

MINUTES
CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
LAS VEGAS ACADEMY OF THE ARTS, PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
315 S. 7th STREET, LAS VEGAS, NV 89101

Thursday, November 5, 2015

6:06 p.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: Carlos McDade, General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel; Cindy Krohn, Executive Assistant to the Board, Board Office; Elizabeth Carrero, Executive Manager, Office of the Superintendent Norma Herrera, Administrative Secretary II, Board Office; and Loreasa Nary, Administrative Secretary II, Board Office.

FLAG SALUTE

Trustee Wright led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPT AGENDA

Adopt agenda, except move Item 2.03 to precede Item 2.01, and move Item 2.02 to follow Item 2.03 as 2.03a.

Motion: Tew Second: Edwards Vote: Unanimous

APPROVE SEX EDUCATION OPERATIONAL GUIDE FOR K-12 CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT AND SEX EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE PROCEDURES MANUAL

Approval to ask the Clark County School District Sex Education Advisory Committee to review the Sex Education Operational Guide for K-12 Curriculum Development and the Sex Education Advisory Committee Procedures Manual to provide input for possible changes. Any input on changes to the Sex Education Operational Guide for K-12 Curriculum Development and the Sex Education Advisory Committee Procedures Manual will be brought forward to the Superintendent and then to the Board of School Trustees; changes will not implemented unless adopted at a future regular or special meeting of the Board of School Trustees.

**APPROVE SEX EDUCATION OPERATIONAL GUIDE FOR K-12 CURRICULUM
DEVELOPMENT AND SEX EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE PROCEDURES MANUAL
(continued)**

Trustee Tew took some time to explain to the audience the agenda items and what the Board would be discussing and acting upon tonight. She said she would make a motion to ask the Superintendent to direct staff to take the current Sex Education Curriculum Operational Guide, a draft of the Sex Education Operational Guide which includes changes made in 2013, and any changes that may occur tonight. She said a separate motion would deal with the Procedures Manual. She said that draft would then come forward as a Notice of Intent at a future Board meeting.

Public Hearing

Justin Roberry expressed concerns with possible changes to the operational guide and procedures manual. He said students should not be voting members of the Sex Education Advisory Committee (SEAC), and that SEAC should not be allowed to write the curriculum. He suggested that a limitation be put in place which would disallow a CCSD SEAC member from being a SEAC member of another school district to discourage outside influence.

Thatcher Cardon urged the Board to give attention to transparency during this process. He said outside groups should be carefully monitored or excluded to avoid undue influences.

Georgeann Ray expressed concern that proper notification for any meetings concerning this topic be given.

Michayle Hales agreed that SEAC should not be allowed to write the curriculum and that students should not be voting members of SEAC. She asked that the public be kept informed.

Lindsey Dalley agreed that students should not be voting members of SEAC. He agreed that SEAC should not be allowed to make changes to its own manual. He said he liked the suggestion made by Dr. Roberry.

Michelene Newman-Barton said she serves on SEAC but is concerned that some of the committee members want the authority to change and determine the curriculum. She said the writing of the curriculum should be left to the qualified, experienced, professionals. She agreed that students should not be voting members of SEAC.

Emily Thorton agreed with previous speakers that SEAC should remain as it currently is. She asked that special interest groups not be represented on this committee and that those serving on the committee are not also serving on other sex education committees. She agreed that students should not be voting members of SEAC. She suggested that SEAC have a representative from each district.

**APPROVE SEX EDUCATION OPERATIONAL GUIDE FOR K-12 CURRICULUM
DEVELOPMENT AND SEX EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE PROCEDURES MANUAL**
(continued)

Public Hearing

Deborah Earl said she was in full agreement with what has been stated by the previous speakers. She said she would like to see a parent representative from each district on SEAC.

Amy Rose said she was speaking on behalf of the students who cannot speak for themselves and who do not have parents to advocate for them. She said it is time to change the operational guide to remove misinformation and biased and fear-based teaching material. She said the curriculum needs to include age-appropriate, medically accurate, evidence-based, and LGBT and gender inclusive information.

