

Minutes  
Clark County School District  
Regular Meeting of the Board of School Trustees

TELECONFERENCE ONLY

Thursday, February 11, 2021

5:01 p.m.

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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

**Adoption of the Agenda**

*Adopt agenda, except delete Item 3.13.*

*Motion: Williams Second: Ford*

*Trustee Ford offered a friendly amendment to the motion to delete Item 3.01 and to place them on the next meeting agenda.*

*Trustee Williams agreed to that friendly amendment to the motion.*

*Vote on Trustee Williams' motion was unanimous.*

**Public Comment on Agenda Items**

Voice-recorded public comments:

Audrey Booker commented on Item 3.05, asking why mandatory Covid-19 testing is being performed on teachers who are not exhibiting symptoms and cannot teach in a school building at this time. She said the \$2 million proposed in this item would be better spent elsewhere in the District. She asked what the consequences would be for a teacher who refuses to be tested.

Bob Giles spoke on Item 3.05. He encouraged everyone to watch the *60 Minutes* episode that aired on January 31, 2021, on Chinese genetics companies. He said the company being considered here, Fulgent Genetics, is owned by the Chinese. He said CCSD has already had two data breaches this year and a more thorough investigation of this company is needed.

**Public Comment on Agenda Items** (continued)

Sarah Comroe spoke on Item 3.04. She said the mandatory, random Covid-19 testing is pointless because this is being done to either “catch” someone as if they would lie about it, which is absurd, or to look good in the eyes of the public showing that CCSD is testing staff, but she said the data is not reasonable. She suggested it would be more effective to give teachers the ability and access to be fully vaccinated before coming back into the classroom.

Robert Carroll commented on Item 3.05, stating the capabilities of Fulgent Genetics go beyond Covid-19 testing, including storage and research of DNA. He said everyone has a right to privacy, including their DNA, and should be able to choose how it is stored and used. He requested that the Board approve this contract with the added assurance that all samples will be destroyed after the Covid-19 test results are acquired.

Autumn Tampa spoke on Item 5.08 and expressed concern with this item and asked that the Board vote no on this item until it is amended. She said she would not support this Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) because Fulgent Genetics is conducting the testing. She suggested some modifications to the agreement.

Autumn Tampa spoke on Item 5.06. She said in looking at this document, she is unsure if administrators are also subject to mandatory, random Covid-19 testing or if it is referring to employees under the supervision of an administrator and unsure of which staff are to be tested. She said if it is only education support professionals (ESPs) being tested, it is unfair, and she asked that the Board vote no on this item.

Autumn Tampa spoke on Item 5.04 and said it appears that teachers are not required to undergo random Covid-19 testing. She said according to Item 5.08, ESPs are required to undergo testing and said if this is the case, the treatment of ESPs is disparate and unfair and it is unacceptable. She asked the Board to vote no on this item.

Autumn Tampa spoke about Item 3.05 and expressed concern regarding the use of DNA and said she is against entering into any agreement with Fulgent Genetics. She said this is a bad idea and asked that the Board find another way to test CCSD employees.

Autumn Tampa spoke on Item 3.04 and said she cannot and will not support the use of this application. She said according to its own website, the app is designed to address issues unrelated to Covid-19. She said she is unwilling to provide her personal information to this application. She said it is unnecessary and invasive.

Cindy Krohn, Director, Board Office, provided a summary of the written comments submitted, as follows:

**Item 3.02**

An employee asked why principals are telling teachers they can still telecommute and CCSD is sending teachers an outline that states they must return to school even though they are teaching Cohort C.

## **Public Comment on Agenda Items (continued)**

### **Item 3.03**

A letter was received from the Las Vegas Alliance of Black School Educators (LVABSE) stating that funding should support the greatest need at this time. They stated funds from the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) would benefit students with disabilities who have struggled during the pandemic with virtual learning. They said students need tutoring and other resources. They asked if the plan is to order 61 sets of the Creative curriculum, who would benefit. They said this would be a great time to lean on District specialists to design curriculum for students.

### **Item 3.04 and item 3.05**

Comments from the Education Support Employees Association (ESEA) were received asking if both Fulgent Genetics and emocha Mobile Health will be performing the random, mandatory Covid-19 testing, and if not, what the difference is between the two. They asked will employees be required to use their personal devices for receiving results and tracking, or have a CCSD device; will the random testing be a rapid test, and if not, does the employee report back to work or be required to stay home; how will the employee be chosen for the testing and be responsible for requesting their own substitute; and can the employee be disciplined if they do not meet a deadline or fall being in their work due to mandatory testing.

### **Item 3.05.**

An employee does not want mandatory Covid-19 testing. They have concerns as to where this will lead and said testing should be voluntary and they should be the one to decide what is best for their body. They feel this is bullying.

An employee asked if they are pulled for random testing will the results be immediate; if they are positive will they miss work; and will their sick leave be taken away. They said if results are not immediate, then they may expose others in the building.

An employee feels that everyone has a right to privacy, including their DNA, and should maintain their right to choose where information is stored, used, or sold in the future.

