; Staci Vesneske, Chief Human Resources Officer, Human Resources Unit; Joyce Haldeman, Associate Superintendent, Community and Government Relations; Cindy Krohn, Executive Assistant to the Board, Board Office; Lisa Chrapcynski, Administrative Secretary II, Board Office; Pat Zamora, Vice President, Zions Bank Public Finance; and Stephanie Gatlin, Transcriber/Recording Secretary, Board Office.

Attendance Zone Advisory Commission (AZAC) members present were: JoAnne Foutz, Chair; Albert Delgado, Vice Chair; Becky Harris, Member; Zan Hyer, Member; Lois Mack, Member; Cyndy Mahoney, Member; Mike Malone, Member; Marisol Montoya-Herrera, Member; Becky Nielson, Member; Anna Slighting, Member; and Jose Solorio, Member.

FLAG SALUTE

Trustee Garvey led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Attendance Zone Advisory Commission (AZAC) opened their meeting with a roll call of its members and an adoption of their meeting agenda, moving Item 3 to follow Item 4, by unanimous vote.

ADOPT AGENDA

Adopt agenda, except move Item 3.01 to follow Item 3.02.

Motion: Young Second: Wright Vote: Unanimous

Trustee Tew was not present for the vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

APPROVE POTENTIAL REVISION TO THE 1998 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Approval regarding a potential revision to the 1998 Capital Improvement Program, including but not limited to discussion on future revenue and bond capacity estimates and setting priorities for a revision to the 1998 Capital Improvement Program.

Mr. Weiler gave a presentation on the potential revision to the 1998 capital program. His presentation included: Current Status of the Capital Program and Factors to Consider in Developing Revision 18.

BOARD MEMBER ARRIVES

Trustee Tew arrived at the Board meeting at 8:12 a.m.

APPROVE POTENTIAL REVISION TO THE 1998 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

(continued)

Trustee Edwards asked what would be the likelihood of a new elementary school being built.

Superintendent Skorkowsky said it would be a challenge given the remaining balance and the lack of any other emergency contingency funds.

Trustee Edwards asked about the revenue from real estate transfer tax and room tax which is going toward offsetting the District's debt at this time. She said it would be helpful for the Board to be provided with a five-year projection of what the room tax, the real estate transfer tax, and the government services tax are likely to look like and what the debt service requirements would be assuming a conservative growth and based on certain assumptions.

Mr. Zamora said those revenue projections have been produced and show projections over a four-year period.

Trustee Edwards said she would be interested in seeing that information.

Trustee Garvey asked for the parameters of the remaining \$44 million of the capital program, including the timeline for using the remaining funds.

APPROVE POTENTIAL REVISION TO THE 1998 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

(continued)

Mr. Weiler said the funds could be used for anything that is considered a capital expenditure, such as replacing an air conditioning system or the replacement of computers, but not projects that would be considered maintenance or repair. He said there is a reasonable expectation that the monies would be spent within three years of issuing the bonds. He explained that the District is showing intent to spend the money through having projects identified.

Trustee Cranor requested a list of the \$669 million in capital needs in a type of ranking showing the impact on learning if the particular need was not met or left undone and a separate list showing the impact on the general fund if the need was not met or left undone.

Superintendent Skorkowsky said it would be challenging to identify the impact on learning, but identifying the impact to the general fund could be done easily.

Trustee Cranor suggested that it could simply show "negative impact on education" or "no negative impact on education" if left undone.

There was Board consensus to have staff bring that information forward.

Trustee Edwards asked at what point is the decision made that the air conditioning system at Durango High School is a replacement project.

Superintendent Skorkowsky said an assessment is currently underway, and staff would be reporting their findings to him.

Trustee Edwards asked if it would be helpful for the Board to authorize a replacement of Durango High School's air conditioning system.

Superintendent Skorkowsky said he believes the superintendent has some authority in emergency situations, if necessary.

Trustee Young talked about how the condition and functionality of a school impacts a community in terms of developers building homes and residents' support of a capital program.

Trustee Edwards asked what the lifecycle of a standard high school heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) system and how old Durango High School's unit is.

Superintendent Skorkowsky said Durango High School is 20 years old, and he is not aware of any replacement of the chiller.

Mr. Weiler said that HVAC systems generally have a lifecycle of 20 years.