Ashley Dyal disagreed with changing the operational guide before deciding on any changes to the curriculum. She agreed with the previous speakers.

Tod Story said the students should have a voice on the SEAC and should be allowed to vote as is done in other counties. He said in terms of limiting undue influence as mentioned previously, limiting participation is a violation of the First Amendment.

Sara Lemma stated that preventing teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases is possible through the use of medically accurate, inclusive sex education teaching materials. She said the teaching materials should be uniform throughout the District. She suggested adding a Spanish language set of teaching materials to the operational guide.

Antioco Carrillo said it is important to hear from the students. He said a different view needs to be included in how sex education is addressed.

Gaylyn Daniels said she believes that there should be a representative of every district on SEAC and that student members should be allowed to vote and that SEAC should be allowed to suggest and define the curriculum.

Wendy Mulcock referred to page 57 of 59, Number B. 1. and said some members of the SEAC want to take the Board's authority to approve or disapprove sex education curriculum materials. She asked that the Board retain that responsibility. She said at SEAC meetings the majority of committee members are gone by the time they reach the public speaking period.

Patty Collett said the curriculum should not be changed, and it should be about the reproductive system only and should not include behaviors or opinions. She said acceptable sexual behavior should be taught at home.

Amy Tarkanian thanked the Board for holding this meeting. She suggested that for this particular agenda item, the responsibility should be with District staff and not a committee.

APPROVE SEX EDUCATION OPERATIONAL GUIDE FOR K-12 CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT AND SEX EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE PROCEDURES MANUAL
(continued)

Public Hearing

Tristan Torres said he is a student, and his life experience is just as important as anyone else's. He said he is LGBTQ, and the sex education curriculum he received did not include him.

Terilyn Taylor said that students' voices should be heard but only in an advisory capacity such as on the SEAC. She said the SEAC's role is not to change curriculum guidelines or policy. She said because of the differences of what people believe is medically accurate or age appropriate on that committee, people belonging to special interest groups should not be included.

Shaun Meng urged the Board to keep the authority with the elected officials and not give it to the SEAC, which could be influenced by special interest groups. He urged the Board to not vote in a way that would discourage parents from being involved.

Rachel Anderson spoke against students writing the curriculum and against having anyone on the SEAC that is associated with Planned Parenthood.

Jazz Sheffer thanked the Board for holding this meeting. She said she was proud of her school for being a community of acceptance of all people. She said she finds it surprising that the sex education curriculum could not reflect those same ideas of inclusivity and acceptance and tolerance.

Trustee Tew clarified that the draft of the 2013 operational guide will be part of what would be worked on through the Board's request of the Superintendent.

Trustee Edwards clarified that none of what would be considered tonight would take away the Board's ability or authority to make decisions regarding the curriculum. She said the Board uses a number of committees to make recommendations to the Board, but the Board retains all responsibility for final decisions.

(Due to technical difficulties, portions of the meeting were inaudible.)

Superintendent Skorkowsky said the opinion would come from the Legislative Council Bureau (LCB), and that could be requested. He said according to statute, if the SEAC student member was allowed to vote, it would have to replace one of the other voting members.

APPROVE SEX EDUCATION OPERATIONAL GUIDE FOR K-12 CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT AND SEX EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE PROCEDURES MANUAL
(continued)

Trustee Young thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and giving their input and sharing their thoughts. She said she is a proponent of parental input and involvement. She said students' voices at all grade levels are very important as well, but the final decision must rest with the responsible adult.

Motion that the Board request of the Superintendent to direct staff to look at the Sex Education Operation Guide for K-12 Curriculum Development, including the 2010 version, which is currently in use, and to take into consideration the 2013 draft that was brought before the Board by staff as they go forward in making changes, and it would include possible changes that the Board makes in the following agenda items, and it would come back as a Notice of Intent to the Board for public comment.

Motion: Tew Second: Edwards

Trustee Edwards asked if the motion could include that any recommendations that are brought forward come back to the Board for approval, disapproval, or amendment.