Comments were received from the Las Vegas Alliance of Black School Educators stating there is not enough information about Fulgent Genetics to make a decision that impacts employees. The millions of dollars given to Fulgent Genetics could be more useful in other areas, especially since employees have access to free testing throughout the city. The stated that the money could provide internet service for students and employees while virtual.

### **Item 5.04**

A teacher expressed her concern with the workload that will come if she has to revise all of her Individual Education Plans (IEPs) again as stated in the MOA and asked that the Board consider providing extra pay like it has been done before.

### **Public Comment on Agenda Items** (continued)

A petition was received including comments from several individual employees saying they feel efforts of cooperation for the safety of educators, students, and their families are meeting some challenges regarding specialists, communication, and the hybrid model. They would like to have CCSD follow the terms and intentions set forth in the previously reached MOA. They would like CCSD to reach an agreement with the Clark County Educations Association (CCEA) for elementary specialists and special education, ensure communication is clear and consistent to all school-based and central administration, revisit the hybrid model, and have cooperation with CCEA. They also mentioned emphasis should be placed on equity practices and addressing the mental health concerns of students beyond the 2020-2021 school year.

### **Section 7**

The Ministers Alliance of Southern Nevada stated that the Trustee representing District C is not responding to anything that they care about or to what they say. They also feel that the Superintendent is allowing discrimination against certain students, parents, communities, and churches based on race and zip code. They asked that the Trustees lead the schools and community with justice, integrity, and kindness, having all races and cultures in CCSD work together for all students as one family.

### **Approve Adoption of Consent Agenda**

Approval of consent agenda, as submitted, as recommended.

*Motion to approve the consent agenda, pulling Items 3.02, 3.04, and 3.05 for separate discussion and vote.*

*Motion: Ford      Second: Cavazos*

*Trustee Cavazos offered a friendly amendment that only Items 3.02 and 3.05 be pulled for separate discussion and vote.*

*Trustee Ford agreed to that friendly amendment to the motion.*

*Vote on Trustee Ford's motion: Yeses – 3 (Cavazos, Ford, Guzmán); Noes – 4 (Brooks, Cepeda, Garcia Morales, Williams)*

*The motion failed.*

*Motion to adopt the consent agenda as presented, noting Item 3.01 and Item 3.13 were deleted during the adoption of the agenda.*

*Motion: Brooks      Second: Williams      Vote: Yeses – 4 (Brooks, Cepeda, Garcia Morales, Williams); Noes – 3 (Cavazos, Ford, Guzmán)*

*The motion passed.*

Trustee Garcia Morales, under the advice of legal counsel, disclosed that she has a relationship with the individuals in Item 3.02 that she said would not impair her judgement.

## **Approve Adoption of Consent Agenda (continued)**

### **3.02 Memorandum of Agreement Between Clark County School District and Square Panda, Inc.**

Discussion and possible action on authorization to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement between the Clark County School District and Square Panda, Inc. for parents/guardians and students in Grades Kindergarten through 2, effective February 12, 2021, through February 12, 2023, with no impact to the general fund, and for the Superintendent of Schools, Clark County School District, and the President and Clerk, Clark County School District Board of Trustees, to sign the Memorandum of Agreement, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Karla Loria] (Ref. 3.02)

### **3.03 Early Childhood Curriculum: Teaching Strategies®.**

Discussion and possible action for the Early Childhood Department within the Student Services Division to purchase 61 sets of The Creative Curriculum® for Preschool, Deluxe Edition, from Teaching Strategies®, effective February 12, 2021, through June 30, 2022, for an approximate cost of \$212,280.00, with \$174,000.00 to be paid from the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA): Local Plan, Public Law 108-446, Fund 0280, Grant 6639021, Internal Order G6639009921; and \$38,280.00 to be paid from the Nevada Ready! State Pre-Kindergarten Grant, Fund 0279, Grant 4407021, Internal Order G4407000120, with no impact to the general fund, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Karla Loria] (Ref. 3.03)

### **3.04 COVID-19 Testing and Screening: emocha Mobile Health, Inc.**

Discussion and possible action to authorize the Clark County School District to contract with emocha Mobile Health, Inc. to provide daily symptom screening and testing management of software and services, to be purchased through the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) allocation grant under the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, for an approximate amount of \$1,300,000.00, effective February 12, 2021, through February 10, 2022, to be paid from the ESSER Allocation Grant, Grant 6612020, with no impact to the general fund, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Karla Loria] (Ref. 3.04)

### **3.05 COVID-19 Testing: Fulgent Genetics.**

Discussion and possible action to authorize the Clark County School District to contract with Fulgent Genetics to provide randomized, mandatory COVID-19 testing for all employees, to be purchased through the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) allocation grant under the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, for an approximate amount of \$2,000,000.00, effective February 12, 2021, through February 10, 2022, to be paid from ESSER Allocation Grant, Grant 6612020, with no impact to the general fund, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Karla Loria] (Ref. 3.05)

### **3.06 Warrants.**

Discussion and possible action on ratification of the warrants as listed in the Bills Payable Transmittal and the Board Memorandum to be presented at the Board meeting, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Jason Goudie] (Ref. 3.06)