APPROVE POTENTIAL REVISION TO THE 1998 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

(continued)

Superintendent Skorkowsky added that when the District cut 20 percent of its staff during the budget crisis, part of the air conditioning and heating staff was eliminated, and the staff that remains is unable to perform the regularly needed maintenance on these systems as recommended.

Trustee Alderman mentioned that part of the problem the District faces with some of these HVAC systems is that the vender no longer supports that particular model and replacement parts are difficult to find. She also suggested that the District should consider the quality of the HVAC systems it purchases.

Trustee Young said she wanted to keep equity and diversity in the forefront of all considerations and any decisions being made.

Mr. Weiler suggested that in the future the District should standardize their purchase of air conditioning units to minimize the number of models and perhaps have standard contracts in place for replacement parts.

Superintendent Skorkowsky said any decisions that need to be made would be clearly communicated to the Board.

Trustee Garvey suggested that staff should develop a protocol and procedure for addressing emergencies as they happen, such as what they are facing now with the Durango High School HVAC system, which would also aid the Board in any decisions it needed to make.

Superintendent Skorkowsky said Ms. Wooden has begun looking at processes and procedures that are currently in place, and staff is also looking at what can be done to prevent this from happening in the future.

APPROVE OPTIONS FOR A FUTURE CAPITAL PROGRAM

Approval on options and a timeline for a future capital program.

Superintendent Skorkowsky said there is no formal presentation at this time, but this agenda item was brought forward to allow the Trustees to have an open dialogue regarding this issue based on the previous discussion and the information being presented here.

Trustee Edwards said the District and Board needs to do a better job of relaying the District's needs and the condition of the schools. She asked what information the Board would need to make a decision on a possible capital program on the 2014 ballot. She said they should also consider how the District would address its needs if the decision is to wait until the 2016 ballot. She said they need to consider any competing ballot questions, and that the support of the unions is necessary for the District's initiative.

APPROVE OPTIONS FOR A FUTURE CAPITAL PROGRAM (continued)

Trustee Young asked what the deadline is for making the decision regarding the ballot question, and she asked how the Board and the District would present their ballot question to the voters that would be different from Question 2. She said she felt the process was rushed with Question 2.

Trustee Edwards asked how many precincts voted for the bond last time.

Mrs. Haldeman said she would like to prepare some information to bring to the Board, including a timeline, existing competing measures, and all of the specifics that would be different from Question 2.

Trustee Edwards asked if the presentation could come forward at the Board's October work session.

Superintendent Skorkowsky said he would attempt to have the information come forward at the last meeting in September, the October work session, or the first regular meeting in October.

Trustee Wright suggested providing information on a continuous basis, perhaps on the CCSD website or Twitter, which shows the emergencies or problems that arise in the schools to make the public aware of the real issues the District faces.

Trustee Young stated that the District needs to show shareholders who do not have students in CCSD how supporting a capital improvement program would benefit them, such as how it would reduce unemployment, thereby decreasing crime.

Trustee Alderman agreed that this is a crisis situation, and she said the needs are great and many areas deal with equity and capacity issues across the District.

Mr. Malone commented that he serves on the Policy Protective Association (PPA) board, and he talked about their experience in asking the public for an increase. He suggested that the Board should take their information to the unions and gain the unions' support so they can in turn take the information to the teachers.

APPROVE ITEMS 3.03 AND 3.04

Approval of Items 3.03 and 3.04, respectively, as follows:

APPROVE SCHOOL CAPACITY PLANNING FOR THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR

Approval on options for addressing school capacity issues including the possibility of adjusting school attendance boundaries and additional facility capacity.

APPROVE ITEMS 3.03 AND 3.04 (continued)

APPROVE POTENTIAL NEED FOR THE EXPANSION OF YEAR-ROUND ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Approval on the potential need for the expansion of year-round elementary schools for the 2014-2015 school year, including but not limited to, discussion on population growth, school capacity and class sizes, and the possibility of converting additional elementary schools to a year-round calendar.

Mr. Baldwin presented school capacity planning for the 2014-2015 school year. His presentation included the following topics: Zoom Schools, Full-Day Kindergarten, E3 Students, Definition of Capacities, Estimated Adjustments to Program Capacity, Capacity Challenges, Districtwide Rezoning, Regulation 7111 Criteria, Feeder School Alignment, and Future Challenges.

Public Hearing

Stacy Straus said that as a parent, if the only options for addressing overcrowding were rezoning or converting to a year-round calendar, she would be more in support of rezoning to a reasonable extent.