Trustee Tew agreed with that amendment to the motion.

Trustee Cranor asked if, as a show of transparency, as this process moves forward, the backup material could include a crosswalk of what is in this backup material compared to the final outcome.

Trustee Edwards suggested that any changes made to the curriculum be made available for the public to review before it comes to the Board for a final vote.

Trustee Tew suggested that the backup material be posted on the website along with the crosswalk information suggested by Trustee Cranor.

Trustee Young repeated Trustee Tew's motion as follows: That the Board request the Superintendent to direct staff to look at the operational guide, using the 2010 version, the draft 2013 version, and changes made tonight, bringing that back as a Notice of Intent for an approval, disapproval, or amendment; that a crosswalk be provided as suggested by Trustee Cranor; that the proposed curriculum changes be made available for the public to see; and that the crosswalk be made available on the website in color.

**APPROVE SEX EDUCATION OPERATIONAL GUIDE FOR K-12 CURRICULUM
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(continued)

(Due to technical difficulties, portions of the meeting were inaudible.)

Trustee Edwards asked that the motion include that the direction to Superintendent Skorkowsky would be to direct staff to bring recommended changes to the SEAC and have the committee weigh in on it and then bring it forward to the Board for amendment, approval, or disapproval.

Superintendent Skorkowsky asked for clarification and suggested that further discussion may be necessary.

Trustee Garvey clarified that the Board wants to hear LCB's opinion on including additional parents on SEAC, including one for each district, have staff and SEAC bring recommendations forward based on that decision on their procedures manual/bylaws, and bring all of that to the Board for discussion, amendment, approval, or disapproval.

Superintendent Skorkowsky asked if the clarifying question for LCB should include whether or not student members could be allowed to vote.

Trustee Garvey said she believes it should be.

Trustee Edwards said she would also ask for clarity on whether or not the Board could ask SEAC to make recommendations to the Board regarding the bylaws and about curriculum. She suggested that if this information is not in the bylaws, that it be added. She suggested another question would be with regard to how long an individual can serve on the committee through reappointment.

Trustee Wright referred to Reference 2.03, page 53 of 59, Number 7.a. and said she believed "content" to be curriculum. She also pointed out number 7.c., which mentions "curriculum." She stated that when going through these documents, staff should make sure the language being used is consistent throughout.

Superintendent Skorkowsky said staff would review the statute to ensure the language is aligned.

Trustee Wright asked for a timeframe to have something come back before the Board.

APPROVE SEX EDUCATION OPERATIONAL GUIDE FOR K-12 CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT AND SEX EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE PROCEDURES MANUAL
(continued)

Superintendent Skorkowsky said potentially something on the operational guide could come before the Board by the end of February. He said he would alert the Board if staff became aware that meeting that deadline would be impossible.

Trustee Wright asked that these two pieces come back as two separate agenda items in the future.

Trustee Garvey restated Trustee Tew's motion as follows: To instruct the Superintendent to seek out LCB's interpretation to the law concerning adding more parents to represent each district, if the District is able to have student members vote, and if SEAC is able to make recommendations to the Board on curriculum; to bring back the procedures manual after staff has heard LCB's answer to see if SEAC can make recommendations to the changes to the bylaws along with staff, and to bring all of that information back to the Board as a Notice of Intent to amend, approve, or disapprove.

Trustee Edwards added that the motion would include that the name change to Sex Education Advisory Committee Bylaws would be considered.

Vote on Trustee Tew's motion was unanimous.

APPROVAL CONSIDERATION OF SECONDARY-LEVEL ITEMS FOR INCLUSION IN SEX EDUCATION OR HEALTH EDUCATION—NO GENERAL CONSENSUS

Discussion on the Clark County School District Sex Education Survey results that were presented to the Clark County School District Board of Trustees on January 22, 2015; specifically, the secondary-level items that indicate there was no general consensus on topics to be included in the Sex Education Operational Guide for K-12 Curriculum Development or health education. These topic items are numbered in the survey as follows: (39) Sexual orientation; (40) Gender identity; and (41) Gender stereotypes. Approval on inclusion in the Sex Education Operational Guide for K-12 Curriculum Development or health education. Topics may be taken separately, or grouped, for a motion and a vote.