## **Approve Adoption of Consent Agenda (continued)**

### **3.07 Unified Personnel Employment.**

Discussion and possible action on approval to employ unified personnel, as listed, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Nadine Jones] (Ref. 3.07)

### **3.08 Licensed Personnel Employment.**

Discussion and possible action on approval to employ licensed personnel, as listed, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Nadine Jones] (Ref. 3.08)

### **3.09 Purchasing Awards.**

Discussion and possible action on approval to purchase goods or services in the estimated total amount of \$4,780,000.00 in compliance with NRS 332, as listed, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mike Casey] (Ref. 3.09)

### **3.10 Purchase Orders.**

Discussion and possible action on ratification of the purchase orders in the total amount of \$1,222,325.96 as listed, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mike Casey] (Ref. 3.10)

### **3.11 Second Amendment to the Memorandum of Agreement between the Clark County School District and Communities in Schools of Nevada Inc.**

Discussion and possible action on the approval of the Second Amendment to the Memorandum of Agreement extending the termination date to and including September 30, 2021, to provide Infinite Campus data, which is maintained by the District, for the sole purpose of assisting students obtain internet connectivity in order to provide distance education to students, executed by both Parties, and for the Superintendent of Schools, Clark County School District, and the President and Clerk, Clark County School District, Board of School Trustees, to sign the Addendum to the Memorandum of Agreement, with no impact to the general fund, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mike Casey] (Ref. 3.11)

### **3.12 Change Order.**

Discussion and possible action on ratification of total change order for a net increase of \$48,543.99 to the construction contracts for Roy W. Martin Middle School (\$48,543.99) (Ryan Mechanical, Inc., – 2015 Capital Improvement Program), is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Jeff Wagner] (Ref. 3.12)

## **Formative Board Reports and Updates**

None.

## **Notice of Intent – Clark County School District Policy 3100**

Discussion and possible action on approval of the Notice of Intent to Adopt, Repeal, or Amend Clark County School District Policy 3100, Code of Ethics/Anti-Fraud, prior to submission to the Board of School Trustees for approval on March 11, 2021, is recommended.

Trustee Garcia Morales read the public hearing notice.

**Notice of Intent – Clark County School District Policy 3100 (continued)**

No action was taken on this item.

**Notice of Intent – Clark County School District Regulation 3100**

Discussion and possible action on approval of the Notice of Intent to Adopt, Repeal, or Amend Clark County School District Regulation 3100, Code of Ethics/Anti-Fraud, prior to submission to the Board of School Trustees for approval on March 11, 2021, is recommended.

Trustee Garcia Morales read the public hearing notice.

No action was taken on this item.

**Public Hearing for the Approval of the New Memorandum of Agreement Regarding the Negotiated Agreement between the Clark County School District and the Clark County Education Association**

This is the time and place to conduct a public hearing for the approval of the new Memorandum of Agreement Regarding the Negotiated Agreement between the Clark County School District and the Clark County Education Association. Please submit comments in writing by email to [BoardMtgComments@nv.ccsd.net](mailto:BoardMtgComments@nv.ccsd.net) or by calling 702-799-1166 to voice record comments by 2:00 p.m., Thursday, February 11, 2021.

Trustee Garcia Morales read the public hearing notice.

Mrs. Krohn provided a summary of the written comments submitted, as follows:

**Item 5.03 and Item 5.04**

A parent said that apart from kindergarten through third grade, CCSD has no scheduled plan to transition to hybrid or return to all in-person class and urged that the health and well-being of our children and CCSD students be considered and school be re-opened.

**Item 5.05**

A teacher is concerned with the workload that will come with revising of their IEPs again this year due to the MOA and asked that the Board consider offering extra pay for the increased workload that can only be done outside a teacher's contracted time.

**Item 5.07 and Item 5.08**

An employee is in opposition of the proposed MOA between CCEA and the Education Support Employees Association (ESEA), specifically with First Aid Safety Assistants (FASAs), their backups, and the public work group who will receive one-time stipends. They provided reasons for opposing the MOA, some of which include being fiscally irresponsible to provide a bonus, stating this will be an opening for other negotiating groups to ask for compensation; FASAs cannot fulfill their duties while working from home; FASAs will get more personal protective equipment (PPE); health offices are receiving air filtration systems; and if a sick student attends school, they may encounter numerous staff members before being referred to the FASA.

**Public Hearing for the Approval of the New Memorandum of Agreement Regarding the Negotiated Agreement between the Clark County School District and the Clark County Education Association** (continued)

An employee is concerned that classroom aides will be pulled from their class to help around the building when they are needed, and they asked why teachers get an option to return to work or stay virtual, but support staff does not.

Comments were received from ESEA in support of the MOA between CCSD and ESEA. By approving the MOA the agreement will let them bring back other job family issues for negotiations as they arise. It also includes a stipend for FASA and backups. They cautioned the Trustees, the District, and the public of some of the “not so good” language and cited the random, mandatory testing that is included. They believe the District should not suspend any employee without pay until he or she tests negative.

