

Minutes
Clark County School District
Special Meeting of the Board of School Trustees
Edward A. Greer Education Center, Board Room
2832 East Flamingo Road, Las Vegas, Nevada 89121

Joint Meeting with the Bond Oversight Committee

Wednesday, December 1, 2021

9:08 a.m.

Roll Call: Members Present
Linda P. Cavazos, President
Irene Cepeda, Vice President
Evelyn Garcia Morales, Clerk
Lola Brooks, Member
Danielle Ford, Member
Lisa Guzmán, Member
Katie Williams, Member

Jesus F. Jara, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

Also present were: Nicole Malich, Board Counsel, District Attorney's Office; Luke Puschnig, General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel; Jeff Wagner, Chief of Facilities, Facilities Services Unit; Justin Lam, Interim Director, Construction Management, Facilities Services Unit; Rick Baldwin, Director, Comprehensive Planning, Facilities Services Unit; Rodney Foutz, Director, Facilities and Bond Fund Financial Management; Business and Finance Unit; Cindy Krohn, Director, Board Office; Bond Oversight Committee members Jeana Blackman-Taylor, Robert Gurdison, Patricia Charlton, Alfonso Lopez, Debbie Earl, Chad Konrad, Eugene Lazaroff, Nicole Lehman-Donadio, and Yvette Williams; and Denise Zagby, Administrative Secretary II, Board Office.

Teleconference Call Connected

Teleconference call with Trustee Ford and Trustee Williams was connected at 9:08 a.m.

Flag Salute

Trustee Guzmán led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adoption of the Agenda

Adopt agenda.

Motion: Guzmán Second: Garcia Morales Vote: Unanimous

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

None.

Approve 2015 Capital Improvement Program, Revision 5

Approval of the proposed 2015 Capital Improvement Program, Revision 5, as recommended by the Bond Oversight Committee on October 28, 2021, as recommended in Reference 3.01.

Mr. Wagner presented the proposed Revision 5 of the 2015 Capital Improvement Plan, as shown in Reference 3.01.

Public Hearing

Tara Phebus read a letter from City of Henderson Mayor Debra March expressing concerns related to Decision # 08c, page 35 of 40, Reference 3.01; namely, the size and location of the proposed school, stating it would not relieve overcrowded high schools. In the letter Mayor March asked that CCSD work with the City of Henderson to address this issue.

Trustee Guzmán asked if there was any follow-up on the Bond Oversight Committee's (BOC's) direction to contact the City of Henderson.

Mr. Wagner said staff has not had the opportunity to speak with the City of Henderson. He said the BOC recommended that the plan move forward with the current recommendation. He noted that CCSD is currently building an 1,800-student Career and Technical Academy (CTA) in Henderson. He added if the Board chose not to approve Decision # 08c, the project would likely be moved to a future revision.

There was discussion regarding the use of Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds and medium-term bond funds for technology, Global Community High School and the Family Support Service Center services, the potential to address and relieve overcrowding in the future, and addressing the needs of students, families, and staff with limited resources and continuing to advocate for resources that will benefit students.

Motion to approve.

Motion: Garcia Morales Second: Brooks

Discussion continued around improvements in the functionality of the BOC around transparency, inclusivity, and community involvement.

Trustee Ford suggested for consideration a type of community school model that would support CCSD students who are also parents.

Trustee Cepeda requested that the Las Vegas Academy (LVA) Master Plan be provided to the Trustees.

Mr. Wagner said staff would provide a link to the document to the Trustees.

Approve 2015 Capital Improvement Program, Revision 5 (continued)

Vote on Trustee Garcia Morales's motion was unanimous.

Board Briefings

Discussion and possible action on: Transparency for consent agenda items; staff briefings moved to public briefings.

Public Hearing

Anna Binder spoke in support of this item.

Trustee Guzmán stated that members of the public have expressed to her that they would like to receive information related to consent agenda items with the Trustees. She said by making the consent agenda items briefings public, it would allow the public to hear the information that the Trustees are hearing.

Trustee Garcia Morales said she is in favor of transparency but said in hearing that the consent agenda process involves the Superintendent, she is concerned that the Superintendent is not present for this discussion. She asked if the Superintendent had been consulted on this request.

Trustee Cavazos said she was not able to speak directly with the Superintendent concerning this matter.

Trustee Garcia Morales said she was questioning the effectiveness of this discussion when the Superintendent, who would be responsible for implementing this work, has not provided feedback.

Trustee Cavazos asked if having this discussion would be in violation of any policy.

Ms. Malich stated GP-10: Construction of the Agenda was not complied with in bringing this agenda item forward. She advised that the Board could waive the rule and proceed or add this item to a future agenda.

Trustee Guzmán said the Board could place this on a future agenda to comply with policy.

Trustee Brooks asked how setting aside time during a Board meeting for public briefings would help the Board be an effective board and help them move past the current dysfunction, recognizing consent agenda items are operational in nature.

Trustee Guzmán said she has been asking for more transparency since joining the Board. She said it has nothing to do with the Board's dysfunction but has to do with being asked questions by the public about items on the consent agenda.

Board Briefings (continued)

Trustee Brooks expressed concern about having a discussion on this item without the person who supervises the staff present, as well as the staff. She asked that this be postponed until January and have it be part of a larger conversation around addressing the dysfunction and processes and procedures that need to be put in place and how the Trustees and Superintendent can work better together and with staff and with the community.

Teleconference Call Disconnected

Teleconference call with Trustee Ford was disconnected.

Board Briefings (continued)

Trustee Cepeda stated she does not believe having public briefings would help the Board in terms of monitoring student outcomes; however, she does believe it would help Trustees be more accountable with asking questions and being prepared. She said she would be supportive of moving this to a future work session.

Trustee Cavazos took responsibility for the posting of this agenda item and stated Trustee Guzmán did follow protocol. She pointed out that as part of the Board's role, the Board does have oversight in terms of their fiduciary duties.

Teleconference Call Disconnected

Teleconference call with Trustee Williams was disconnected.

Board Briefings (continued)

There was consensus that this item would be brought back at a later date.

No action was taken on this item.

Upcoming Meeting of the Board of Trustees – Thursday, December 9, 2021, 5:00 p.m.

Trustee Cavazos confirmed that the December 9, 2021, Board meeting would be the last meeting before renovations begin in the board room and meetings are held in another location during that time.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

Anna Binder commented that she does not believe the public briefings have to be complicated or add any work but said her concern would be protecting staff from an intrusion from the public.

Adjourn: 11:09 a.m.

Motion: Brooks Second: Guzmán Vote: Unanimous

Trustee Ford and Trustee Williams were not present for the vote.