Public Hearing

Justin Roberry said we cannot know what is developmentally appropriate for any one child in any given classroom. He said the parents have this knowledge and some teachers gain this knowledge, and a truly developmentally appropriate curriculum is individualized. He said based on the comments here, there is a call to emphasize safety. He said any items that are not directly related to safety should not be included.

Thatcher Cardon disagreed with the use of the survey as the basis for this discussion. He said the survey questions were not helpful. He gave his personal opinion on the topics of sexual orientation and gender identity.

APPROVAL CONSIDERATION OF SECONDARY-LEVEL ITEMS FOR INCLUSION IN SEX EDUCATION OR HEALTH EDUCATION—NO GENERAL CONSENSUS (continued)

Public Hearing

Georgeann Ray asked the Board to listen to the parents. She asked that the Board reject the topics Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, and Gender Stereotypes.

Stephanie Valdez spoke in opposition to including these topics in the sex education curriculum. She said she was in support of a blended learning model. She said if sexual orientation were included in the curriculum, the risks should also be included.

Michayle Hales said she wished there was more kindness and understanding during this process. She said the curriculum should be simple and general because creating these categories and being so specific creates more boundaries and barriers.

Lindsey Dalley said he believes having boundaries, specifically sexual boundaries, is beneficial and compassionate, and disagreeing with Planned Parenthood or the ACLU does not make him uncompassionate. He said the contention that is felt here as expressed by the previous speaker is due to that type of argument.

Amy Rose said her interest here is in protecting disenfranchised students. She said there should be no question about including even an acknowledgement that LGBTQ people exist. She said the Board should recognize its responsibility under the law and as stewards of the children of Clark County.

Mindy Davies said the teen pregnancy rate has been decreasing so something in the current curriculum is having a positive impact. She said we need to teach more about consequences and choices, as opposed to broadening the topic.

Laura Deitsch spoke to the importance of inclusivity and respect in the curriculum.

Sara Lemma said sex education ought to be accessible to all people.

Antioco Carrillo stated that there has been a steady increase in cases of HIV in people 13 to 24 years of age, and 60 percent of these cases are among LGBTQ individuals. He spoke in favor of including these topics.

Christine Smart spoke in opposition to adding these topics to the sex education curriculum. She said she fears that if these are added, more parents would opt out.

Justin Howard spoke in favor of the addition of these topics to the curriculum. He said we need to end the gender binary and how we view gender roles.

APPROVAL CONSIDERATION OF SECONDARY-LEVEL ITEMS FOR INCLUSION IN SEX EDUCATION OR HEALTH EDUCATION—NO GENERAL CONSENSUS (continued)

Public Hearing

Silvia Heredia spoke in support of inclusivity in the sex education curriculum. She said we need to ensure that all students are getting what they need so they can be safe and healthy throughout their lives.

Amy Tarkanian said she believes too much information at an early age can be detrimental. She asked that the Board vote on each of these topics separately. She suggested that blended learning be included as an option.

Trustee Edwards thanked the public for their input. She said her focus in making decisions tonight is on the safety and protection of the students. She said the survey is unscientific, as is tonight's discussion, and the Board listens to the public in many different ways.

Trustee Tew acknowledged parents' concerns that children be given information at a developmentally appropriate stage and blended learning as a possibility for that. She said a concern was expressed to her that in order to move forward, there ought to be a definition given for each of these topics and that parents know what lesson plans and materials will be used. She said it would be a consideration for her that the sex education curriculum not be an "all or nothing," that parents could have the option of foregoing certain topics.

Trustee Wright said the survey was simply another way to gather input. She said she thinks it is important for adults to continue to talk to children about choices and consequences. She said she wants to ensure that the curriculum being provided to students is medically accurate information. She pointed out that there is no sex education curriculum to direct anyone to for review, and she suggested making this information available to parents at schools or online or making the information available at town hall meetings.