Fikisha Miller, Chief Negotiator and Assistant General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, read the fiscal impact statement for the MOA referenced in Items 5.07 and 5.08.

**5.02 Notice of Intent – Clark County School District Regulation 3100** (continued)

Trustee Ford asked about the elements included in this proposed regulation and asked how much of the elements contained here already exist in other policies. She asked if it is appropriate in a legal sense to include ethical characteristics such as respect.

Jason Goudie, Chief Financial Officer, Business and Finance Unit, stated this policy is coming forward to set the fraud policies recommended through the Eide Bailly internal control review. He said while some of the components found in this policy might be found in other policies, they believe it is important to have it encapsulated in one specific area.

Trustee Ford questioned the language in the policy and specifics that are not included related to investigations and procedures. She asked about the language pertaining to the Trustees.

Mary-Anne Miller, Board Counsel, District Attorney’s Office, said it appears the language pertaining to the Trustees is duplicative of information found in the Nevada Ethics and Government law, so there is no problem reiterating it here. She said in terms of the investigations, the procedure set forth in the proposed policy is not unusual, and that would be more of a policy question, rather than a legal question.

Trustee Ford said she would like to bring the proposed policy back for modification to separate the fraud components, as she supports having a clear policy on fraud.

Trustee Williams spoke in favor of the proposed policy.

*Motion to approve Item 5.01 and Item 5.02.*

*Motion: Garcia Morales Second: Guzmán Vote: Unanimous*



**Approval of the New Memorandum of Agreement Regarding the Negotiated Agreement between the Clark County School District and the Clark County Education Association**

Approval of the new Memorandum of Agreement Regarding the Negotiated Agreement between the Clark County School District and the Clark County Education Association.

Ms. Fikisha Miller briefly reviewed the purpose for this MOA and said the MOA has no fiscal impact.

*Motion to adopt Item 5.04.*

*Motion: Brooks Second: Williams Vote: Yeses – 6 (Brooks, Cavazos, Cepeda, Ford, Garcia Morales, Williams); Abstain – 1 (Guzmán)*

*The motion passes.*

**Public Hearing for the Approval of the New Memorandum of Agreement Regarding the Negotiated Agreement between the Clark County School District and the Clark County Association of School Administrators and Professional-Technical Employees**

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Trustee Garcia Morales read the public hearing notice.

Mrs. Krohn provided a summary of the written comment submitted, as follows:

A teacher is concerned with the workload that will come with revising of their IEPs again this year due to the MOA and asked that the Board consider offering extra pay for the increased workload that can only be done outside a teacher's contracted time.

**Approval of the New Memorandum of Agreement Regarding the Negotiated Agreement between the Clark County School District and the Clark County Association of School Administrators and Professional-Technical Employees**

Approval of the new Memorandum of Agreement Regarding the Negotiated Agreement between the Clark County School District and the Clark County Association of School Administrators and Professional-Technical Employees.

Ms. Fikisha Miller briefly reviewed this MOA and said the MOA has no fiscal impact.

*Motion to approve.*

*Motion: Williams Second: Guzmán Vote: Unanimous*

**Public Hearing for the Approval of the New Memorandum of Agreement Regarding the Negotiated Agreement between the Clark County School District and the Education Support Employees Association**

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Trustee Garcia Morales read the public hearing notice.

Mrs. Krohn provided a summary of the written comments submitted, as follows:

**Item 5.07 and Item 5.08**

An employee is in opposition of the proposed MOA between CCEA and the ESEA, specifically with FASAs, their backups, and the public work group who will receive one-time stipends. They provided reasons for opposing the MOA, some of which include being fiscally irresponsible to provide a bonus, stating this will be an opening for other negotiating groups to ask for compensation; FASAs cannot fulfill their duties while working from home; FASAs will get more PPE; health offices are receiving air filtration systems; and if a sick student attends school, they may encounter numerous staff members before being referred to the FASA.

An employee is concerned that classroom aides will be pulled from their class to help around the building when they are needed, and they asked why teachers get an option to return to work or stay virtual, but support staff does not.

Comments were received from ESEA in support of the MOA between CCSD and ESEA. By approving the MOA the agreement will let them bring back other job family issues for negotiations as they arise. It also includes a stipend for FASA and backups. They cautioned the Trustees, the District, and the public of some of the “not so good” language and cited the random, mandatory testing that is included. They believe the District should not suspend any employee without pay until he or she tests negative.

**Approval of the New Memorandum of Agreement Regarding the Negotiated Agreement between the Clark County School District and the Education Support Employees Association**

Approval of the new Memorandum of Agreement Regarding the Negotiated Agreement between the Clark County School District and the Education Support Employees Association.

Ms. Fikisha Miller briefly reviewed this MOA and read the fiscal impact note as previously stated.

*Motion to approve Item 5.08.*

*Motion: Williams Second: Garcia Morales Vote: Yeses – 6 (Brooks, Cavazos, Cepeda, Ford, Garcia Morales, Williams); Abstain – 1 (Guzmán)*

*The motion passed.*

### **Trustee Discussion Items**

Trustee Ford requested that an item addressing sports be added to the February 25, 2021, Board meeting for discussion and possible action. She asked that if that is not possible, a special meeting be scheduled for this item for next week.

