

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

WORK SESSION
JOINT MEETING WITH AUDIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, November 7, 2012

8:07 a.m.

Roll Call: Members Present
 Dr. Linda E. Young, President
 Deanna L. Wright, Vice President
 Lorraine Alderman, Clerk
 Dr. René Cantú, Jr., Member
 Erin E. Cranor, Member
 Carolyn Edwards, Member
 Chris Garvey, Member
 Dwight D. Jones, Superintendent of Schools

Also present were: Carlos McDade, General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel; Pat Skorkowsky, Deputy Superintendent, Instruction Unit; Jeff Weiler, Chief Financial Officer, Operations Support Unit; Staci Vesneske, Chief Human Resources Officer, Human Resources Division; Jim McIntosh, Deputy Chief Financial Officer, Operations Support Unit; Cindy Krohn, Executive Assistant to the Board, Board Office; Elizabeth Carrero, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent, Office of the Superintendent; Lisa Chrapcynski, Administrative Secretary II, Board Office; Tamara Miramontes, CPA, Managing Shareholder, Kafoury, Armstrong, & Co.; and Stephanie Gatlin, Transcriber/Recording Secretary, Board Office.

FLAG SALUTE

Trustee Alderman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPT AGENDA

Adopt agenda, except move Item 3.08 to follow Item 5.01 and note revised reference material for Item 3.02 and additional reference material for Item 2.02.

Motion: Wright Second: Garvey Vote: Unanimous

Trustee Young noted that items 2.01 and 2.02 will be held until a quorum is established for the Audit Advisory Committee to open their meeting.

POLICY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

Presentation and discussion of the annual independent auditor's report on assessment of compliance with Board governance policies EL-5: Financial Planning/Budgeting; EL-6: Financial Condition and Activities; EL-8: Asset Protection; and EL-9: Compensation and Benefits, by representatives from Kafoury, Armstrong & Co.

Ms. Miramontes explained that in reviewing the Board policies as part of the audit process, the auditors look for whether there was compliance or noncompliance in their judgment. She stated that they auditors did not find any issues or note anything that would be deemed noncompliant. She said the auditors have found that there is sufficient supporting audit evidence to show that the Superintendent has done everything to be in compliance with these policies.

APPROVE MONITORING REPORT – EL-5: FINANCIAL PLANNING/BUDGETING – 2011-2012

Approval regarding the monitoring report for Governance Policy EL-5: Financial Planning/Budgeting – 2011-2012.

Superintendent Jones briefly presented his monitoring report for EL-5: Financial Planning/Budgeting.

Trustee Edwards said she is not comfortable with moving forward with the monitoring reports without hearing the auditor's report from Kafoury, Armstrong & Co.

Trustee Alderman suggested moving to Item 3.05 while waiting to open the Audit Advisory Committee meeting.

The Board members agreed.

UPDATE ON EVALUATION COMMUNICATION PLAN

An overview of the District's efforts to gather teacher input about the new state evaluation system required by state law.

Dr. Vesneske explained that this effort is one of five work streams that will work together as part of the Great Teachers, Great Leaders initiative, and that TNTP has partnered with the District and provides advice and support for each of the work streams. She gave an overview of the new evaluation system.

AUDIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER ARRIVES

B. Keith Rogers arrived at the joint meeting at 8:24 a.m.

UPDATE ON EVALUATION COMMUNICATION PLAN (continued)

Monica Vasquez, Lead Partner, TNTP, discussed the NV TLC Teacher Evaluation and the NV TLC School Leader Evaluation.

UPDATE ON EVALUATION COMMUNICATION PLAN (continued)

Trustee Cantú expressed concern with losing sight of students and parents while focusing on leaders and teachers in connection with the School Outcomes and ensuring that it remains meaningful and understandable to parents.

Ms. Vasquez said everyone should be cognizant of the use of multiple measures, such as using parent survey responses and student survey responses as part of the multiple measures. She said she believes the data listed under School Outcomes to can be used in a way that is more meaningful to parents and students.

Superintendent Jones commented that there have been discussions with the Teachers and Leaders Council (TLC), as well as legislators, and the Council is meeting with the Governor on recommendations concerning how to move forward. He said this needs to be an ongoing conversation to ensure that it is focused on instruction that benefits children.

Trustee Edwards noted that two members of the Nevada Association of School Boards (NASB) have been chosen by the Governor to sit on the TLC. She asked about full union involvement in this effort.