Trustee Garvey said no student should feel as if they are not valued, and all students should respect each other regardless of the differences in values or opinions or feelings. She said there should be options for families that want to have certain conversations in the privacy of their homes. She suggested there should be an option A and an option B, one including the topics in question. She said she believes the curriculum ought to be narrowed and more unified. She said there needs to be a tiered option for different communities.

Trustee Cranor said different opinions have been shared here, and no matter what is decided, someone will feel discriminated against and as if their freedoms are being compromised. She said what she did hear was a consensus on safety and the opportunity and responsibility to give youth what they need to protect themselves. She said there is also consensus on being respectful and compassionate, and this speaks to what it feels like to be a student in our schools. She said with items 39 and 40, in addition to developing definitions of these topics, an objective should also be identified and included.

APPROVAL CONSIDERATION OF SECONDARY-LEVEL ITEMS FOR INCLUSION IN SEX EDUCATION OR HEALTH EDUCATION–NO GENERAL CONSENSUS (continued)

Trustee Child said in a safe and respectful learning environment, we have to have consideration for every child. He said he does not want to take power away from parents, and he agreed that there are options, such as a blended learning curriculum.

Trustee Young read the Board's Vision Statement. She said all students have value and have something to give. She said this is about the inclusion and safety of all children. She agreed with developing definitions and providing options for different families and communities.

Trustee Edwards said until she is able to view the curriculum for each of these topics, she is unable to make a decision on including it in the sex education curriculum. She asked that staff move forward with developing a curriculum for these topics so the Board could see what it looks like. She agreed with Trustee Cranor's suggestion of defining objections for these topics, as that would help with developing the curriculum. She said lesson plans, blending learning options, and tiered options should be looked at.

Trustee Edwards said she would make the following motions with the conditions stated above.

Motion to look at including the topic of Sexual Orientation in the secondary sex education curriculum.

Motion: Edwards Second: Wright

Trustee Tew added for clarification that there would be uniformity in lesson plans. She also asked that it be kept within the purview of sex education.

Trustee Edwards amended her motion to include uniformity in lesson plans across 8th- and 9th-grade courses, and that this instruction would be included in the sex education course.

Trustee Wright agreed with the amendment.

Trustee Cranor clarified that the tiered option would be for each parent, not for each community.

Trustee Edwards agreed.

Trustee Wright asked for clarification on the process of coming back to the Board and being reviewed by SEAC.

Superintendent Skorkowsky said the motion needs to say "8th grade and high school." He explained that staff would develop the curriculum and options, and it would come back before the Board before going to SEAC.

APPROVAL CONSIDERATION OF SECONDARY-LEVEL ITEMS FOR INCLUSION IN SEX EDUCATION OR HEALTH EDUCATION–NO GENERAL CONSENSUS (continued)

Trustee Edwards clarified her motion as follows: To say 8th grade and high school; that it would come back to the Board to amend, approve, or disapprove; that if it is amended and approved or approved, it would go to SEAC and then come back to the Board a second time; and that all of the materials that are developed would be placed on the CCSD website for review.

Trustee Wright concurred with Trustee Edwards' comments.

Vote on Trustee Edwards' motion was unanimous.

With all of the conditions and caveats discussed above, motion to move the topic of Gender Identity forward.

Motion: Edwards Second: Garvey Vote: Unanimous

With all of the conditions and caveats discussed above, motion to move the topic of Gender Stereotypes forward.

Motion: Edwards Second: Garvey Vote: Unanimous

APPROVE CONSIDERATION OF ELEMENTARY-LEVEL (FIFTH GRADE) ITEMS FOR INCLUSION IN SEX EDUCATION OR HEALTH EDUCATION–NO GENERAL CONSENSUS

Discussion on the Clark County School District Sex Education Survey results that were presented to the Clark County School District Board of Trustees on January 22, 2015; specifically, the elementary-level (fifth grade) items that indicate there was no general consensus on topics to be included in the Sex Education Operational Guide for K-12 Curriculum Development or health education. These topic items are numbered in the survey as follows: (23) How to make responsible sexual choices; (26) Sexual orientation; (27) Gender identity; (28) Gender stereotypes; (29) Resources for obtaining effective and safe methods of contraception; (30) Negotiating; (31) Sexually transmitted infection (STI) screening and treatment; (32) Statutory rape (statutory sexual seduction); and (33) Age of consent. Approval on inclusion in the Sex Education Operational Guide for K-12 Curriculum Development or health education. Topics may be taken separately, or grouped, for a motion and a vote.