Ms. Mary-Anne Miller advised that the Board take a vote on whether they want to place this item for discussion only on their upcoming agenda.

*Vote to have a sports item on the February 25, 2021, Board meeting agenda for discussion:  
Yeses – 3 (Cavazos, Cepeda, Ford); Noes – 4 (Brooks, Garcia Morales, Guzmán, Williams)  
The request failed.*

Trustee Brooks asked about addressing next steps for the Board's policy review with Dr. Thomas Alsbury, Balanced Governance Solutions®.

Trustee Cavazos said that is being worked on with Joe Caruso, Special Assistant to the Superintendent/Liaison to the Board of Trustees, Community Services Department, Office of the Superintendent, and they are developing the March Work Session agenda.

Trustee Ford requested an item for discussion of the Board's vision for the District and their core values and an item to discussion sports, extracurricular activities, arts, and clubs and how that relates to the Board's vision at an upcoming work session or retreat as soon as possible.

Vote to have a discussion at a Board retreat in the near future regarding the Board's vision for the District and core values passed.

Trustee Ford stated her other request would be to have a discussion regarding extracurricular, non-academic activities and how that relates to student achievement, to possibly include a presentation, at an upcoming Board work session.

Trustee Cavazos asked if Trustee Ford would be willing to formulate her request so that it is more specific and bring it back at a later time.

Trustee Ford agreed to do that.

### **Trustee Community Activity Reports**

None.

### **Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items**

Voice-recorded public comments:

Jocelyn Spilker said she misses participating in the activities she loves, and she knows many other students would say the same. She said change is needed.

Brook Flake said she is calling on Trustees to create and fund a plan to bring students back to full-time, in-person learning by August 2021.

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items** (continued)

Megan Fox asked that the Board focus on creating and funding a plan for all students to return to full-time, in-person learning by August 2021.

June Obrien asked that the Board revisit the agreements and give teachers the option of continuing to telecommute if they do not feel safe returning to school.

Bethany Hudson requested an agenda item on reopening schools. She said students need hope.

Lisa Jaegel asked that the Board do what they can to get all students back in school and to allow them to play sports this year.

Grace Twitchel said she would like to go back to school if possible so she could thank her teachers. She said she loves school and enjoyed going to school and seeing her friends.

Robin Anderson asked that the Board focus on creating and funding a plan for all students to return to full-time, in-person learning by August 2021.

Zoey Rhodes asked that her brother and other students be allowed to play sports in their senior year of high school.

Dennis Goughnour asked that the Board and Superintendent Jara reconsider allowing activities for the students.

Liza Carmichael asked that an agenda item be added to allow all students to return to in-person learning and to let all extracurricular activities resume.

Aubrey Bucher said she lost out on her junior track season and her senior cross-country season. She urged the Board to prioritize bringing all students to school as soon as possible.

Aspen Osmond said this school year has been very difficult and expressed concern for students' futures, asking that they be allowed to resume participating in sports.

Vicki Kreidel said the hybrid learning plan issues have been largely ignored. She highlighted some areas of the plan she believes parents should be aware of.

Sylvia Mirza asked that extra-curricular activities resume. She said it is not fair for seniors to not have a chance to play and earn scholarships to further their education.

Sam Wheeler expressed disappointment with not being able to play sports. He said only being in hybrid learning has been horrible. He said the students in Utah are all playing sports.

Jed Wheeler said his daughter relies on social interaction and has not been getting that. He asked that the Board vote to allow students to participate in sports and finish out this year on a positive note.

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items (continued)**

Dan Boman said sports are important for special needs students as well. He shared that his daughter is a special needs student and enjoys activity, and his son plays sports as well. He hoped that the kids can return to playing again.

Becky Kelly asked that students be allowed to play sports. She talked about how important it is to her children and how not being able to play is impacting them.

Hannah Comroe said the population of students that have been returned to school, the youngest students, do not need to return for their mental health and do not understand social distancing and how to properly wear a mask. She mentioned that the opening plan has been amended to state that children who have a doctor's note are not required to wear a mask.

Sheila Moulton expressed support for the Trustees and CCSD staff and said it is a critical time to work toward a vision for the highest possible academic achievement and safety for all students, families, and employees. She expressed concern that not all Trustees are focusing on the most important and timely issues facing the District.

Christian Perez said he has played baseball since the age of four and looked forward to playing in his junior and senior years. He asked the Board to show that they care and let them play.

Kylie Rhodes said students and student athletes deserve to play after all the effort they put into school, and she asked that they be allowed to do so.

Heather Flynn said the health, safety, and well-being of students, staff, and communities should be Superintendent Jara's top priority. She talked about culminating events students have missed out on and what extracurricular activities provide for students.

Stacey Sinicki stated that school capacity can be at 50 percent in the state of Nevada. She asked that students be given a choice and allowed to return to the classroom and to return to activities in middle and high school.