Mr. Skorkowsky said that two members of the Clark County Education Association (CCEA) sit on the TLC, are active on the Steering Committee, and participate in focus groups.

Trustee Cranor asked if there is a phased process that focuses on leaders first, as a great evaluation tool is directly tied to having a great leader in place.

Ms. Vasquez said that while there is not a deliberate phasing in, the training component is in place to ensure that the school leaders are trained well in the framework and the observation rubric and how to use it; and that built into the leader framework and their evaluation component is how well the leader performs teacher evaluations.

Trustee Cranor asked if the work of the Steering Committee is accessible now; if teachers and principals are provided with the Steering Committee's progress as information develops.

Mr. Skorkowsky said that the committees are meeting now, and there are scheduled focus group meetings with teachers so they can provide feedback, as well as webinars for those who cannot be in attendance in person.

Trustee Cranor asked what the composition of the Steering Committee is.

Mr. Skorkowsky stated the teacher evaluation Steering Committee consists of 8 teachers and 8 administrators; TNTP partners; Mike Barton, Associate Superintendent, Instruction Unit; and Meg Nigro, Director, Employee Onboarding and Development, Human Resources Division; the administrators Steering Committee consists of administrators from elementary, middle, and high school, representatives from the administrators' union, as well as Dr. Barton; and the TLC members that are CCEA members are also members of the Steering Committee.

UPDATE ON EVALUATION COMMUNICATION PLAN (continued)

Superintendent Jones added that all 8 teachers are CCEA members.

Trustee Cranor asked for consideration of future discussions, the possibility that teachers will be able to offer evidences as part of their evaluation that what they are doing is working, as the Superintendent offers in his monitoring reports.

Trustee Alderman commented that there is a perception that the District reaches out to the community but does not take the public's input into consideration and said she hopes that these engagement opportunities are not just token events. She inquired about a document to validate feedback gathered from students and parents.

Mr. Skorkowsky said there are conversations at the state level regarding student survey data being 5 percent of the 50 percent of the student outcomes piece so that students are giving feedback on their teachers. He said the parent input is included in the parent engagement piece, which would be part of the administrator and teacher evaluation.

Trustee Alderman said she finds it interesting that this is defined under the performance component and not the under the practice component because this is an instructional practice piece.

Superintendent Jones commented that this is another concern that needs to be expressed at the state level and to the council.

Ms. Vasquez added that family engagement, as viewed by the TLC, will be included in the Professional Responsibilities piece under Educational Practice as well.

Trustee Alderman asked what would be done to educate the public about this evaluation framework.

Superintendent Jones said there is a full communication plan, internal and external, associated with educating the public.

Trustee Alderman noted that while we have the TLC, efforts are underway in the District as well, and she asked if the pilot document would be strictly a Clark County document first or would there be a state document.

Mr. Skorkowsky explained that it would be a Clark County document that is in line with the recommendations of the TLC.

Trustee Young suggested that the questions and concerns expressed here be put in written format so they can be provided to Superintendent Jones and Ms. Vasquez and others involved.

UPDATE ON EVALUATION COMMUNICATION PLAN (continued)

Trustee Garvey agreed with comments made by Trustee Cranor concerning the professional development of the leaders, and she suggested that the academic managers who are evaluating principals should also be part of this evaluation framework and training. She said in future discussions she would like more clarity on the type of professional development that is going to be offered. She said actual practice is what helps imbed what is being taught and she hopes that would be considered.

With regard to Trustee Alderman's comments, Trustee Garvey asked who has the final authority on the decisions being made.

Mr. Skorkowsky said the last word ultimately will come from legislation, so all the recommendations are going forward.

Trustee Wright commented that in terms of effective communication, support staff should be included in communications as a part of effective leadership.

Trustee Young suggested that Trustees should forward their comments to Mrs. Krohn. She commented that alternative and special education students and English language Learner (ELL) students should always be included. She wondered if the District could develop its own applications as a tool in terms of technology. She suggested that the higher education institutions should be included so they can train future teachers. She suggested that the committees should be culturally diverse so that all people are communities and students are represented.

AUDIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Patrick Patin, Chairman, opened the Audit Advisory Committee meeting at 9:23 a.m. by motion and unanimous vote. He acknowledged that members Cathy Jones and B. Keith Rogers were present, and members David Kellerman and Tina Quigley were absent from the meeting.