Public Hearing

Pamela Poston spoke about being accountable to God and making decisions for children regarding gender identity.

Walter Poston said we ought to be careful about what we are teaching our children in school. He asked that what we teach be kept safe and not damaging.

Landyn Dyer said any sex education taught beyond biology is inappropriate to teach in grade school.

APPROVE CONSIDERATION OF ELEMENTARY-LEVEL (FIFTH GRADE) ITEMS FOR INCLUSION IN SEX EDUCATION OR HEALTH EDUCATION—NO GENERAL CONSENSUS
(continued)

Public Hearing

Linda Buckardt expressed concern about parents and guardians who speak languages other than English and Spanish. She spoke against the topics above being included in the sex education curriculum at the elementary school level.

Jazz Sheffer said all of the topics here are valid for teaching students but agreed that definitions are needed for these topics. She disagreed that certain topics should not be taught at certain grade levels because it somehow takes away the child's innocence. She questioned then whether we are saying these things are bad or wrong by not teaching them.

Amanda Morgan said teaching the topics of sexual orientation and gender identity in middle school is important. She talked about the importance of including LGBTQ individuals.

Amighhi Axelrod spoke about the ideology of love and said we need to adhere to that.

Wendy Mulcock asked that safety be the focus. She disagreed with including these topics in the sex education curriculum, stating they could likely cause harm. She spoke in favor of a blended learning model.

Renae Haldeman said the focus in this discussion should be on relationship development. She said sexuality is important but is overemphasized. She talked about the relationship education program taught in Alabama.

Nicole Sorensen shared her personal family experiences related to topics such as these, and she said her family members have the support and love they need within their family, so she questioned how not including these topics would make youth feel excluded. She suggested having a comprehensive class for the responsible parties, the parents, and let the parents choose what to teach their children.

Camille Tusler talked about her responsibility as a parent to provide her children with everything they need in life. She said she has the right to determine what her children are taught. She suggested providing tools to parents to teach their children. She disagreed with teaching these topics in 5th grade.

Brent Quist suggested that the parents' voices carry more weight than community organizations, and that is who the Board should listen to. He asked that these topics not be included at this level.

APPROVE CONSIDERATION OF ELEMENTARY-LEVEL (FIFTH GRADE) ITEMS FOR INCLUSION IN SEX EDUCATION OR HEALTH EDUCATION–NO GENERAL CONSENSUS
(continued)

Public Hearing

Heidi Wixom said there is language here that says “screening and treatment,” and she said this appears to be a reproductive clinic, and it needs to be evaluated. She said the Board needs to consider the definitions used in other states for these topics and make sure they mean what they think they mean.

Lisa King said the parents need to have the voice here. She spoke in favor of a blended learning option.

Elizabeth Capson expressed concern with the proposed topics being introduced at the 5th-grade level. She said it is not the purpose of the sex education course to teach philosophies or beliefs but to provide students with accurate information. She said if these items were included in the curriculum, she would not have her child participate.

Caitlyn Caruso said she identifies within the LGBTQ sexual orientation spectrum. She said her sex education teacher was unable to answer her questions. She said all relationships need to be reflected in the sex education curriculum.

Tristan Torres said he came forward to have his voice heard on this topic for the sex education students younger than him will receive. He said he was only able to gain sex education information through sources other than CCSD’s health curriculum.

Trustee Edwards said she believes the parameters set by the Board previously are even more critical at the 5th-grade level, and those parameters need to be included here as well.