Cassie Barns expressed disappointment that the District is not taking the safety of all teachers into consideration. She said the elementary specialists are being forced back into the classroom when others are allowed to remain virtual. She said most of them will not be fully vaccinated and this is irresponsible.

Candice Winterton said she believes the students need to be able to play sports again and that the impact on student of not playing is more detrimental than the pandemic.

Ray Wheeler asked how other states can allow school sports, but Nevada cannot. He said this is not fair or equitable. He asked that the Board act now.

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items (continued)**

Marie Woods said the children being at school and participating in sports is about a sense of belonging, purpose, and camaraderie. She said some students cannot talk to their parents and need to be able to talk to their teachers.

Gerilyn Heiselbetz the Board to place an agenda item on the February 25, 2021, Board meeting agenda to discuss extracurricular activities for students. She said she has watched students lose hope and asked that they consider giving the kids their activities and sports.

Bonnie Lally shared that her son has played baseball since he was three years old and talked about how not being able to play has impacted her son and other students. She asked that they be allowed to play their sports and said it would be a step in the right direction for their mental health.

Ryan Anderson shared that as a coach and teacher he has received numerous calls from athletes in tears because of how they feel missing out on their senior year of athletics. He talked about the negative impact not being allowed to play sports is having on students.

Deeandre Casaus asked the Board to place an agenda item on the February 25, 2021, Board meeting agenda to allow students to resume playing sports. She said the kids need to play and she is praying that the Board makes it happen.

Patty Bellotte shared that her daughter has been cheering since the third grade and said as a current senior everything has been taken away from her. She said she is appalled at the disregard for the mental health of the students in not allowing them to attend in-person school and not participate in any activities.

Jane (inaudible) said these students must be rewarded and allowed to play sports, especially the seniors who need scholarships for college.

Alhana Bellotte said this has been the hardest year of her school career, and she shared how this has affected her. She said getting back to school is extremely important for her, and she asked the Board to consider how they are affecting all the students' lives.

Barbara asked that the specialists not be forgotten. She said teachers are being made to teach an entire grade level at a time virtually, and she talked about the challenges that come with that. She said it is impractical and neglectful to the children.

Michael said there have been 23 suicides under Superintendent Jara's leadership and said he is not helping the students. He said asked that Superintendent Jara allow the students to play sports.

Mason Wheeler hoped that the Board would allow him and other students to play sports soon.

Patricia Wylie asked the Board to allow all students to return to at least a hybrid model this school year.

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items (continued)**

Lindy Wheeler said the Board has the authority to bring sports back and asked that they make that happen.

Dawn Thomas (phonetic) shared how not being allowed to play sports has impacted her children and asked that the students be allowed back in school and be allowed to play sports.

Jade Dadkhah said her younger son has not been able to participate in football this year and is struggling mentally. She said the Board is not considering the students' well-being and best interest, and she urged the Board to reconsider their stance on this topic.

Terri Shuman said she is upset and angry with the Board that they are divided and said if a Trustee cannot make up their own mind, they should step down and let someone else truly represent their district.

Sarah Comroe said talking about the need to have students back in school for their mental health and then having the first time high school students come back into the class be to take the ACT, which is stressful, is ridiculous. She said if seniors are not allowed to play sports during the crucial year for scholarships and college acceptance, CCSD should be advocating for them with colleges and recruiters.

Tara Perez said she is disappointed in the Board and in Superintendent Jara. She said along with suicides, there are rising numbers in teen pregnancies and teen drug use and mental health issues. She asked that the Board give the kids an outlet and let them play.

Paige Sinicki said it has been painful to watch her classmates struggle mentally. She said students need more than Google Meet, they need activities and sports. She said for some students, school is their safe place.

Dianna Walker asked that the "let them play" initiative be added to the Board agenda as an action item for their mental health. She said not attending school in person should not be a reason to keep students from playing sports because they are, in fact, attending school.

Delilah Schultz said although third-grade students will be returning to the classroom, she will not because she does not feel it is not safe for her, her teachers, her family, or anyone. She said she is sad because she heard she might be getting a new teacher.

Jennifer Ecklund said she feels the new hybrid model is detrimental to the special curriculum, the safety of students and to her family. She spoke about the risks of exposure and said in this model she is also being asked to act as a babysitter and as crowd control. She said this plan is inequitable.

Sarah Pfeiffer shared all the activities, clubs, and sports her daughter is involved in. She said her daughter needs to be in school and needs to be able to participate in sports and talked about how beneficial participation is to her.

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items (continued)**

Tracy Leonard said teachers and administrators need leadership from Superintendent Jara and his team, and Superintendent Jara and the community need leadership from the Board. She asked that the Board consider what is best to meet the needs of the families and employees and the opportunity to become a highly functioning Board.

Karlie Malonie asked why teachers of students in higher grades not yet returning to in-person learning are not prioritized to receive the Covid-19 vaccine. She suggested that teachers teach in the classroom with half of their students and with a webcam for two days and then with the other half on another two days. She also suggested that in terms of grades, it should be considered that some students are struggling with distance learning.

Bethany Hudson said allowing students to play sports allows them to have needed social interaction and allows them to be around friends and coaches to talk to. She said it gives them purpose and drive to continue to be excellent students.