PRESENTATION OF THE ANNUAL INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2012

Presentation and discussion of the annual Independent Auditor's Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2012, by representatives from Kafoury, Armstrong & Co.

Ms. Miramontes presented the annual independent auditor's report for fiscal year ended June 30, 2012, including the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA), and the Auditor's Comments.

APPROVE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S NARRATIVE REPORT OF RECOMMENDATIONS AND DISTRICT RESPONSES TO RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2012, AND INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S STATEMENTS ON NEVADA REVISED STATUTE COMPLIANCE

Approval to accept the District's responses to the independent auditor's recommendations for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012, with the written narrative and responses being incorporated by reference into the minutes of this meeting, and with the entire report being transmitted and filed as required in NRS 354.624; and approval to accept the independent auditor's statements on NRS compliance for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012, including the necessary corrective actions, with the statements being transmitted and filed as required in NRS 354.6245, as recommended in Reference 2.02.

Ms. Miramontes went over all points discussed in the auditor's management letter.

Motion to recommend to the Board of School Trustees that they accept the District's responses to the independent auditor's recommendations for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012, with the written narrative and responses being incorporated by reference into the minutes of this meeting, and with the entire report being transmitted and filed as required in NRS 354.624; and approval to accept the independent auditor's statements on NRS compliance for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012, including the necessary corrective actions, with the statements being transmitted and filed as required in NRS 354.6245.

Motion: Jones Second: Rogers

Trustee Young noted there was no one wishing to speak on this item.

Mr. Patin noted there was no one wishing to speak on this item.

Vote on Ms. Jones motion was unanimous.

Motion to accept the recommendation as stated by the Audit Advisory Committee.

Motion: Cantú Second: Cranor

Trustee Cranor suggested that the Audit Advisory Committee look at having some internal controls in place that would allow them to be aware of all monies in all departments at the start of the budget process.

Vote on Trustee Cantú's motion was unanimous.

AUDIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

Motion to adjourn the Audit Advisory Committee meeting at 9:42 a.m.

Motion: Jones Second: Rogers Vote: Unanimous

APPROVE MONITORING REPORT – EL-5: FINANCIAL PLANNING/BUDGETING – 2011-2012
(continued)

Trustee Edwards said she found this to be an excellent interpretation.

Trustee Cranor said she felt the Superintendent was in compliance of this policy and was supportive of the work of the Board in conjunction with the Audit Advisory Committee. She noted that in light of not having the PAYGO program, all options should be clearly relayed to the public.

Trustee Edwards suggested that any movement of general fund dollars to capital fund issues should be discussed prior to any movement.

Trustee Young agreed that all ramifications or consequences with how things are progressing moving forward as a result of not being able to pass Question 2 should be communicated to the public at every opportunity.

Superintendent Jones agreed with comments made by the Trustees.

Motion to accept in compliance.

Motion: Wright Second: Edwards Vote: Unanimous

APPROVE MONITORING REPORT – EL-6: FINANCIAL CONDITION AND ACTIVITIES – 2011-2012

Approval regarding the monitoring report for Governance Policy EL-6: Financial Condition and Activities – 2011-2012.

Superintendent Jones briefly presented his monitoring report for EL-6: Financial Condition and Activities and stated that in compliance with NRS, a letter is being submitted to the Department of Taxation to reflect the decline in the District's ending fund balance for the third consecutive year.

Trustee Edwards noted that the waiver in this monitoring report should be revised to reflect the correct date of last year.

Mr. Weiler explained that staff was using the approval received previously and was actually referring to both 2011 and 2012.

Trustee Edwards said her preference would be to approve the monitoring report with the notation that the date would be corrected.

Motion to accept in compliance, noting that the date would be corrected.

Motion: Edwards Second: Cantú Vote: Unanimous

APPROVE MONITORING REPORT – EL-8: ASSET PROTECTION – 2011-2012

Approve regarding the monitoring report for Governance Policy EL-8: Asset Protection – 2011-2012.

Superintendent Jones briefly presented his monitoring report for EL-8: Asset Protection, noting that Kafoury, Armstrong & Co. has found the District to be in compliance of this policy. He also noted that with the downturn of the economy and subsequent budget cuts and with the efforts of the District to repair schools and build new schools being hindered, he believes there is some additional wear and tear to facilities.

Trustee Wright stated that some of the issues affecting school facilities are a reflection of decisions being made over the past several years by District staff and the Board to attempt to avoid making cuts in areas such as school staffing.