Trustee Tew agreed with speakers that great caution needs to be taken at this stage, and simple is better for these young minds, and that we should talk about relationships and caring for one another. She said she feels that these topics are too complex. She said other terms could be used and topics could be based on values that children could recognize. She said these topics proposed here are adult concepts.

Trustee Cranor said she would not be in support of any of these topics at the 5th-grade level. She said she views this as a danger, one danger being that children at this age would misperceive topics such as these as an endorsement for sexual activity at a young age. She said if resources related to these topics are made available to parents of students at higher levels, then they could become accessible to parents of younger children, and they could make the decision to share this information with their children.

Trustee Child said he would not be in support of the topics in this item.

APPROVE CONSIDERATION OF ELEMENTARY-LEVEL (FIFTH GRADE) ITEMS FOR INCLUSION IN SEX EDUCATION OR HEALTH EDUCATION–NO GENERAL CONSENSUS
(continued)

Trustee Garvey said she could not support most of these topics. She said for the topic Negotiating, she would prefer “Boundaries” instead as suggested by Trustee Tew, and she said she would support a topic that talks about children having respect for themselves, respect for their bodies, and being able to verbalize that they have boundaries. She said she also believes that with the correct definition and objective, the topic of Age of Consent could be included at this level.

Trustee Young agreed that these topics are too complex at this stage. She said she understands that young children do need to be educated in some of these areas, but it has to be appropriate for the grade level.

Trustee Edwards said she would ask that they look at how each of these topics could be modified to be age-appropriate, such as “how to have good relationships” in place of “how to make responsible sexual choices.” She said perhaps each of these needs to be rewritten and redefined. She said she does not agree with including the topic of “resources for obtaining effective and safe methods of contraception” at all.

Superintendent Skorkowsky said staff has an extensive amount of work to do with what they have been given thus far for the secondary level. He offered that the Counseling and Health Department could look at what they may be able to do at the elementary level along these lines.

Trustee Edwards agreed that there is no reason to push this forward rapidly, and she asked that the Superintendent bring some information back to the Board at a later time showing what other school districts are doing at the elementary level.

Trustee Tew suggested that the Board group these items together and have a motion to reject or accept them, and then make a motion to have them come back as topics such as “relationships” and “boundaries.”

Trustee Edwards agreed with the suggestion made by Superintendent Skorkowsky and said she is looking for consensus from the Board to have him do as he suggested.

Trustee Wright said in “how to make responsible sexual choices,” she would take out the word “sexual” and have it be about the importance of good communication and positive self-esteem, and with relation to “negotiating” it is about children being empowered to set boundaries for themselves. She agreed with Superintendent Skorkowsky’s suggestion.

Trustee Young said staff needs clear direction and trying to reframe any of these for this age group would be very difficult. She agreed with Trustee Tew’s suggestion of voting to reject these topics.

APPROVE CONSIDERATION OF ELEMENTARY-LEVEL (FIFTH GRADE) ITEMS FOR INCLUSION IN SEX EDUCATION OR HEALTH EDUCATION–NO GENERAL CONSENSUS
(continued)

Trustee Edwards said she would not be in favor of rejecting them, but she is in favor of having them modified and having them come back to the Board.

Trustee Cranor noted that the posted timeframe for this meeting has ended and said she does not believe the Board should take action at this time.

Trustee Edwards said she believes the Board has given enough direction to the Superintendent and should allow him to move forward with that.

Superintendent Skorkowsky stated that he has clear direction from the Board's discussion on what is needed, and he said staff would take their time on this.

Mr. McDade said there is nothing definitive in the statute; however, the Board is supposed to adhere to the notice provisions, which say in this case that the meeting would end at 10:00 p.m.

Superintendent Skorkowsky said he would try to bring a timeline forward as soon as possible.

AGENDA PLANNING: ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

None.

DISCUSSION AND REQUEST FOR SPECIAL MEETINGS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

The Board asked that any public comments be submitted in writing.

ADJOURN: 10:07 p.m.

Motion: Child Second: Garvey Vote: Unanimous