Sheena Holiday said one of her children plays sports and needs to be back in school and needs to be allowed to play sports, and she talked about how all of her children are struggling.

Lee Rhodes said his children are outstanding students, and he asked that all students be allowed to come back into the classroom and be allowed to play.

David Monroe shared that his daughter suffers from anxiety and depression. He asked the Board to consider what they have done and to do what they can to reverse it. He said there is no logical reason why students cannot play sports and no reason they cannot be in school.

Dolly Rowan said she believes the Board's decision to reopen the school buildings to the District's youngest and most vulnerable population is reckless and irresponsible. She said this will put the students, staff, and families at risk. She talked about the challenges, as a teacher with a self-contained class, for her students and for staff who serve those students.

Autumn Tampa asked many questions related to why there is a rush to open school buildings before it is safe and why it is grades pre-kindergarten through three going back.

A caller said the cancellation of sports has been detrimental to her children. She asked that the Board find a way for CCSD students to be back in school for their mental health.

Damian Gramajo talked about his passion for football and the role it plays in his life. He said he is not sure the Board understands the damage caused by not allowing students to play. He asked the Board to reconsider and let them play.

Ashley Bell said the hybrid plan is detrimental to special curriculum and to the safety of students. She said specials should remain virtual in every school. She asked that all teachers be given the choice to continue working from home.



**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items (continued)**

Tina Hurd said students need to be back in school full time. She talked about the negative impact of not being in school and not being able to participate in extracurricular activities has had on students. She said students should be allowed to play sports whether or not they attend school on campus.

Garren Gledhill spoke about the difficulties he has had since being off campus and not being allowed to play sports.

Marie Woods said she just moved from Florida and the students there have been playing sports. She asked that the parents and the students be given the choice to return to school. She said education should be taught in person.

Mia Perez said she is a student athlete and although Superintendent Jara and the Board say they care about students, their actions say otherwise. She said students need an outlet, and she asked that they be allowed to play.

Staci Maxwell stated several reasons why all CCSD students should be allowed to play sports. She asked that CCSD allow students to play.

A caller said she has a young student and has opted to keep him at home but has learned that she might have to return to work on campus, which has caused her a lot of stress and anxiety. She said her son is part of the autism program and it is not safe for him to be at school.

Macy Beck shared how her senior year has been because of not being in school and not being allowed to play sports. She asked that the Board give students the resources they need to be successful academically and athletically.

Liza Amor expressed concern with the lack of choice for specialists to continue telecommuting and what they will be responsible for in the hybrid model, as well as the risk of exposure they would be subjected to. She asked that the Board reconsider the plan for specialists.

David Edgeworth said he believes students need to be back at school because all students are struggling. He said their grades have declined and mental health had deteriorated. He said it is important for students to return to school for their mental health and safety.

Mary Eager asked that the Board and the Superintendent please let the kids play sports and participate in extracurricular activities and get back in school.

Jamie Spilker asked that the Board please reconsider reinstating extracurricular activities, which allowed socialization and was motivation for her children to do well in school. She asked that the kids be allowed to participate for their mental health.

Lucas Partridge said he called to ask the Board and the Superintendent for their assistance. He said Dr. William H. "Bob" Bailey Middle School did not received the amount of money for the academic support fund allocation they were supposed to have received.

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items (continued)**

Jenna Robertson asked that the Board and Superintendent Jara take working families into consideration with regard to the food distribution schedule and create a plan that allows for the 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. distribution.

A caller asked that the children be allowed to play sports.

Gina Lovero said students have every right to be playing when there is no reason why they should not be and plenty of reasons why they should be. She said the Trustees need to step up and do their job.

Trey Goughnour asked that the Board reconsider and reverse their stance on not allowing students to play sports because many other states have been able to allow their students to play fall sports. He said it is not fair and it has impacted students in a negative way.

Mrs. Krohn, Director, Board Office, provided a summary of the written comments submitted, as follows:

Several comments were received asking to reinstate school sports. Another would like students to play sports before they graduate this year. A parent would like high school sports to take place with equity and fairness like the rest of the United States. A person said sports, regular socialization, and exercise are an important part of childhood and said children deserve a proper education and the ability to play sports. Others asked for an agenda item to discuss playing sports in CCSD.

Many comments said that playing sports would provide motivation to many students who have grown weary of online school and isolation.

A writer expressed their concern with the safety of some students who are not able to talk to an adult when they need help.

A teacher is concerned with the amount of time that will be needed to write revisions for IEPs. She said teachers are not able to get substitute coverage or additional compensation for the extra work.

A person feels that opening co-curricular activities without face-to-face learning sends an irresponsible message. They feel there is a lack of communication with parents and students and asked that they be engaged in real solution-based conversations.

A parent asked that schools return to a normal schedule next year.

A teacher said the hybrid plan proves that CCSD does not care about its teachers. They asked when the Board will begin meeting in person since it is safe enough for teachers to be in multiple classrooms.

An employee is concerned that the Board would agree to reopening schools. They also expressed concern with their health and safety when they return.