Mr. Baldwin presented information related to the expansion of year-round elementary schools. His presentation included the following topics: Year-Round Triggers, Year-Rounds Schools, Preliminary Elementary Year-Round Watch List, and Rezone Versus Year-Round.

Trustee Edwards suggested that AZAC be charged with looking at the hot spot maps for areas where there is a juncture of schools in red and yellow and schools in blue and white and reviewing options for relieving the overcrowding through rezoning, including an explanation for any determination made that a particular school cannot be relieved through rezoning for schools that are not near white or blue schools. She said that information could then be brought forward at a future meeting for discussion.

Trustee Wright suggested that enrollment between sister schools should be more evenly distributed in order to fully utilize both buildings. She suggested allowing the elementary schools to trigger to year-round and rezone some students in middle and high school because the District is now in crisis mode.

Trustee Cranor said she would like AZAC to actively gather and consider input from those schools where the majority of families feel that a year-round schedule would be beneficial and those schools where the majority of families feel that it would be detrimental. She noted that there are some schools that will be year-round but may find themselves under year-round capacity, so the extra money will be being spent without the maximum number of students benefiting.

Trustee Young said that many of her schools have a desire to return to a year-round schedule. She said she is also in favor of year-round calendars. She suggested that their history of movement for schools needs to be reviewed.

APPROVE ITEMS 3.03 AND 3.04 (continued)

Trustee Alderman said she would be in favor of the concept of moving forward with the minor fixes across the District to begin with, such as looking at feeder school alignment. She stated that since the Board discussed trying to have budget conversations in November, she would like to have decisions made concerning year-round or 9-month calendars sooner, rather than waiting until next spring, and she would like to start acknowledging the E3 students in the decision-making, including staffing and programing. She said perhaps there needs to be a conversation in the future regarding what would be considered an acceptable limit for the number of portables on a campus which would at that point trigger the planning for future school additions.

Trustee Tew asked if staff has considered changing the track systems.

Superintendent Skorkowsky said staff reviews the track schedules periodically but are faced with capacity issues and complying with the law in terms the of number of instructional days.

Trustee Tew asked if the overcrowding caused by the granting of zone variances is solely because it is the principal's decision.

Superintendent Skorkowsky said that is an issue as well as "creative addressing," and he said he would consider having people go and find out whether families are living where they say they are living.

Trustee Tew suggested that if there is already a program in place to knock on doors, such as seeking out dropouts, then those people could do the same work to find out where families are living. She said she would be hesitant to do a total rezoning if it would not be a wide reaching, long-term solution.

Trustee Cranor suggested that perhaps those resources could be used instead to find creative ways to offer more school choices for families. She asked AZAC to also be open to creative ideas as they consider all of the information, and she asked them to include transportation costs in their considerations. She said it would be helpful for AZAC to make available a hot spot map that would include year-round capacities for schools that might convert to year-round.

Trustee Young suggested that the individual needs and concerns of the families at Prime 6 Schools and West Prep need to be considered. She said the students at alternative education schools and the behavior schools need to have more support. She said future trends need to be considered in the decisions that are being made now.

BOARD MEMBER LEAVES

Trustee Garvey left the Board meeting at 11:23 a.m.

APPROVE ITEMS 3.03 AND 3.04 (continued)

Trustee Wright said "capping" schools may need to be a consideration.

APPROVE ITEMS 3.03 AND 3.04 (continued)

Trustee Alderman pointed out that the timeframe for open enrollment does not align with AZAC's rezoning tasks.

Trustee Edwards said although they are not ready for a districtwide rezone this year, because of the time it takes to implement a districtwide rezone, the Board and District staff would need to make a decision fairly soon. She said she does not believe, though, that a districtwide rezone would successfully address the problem of overcrowding. She said she is cautious about school choice but acknowledges that parental input is important.

Public Hearing

Jan Biggerstaff commented that she was in support of year-round schools and that the teachers need to be trained in how to teach in year-round schools.

AZAC comments and questions

Jose Solorio suggested a class size of 30 may not work for all students and that perhaps a smaller class size for select populations, such as English Language Learners (ELL) or special education, could be considered as a future policy of the Board.

Becky Nielson asked for clear direction from the Board for what AZAC should do going forward. She said in considering a districtwide rezone, the Board must be aware of issues such as special needs students being rezoned to schools that do not have the special programs that support their needs. She added that in looking at year-round versus 9-month calendars, sometimes the school's administrators do not want the same thing that the families want so both should be considered.