Trustee Edwards stated that she believes the District is at the point where facilities maintenance issues should no longer be delayed in terms of the budget.

Motion to accept in compliance.

Motion: Edwards Second: Alderman Vote: Unanimous

APPROVE MONITORING REPORT – EL-9: COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS – 2011-2012

Approval regarding the monitoring report for Governance Policy EL-9: Compensation and Benefits – 2011-2012.

Superintendent Jones briefly presented his monitoring report for EL-8: Asset Protection, noting that Kafoury, Armstrong & Co. has found the District to be in compliance of this policy.

Motion to accept in compliance.

Motion: Wright Second: Alderman Vote: Unanimous

APPROVE REQUEST FOR COMMITMENT TO PURSUE POTENTIAL INCREASE OF TEACHERS—TEACH FOR AMERICA

Approval of a commitment in concept to pursue an increase of 50 Teach For America teachers to begin teaching assignments in the 2013-2014 school year, for a total of 100 Teach for America Teachers, contingent on private funding with no impact to the general fund for the additional 50 positions, as recommended in Reference 3.06.

Superintendent Jones spoke about issues surrounding the difficulty in filling positions in high-needs areas.

Mr. Skorkowsky said staff is looking to place teachers in those areas that are difficult to fill in the District's most at-risk schools.

APPROVE REQUEST FOR COMMITMENT TO PURSUE POTENTIAL INCREASE OF TEACHERS—TEACH FOR AMERICA (continued)

Trustee Garvey asked how moving forward with this would change the original agreement.

Superintendent Jones said the current 50 teachers supported by the District budget would not be affected, and any additional teachers would be paid for by private or other funding sources.

Trustee Cantú supported this program and moving forward with approval of this agenda item.

Trustee Edwards requested that when an item comes forward asking for approval of additional teachers, the reference material include all aspects discussed so the Trustees could make an informed decision.

Superintendent Jones agreed with that request.

Trustee Young inquired about a previous partnership with University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) in working to bring special education teachers to the District.

Superintendent Jones suggested that topic could be brought to a future work session to discuss possible partnerships with higher education institutes.

Trustee Cantú stated that he wanted to ensure that the District measures the Teach for America (TFA) teachers' success, as well as their success in comparison to others.

Motion to accept.

Motion: Cranor Second: Cantú Vote: Unanimous

AUTHORIZE 2011-2012 RECAP OF BUDGET APPROPRIATION TRANSFERS

Authorization to include the Recap of Budget Appropriation Transfers between Governmental Functions for the period beginning July 1, 2011, and ending June 30, 2012, in the official Board minutes, as recommended in Reference 3.07.

Mr. Weiler explained that staff is requesting authorization to submit Budget Appropriation Transfers between Governmental Functions for the period beginning July 1, 2011, and ending June 30, 2012.

Motion to accept.

Motion: Cranor Second: Edwards Vote: Unanimous

AGENDA PLANNING: ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Trustee Edwards requested an agenda item for Policy 7124 for discussion on whether or not to continue to waive year-round policy based on the failure of Question 2.

AGENDA PLANNING: ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS (continued)

Trustee Alderman asked for a discussion at a future work session on Question 2 and the results and options moving forward due to the failure of this ballot question.

Trustee Cranor requested an agenda item for the Board to receive training on how the budget visualization tool being developed could be used to compare teaching positions and central office positions and to see the relevance of central office positions to the classroom. She also requested a meeting to receive information regarding what happens when a school is closed, including what the benefits or cost savings would be, what happens to the facility itself, and what is involved in closing a school.

Trustee Wright asked for an item to discuss advertising on school busses, the uses of those dollars, and the possible actions of the state in response. She said the discussion should also include the types of advertising the District wants to allow and regulating that through policy.

Trustee Edwards said she would also like to see Policy 6150 brought back, and she suggested that some town hall meetings be conducted across the county to explain the changes with possibly two Trustees attending to help answer questions. She suggested considering that the Board develop a resolution on protecting the resources of the District and a resolution on opposing the potential upcoming sequestration.

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: Edwards Second: Alderman Vote: Unanimous

RECESS: 10:58 a.m.

RECONVENE: 12:24 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS LEAVE

Trustees Cantú and Garvey left the Board meeting during the closed session.

ADJOURN: 12:24 p.m.

Motion: Cranor Second: Edwards Vote: Unanimous
Trustees Cantú and Garvey were not present for the vote.