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items (continued)**

A parent said her daughter needs to be back in school. She feels that she will never get to see her friends again. She mentioned that students in other states are going to school and playing sports and would like to see a plan to get kids back in schools here.

A parent of four asked that her children be able to return to school and said the District needs to find solutions for how to get them back.

A teacher feels that the hybrid model could be more detrimental to academic success than beneficial. They said education time will be cut and students will not be allowed to socialize in a meaningful way or be able to work through projects because of Covid-19 protocol.

A teacher feels that special education has not be given a plan for direction for the March 1<sup>st</sup> return. They said there has been no guidance on how to write the new IEPs to cover both hybrid and distance education.

The Northwest Area Residents Association sent a follow-up letter from last Board meeting requesting to have the CCSD Open Schools-Open Doors pilot program reinstated as a regular agenda item and to have an update status report presented on the findings of the study.

A parent asked that students return to school so her son can succeed.

A writer asked that seniors not be forgotten and that the Board listen to their stories and see how much they are hurting.

A parent asked that the 2021 fall sports not be cancelled.

An employee said that some specialists are getting a choice to return to campus and others are not. They are concerned for their safety in that they will have a group of six classes in Cohort A and a group of six classes in Cohort B with a total of 120 kids that they will be exposed to. They asked that the District give specialists a safer plan.

Many writers asked that schools be opened. One said students need to have the opportunity to grow and expand their knowledge and skills; another said that her children are failing in some classes; and others are worried about the suicide rates. Parents feel the two-day, in-person learning and three days of independent learning is not adequate or effective.

Several written comments were received asking schools to reopen to allow extracurricular activities.

A nurse said that students need to be back in school and play sports. She added that it is frustrating as a nurse to hear that teachers need to be vaccinated before going back to school, whereas nurses, doctors, casino workers, delivery drivers, and store personnel have all had to work without a vaccine.

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items (continued)**

A writer expressed concern with the email titled "CCSD Athletics" that was sent to parents on February 2, 2021. They were upset that the Superintendent said that test scores are not where they need to be in order to get athletes back to sports.

Writers asked that hearts be softened towards students and that they be allowed to be on the fields, mats, courts, tracks, pools, and stages.

A writer said that the Board refuses to listen to parents, they refuse to listen to science and asked that they start to listen to the kids they pretend to care about.

A parent of four said she notices much regression and overall effects with her kids and said they are missing out on so much.

A teacher said the hybrid plan is detrimental to our special curriculums and the safety of students and staff alike. They feel that it increases exposure for the entire building and asked that specials remain virtual in every school.

A mother wrote about her children having difficulty with virtual learning. She mentioned that two of her children will be returning to school while the other is not able to due to his grade level.

Several writers would like to have all schools fully opened in the fall. Some parents mentioned that their children now need therapy and medication to help them adjust. Some students feel overwhelmed. Others asked for a plan to return to school full time, stating that students are losing their academics, mental health, and relationships. Another said they will enroll their children elsewhere if schools do not open.

A parent would like to have the choice of sending her children to school or keep them at home.

A writer said that Covid-19 has almost a 100 percent survival rate and asked to stop torturing the kids.

A parent asked how her child is receiving a quality education if their teacher is experiencing the same interruptions, lack of support, power outages, or other internet issues. She said she would like students to return to the classroom.

The special education team at Mary and Zel Lowman Elementary School sent in numerous concerns with the school district's decision to reopen schools for pre-kindergarten through third-grade students in the special education program. Their concerns included the educational, social-emotional, and mental health of the students and safety concerns.

A person asked that the survey recently sent out be redone to ask the right questions. They mentioned that the U.S. Department of Education has to release new funds to the state and then to the school before teachers would believe they will be given the funding and support as promised.

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items (continued)**

A writer asked that there be an agenda item on a future meeting agenda for approval of the opening of rural schools.

A parent said her 2021 graduate feels that she has been totally forgotten and ignored by the Board members and other adults who should be doing everything they can to put kids back into the classroom and asked that the school open.

A parent said that several schools have been calling parents of students who are in pre-kindergarten through third grade who choose Cohort C and are requesting that they change their instructional cohort to A or B.

A letter was received from the Las Vegas Alliance of Black School Educators (LVABSE) stating concerns with inequities in schools. They said that students are experiencing extreme gaps in their education and asked that they have access to tutoring and extra resources to support their learning. They also asked for non-renewal of Superintendent Jara's contract because of his inability to effectively acknowledge and transfer persistent issues of inequality.

Comments were received from the Ministers Alliance of Southern Nevada asking for the status of the Superintendent's Student Equity and Access Advisory Commission and an update on the Commission. In addition, they listed several concerns and issues that were mentioned in the equity and access report.

**Board Self-Assessment Assignment**

None.

**Upcoming Meeting of the Board of Trustees – Thursday, February 25, 2021, 5:00 p.m.**

Trustee Cavazos noted that this meeting would be held in person at Las Vegas Academy in the theater.

**Adjourn:** 8:19 p.m.

*Motion: Ford    Second: Guzmán    Vote: Unanimous*