JoAnne Foutz asked if the Board could vote today on whether they are interested in districtwide rezoning. She said the Board may want to consider whether or not they want to conduct a districtwide rezone in the same year that they place a bond question on the ballot. She suggested that the town hall meetings need to be conducted earlier than usual so they can begin to gather input from families.

Zan Hyer agreed with the comments made by the previous speakers. She agreed with Trustee Cranor that the time and resources should be focused toward finding solutions to offering more school choices for families.

Mike Malone spoke about the challenges of the 9-month calendar for his community, and he said the parents in his community did not want to go from a year-round to a 9-month calendar. He also talked about the role a school plays in the consideration of homebuilders and parents.

Anna Slightling said she is opposed to districtwide rezoning. She said she is more in favor of year-round calendars than rezoning, that she believes rezoning would create more socioeconomic problems.

APPROVE ITEMS 3.03 AND 3.04 (continued)

Motion that AZAC conduct a districtwide analysis, leaving no possible improvement districtwide unconsidered with regard to the criteria in Regulation 7111; document explanations in cases where rezoning was considered but does not become a recommendation; and actively seek, listen to, and consider the input of educators and families with regard to the criteria in Regulation 7111 and the additional issues that are raised.

Motion: Cranor Second: Tew

Trustee Edwards said another consideration needs to be new developments in areas that have the potential to put schools over capacity. She said in terms of the motion, she is in agreement with the districtwide analysis but not in agreement with directing a districtwide rezone at this time.

Trustee Cranor clarified that the motion is not to conduct a districtwide rezone but to look at every possible opportunity for improvement.

Trustee Alderman said she agrees that having information on why rezoning cannot be considered in any particular area could be helpful, but she believes AZAC is already tasked to do those things outlined in the motion. She said she believes AZAC is asking for more specific direction from the Board.

Trustee Young said she finds the motion to be restrictive because she believes at this point everyone is offering their thoughts and considering many options. She said she supports the concept of AZAC looking at all of these options discussed and bringing back more information to the Board.

Trustee Wright suggested that the explanation of why a particular school or area would not be recommended for rezoning should be provided in a simple spreadsheet format and available online. She said parent and community input should be sought out earlier in the season. She said the Superintendent should make a decision of whether or not to convert to a year-round calendar within a specific timeline, perhaps by November 1, in order to give AZAC time to do their work.

Trustee Edwards suggested having Mr. Baldwin look at the issues a districtwide rezone would solve and would not solve, perhaps for a future discussion. She agreed with Trustee Alderman that Trustee Cranor's motion describes what AZAC already does.

Superintendent Skorkowsky agreed that the year-round discussion should take place earlier. He said the November 1 timeline cannot be fulfilled because parents need to be included in the decision-making process, so he said staff would begin developing a plan. He suggested that the hot spot maps need to be reviewed after count day with the potential capacity changes, and he said he would work with staff to provide the Board with the information they need to make informed decisions.

Trustee Cranor withdrew her motion.

APPROVE ITEMS 3.03 AND 3.04 (continued)**Public Hearing**

Misty Webb (phonetic) said she was unable to access AZAC's website. She also asked if Henry and Evelyn Bozarth Elementary School would be in a better position to be rezoned as opposed to converting to a year-round calendar.

Trustee Cranor offered that AZAC's direct web address is azac.ccsd.net.

Mr. Baldwin said he would look into the issue with the website.

AZAC adjourned their meeting by unanimous vote at 12:31 p.m.

AGENDA PLANNING: ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Trustee Young said she would like to have an agenda item to discuss how students get into honors courses or receive recognition for their high achieving diplomas. She said CCSD staff should receive recognition for achieving the highest degrees as a way to have staff be role models for what students are asked to accomplish.

Trustee Wright asked for an agenda item to receive updates on textbooks with Common Core coming online.

Superintendent Skorkowsky said there are currently no textbooks in line with Common Core available.

Trustee Wright asked for an update then on how principals and staff are using the Curriculum Engine to address the need for resources aligned with Common Core.

BOARD MEMBER LEAVES

Trustee Cranor left the Board meeting at 12:38 p.m.

AGENDA PLANNING: ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS (continued)

Trustee Young asked for an agenda item to be provided with information on work study credits.

DISCUSSION AND REQUEST FOR SPECIAL MEETINGS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

ADJOURN: 12:40 p.m.

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