

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

Thursday, March 10, 2022

5:00 p.m.

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

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

**Flag Salute**

Trustee Cepeda led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Adoption of the Agenda**

*Adopt agenda, except note revised reference material provided for Item 5.01.*

*Motion: Guzmán Second: Ford*

*Trustee Ford offered a friendly amendment to pull Item 3.17 from the consent agenda and place it in Section 4 of the agenda.*

*Trustee Guzmán agreed to that amendment.*

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

*The motion failed.*

*Motion to adopt the agenda, except note revised reference material provided for Item 5.01.*

*Motion: Guzmán Second: Brooks Vote: Yeses – 6 (Brooks, Cavazos, Cepeda, Garcia Morales, Guzmán, Williams); No – 1 (Ford)*

*The motion passed.*

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

Patrick Dimasin expressed opposition to Item 3.16. He stated the solution to community building is in funding non-police measures that encourage conflict resolution outside of the criminal justice system.

James Bayliss spoke about an ongoing issue involving his son being the target of violence on campus and said he has not heard from any Board members regarding his son. He said the Board is supposed to protect the children.

Walter Jones III said he and others want to help find a solution to the violence in schools, but the Board must be willing to listen and engage parents and the community. He said salary educators are paid is also a problem.

Greta Blunt Johnson said nothing has been done since she alerted the Board that she was physically assaulted on campus. She said all evidence of the attack is gone, and her witness was intimidated. She said there needs to be some safety measures in place for staff.

Denese Hurt spoke about an incident in which her grandson and another student were attacked after exiting the school bus and said her grandson sustained injuries from the attack. She said she is concerned about the level of school violence.

Kathia Sotelo talked about how large class sizes spur violence by encouraging a disruptive environment. She said the Board should maintain the student section in the boardroom and encourage student attendance.

Amy Tassin addressed the recent school zoning changes and asked the Board to reinstate the option zone between Green Valley High School and Coronado High School. She shared reasons why attending Green Valley High School would be the best option for their children.

Michelle Tewes said the ACT is only available in English. She said supports, including some accommodations, are given to English language learner (ELL) students, but they are still taking the test in English, and the accommodations are not sufficient.

Vicki Kreidel spoke about the challenges educators face and the reasons why they leave the District and how poor teacher retention affects student outcomes. She asked that the District act now to improve retention rates.

Brigitte Boucaud said her granddaughter was threatened by another student who stated he would shoot her and her sister. She said the school did not act on the threat, but when her daughter went to the school and things escalated, the police were called on her daughter.

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

Sarah Comroe said her daughter's teacher was providing several hours of study sessions for the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC). She questioned what the assessment is measuring and said it is not an accurate measurement of every child's ability.

Evona Diaz said she received a notice from her son's school related to the number of hours he missed school but said they had to keep their children at home due to COVID-19 as they had been instructed to do. She suggested creating an online program for students where they can login and study and parents can see what is happening.

Robert Diaz talked about the ongoing issue of school violence and suggested the District set up a hotline for students to report incidents of violence before they happen. He said there has not been any assemblies or anything addressing bullying in the schools.

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

Approval of consent agenda, as submitted, as recommended.

### **Public Hearing**

Greta Blunt Johnson spoke on Items 3.01, 3.02, 3.04, and 3.05. She said she did not appreciate being cut off when she spoke to the Board at a previous meeting. She commented that with relation to student expulsions, there is nothing that directly addresses violence to staff members or students by students. She said the District is losing personnel rapidly because morale is so low. She stated that she was told by two white administrators not to attend the Board meeting and speak before the Board. She relayed some student concerns related to the school bathrooms and fighting.

Lisa Bailey spoke on Items 3.02 and 3.16. She suggested the Board should be including the students who are being suspended or expelled in their townhall meetings and discussions. She said there are a lot of compliance issues surrounding expulsions. She spoke in opposition to Item 3.16 and questioned why mental health supports and restorative justice actions are not included.

Kathia Sotelo spoke in opposition to Item 3.16. She said these funds should instead be allocated to hiring more teachers and paying teachers a higher salary.

Dr. Kyle Rogers spoke on Item 3.16 and disagreed with the procedures laid out in the grant application related to referring students to The Harbor, as well as the allocation of funds. He said this is supposedly a collaboration with social workers, but none of the funds are going to social workers.

Diana Battista spoke on Item 3.16 and noted that no "evidence-based strategies" were attached for the public to review. She raised several issues related to police jurisdiction, destroying of private property, home visits, police interactions with students, and allocation of funds. She asked the Board to vote no on this item.

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

Patrick Dimasin spoke in opposition to Item 3.16 and said he was deeply concerned for his constituents' health and safety. He suggested looking at other programs to find solutions without introducing students to the school-to-prison pipeline.

Anna Binder spoke on Items 3.16 and 3.17. Regarding Item 3.16, she stated that there are children that are not coming to school and that the status of their condition or wellbeing is unknown. She spoke in favor of Item 3.17, and she spoke highly of Mr. Parker.

Jamie Tadrzynski spoke on Items 3.02, 3.04, 3.05, and 3.16. She raised issues related to working conditions and wages for educators and staff, teachers and support staff leaving, Teachers Health Trust (THT), and culture and climate in the District and the Board's roll in all of it. She shared the thoughts of a community member concerning Item 3.16 that the conditions of the grant violate the social workers code of ethics and sets the District up for discriminating against students of color.

Diana Bernabe spoke on Item 3.16. She said the program would undoubtedly harm students, especially students of color. She suggested funding should be used instead on mental health professionals.

Sarah Comroe spoke on Items 3.05 and 3.16. She discussed reasons why she said the District is hemorrhaging staff, including inadequate health insurance and low salaries and insufficient raises. She said the District is not making any effort to retain staff. She spoke in opposition to Item 3.16, stating school police are not going to provide the same benefits to students that social workers and wraparound services provide. She implored the Board to send what students need instead of more intimidation by the police.

Yared Retta spoke in opposition to Item 3.16. He said this program would provide a way for CCSD to violate people's rights, and it is going to further allow Black and brown youth to be oppressed. He suggested the funds could be used instead toward something that could boost the nation's educational statistics.

*Motion to approve the consent agenda.*

*Motion: Williams*

Trustee Ford requested that Item 3.16 be pulled for separate discussion and vote.

Trustee Williams denied Trustee Ford's request.

*Trustee Garcia Morales seconded the motion.*

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

*The motion passed.*

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

### **3.01 Approval of the Minutes.**

Discussion and possible action on the approval of the minutes from the special meeting of January 5, 2022, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** (Ref. 3.01)

### **3.02 Student Expulsions.**

Discussion and possible action on approval of student expulsions according to NRS 392.467 (Board Policy 5114 and Regulations 5114 and 5141.1), as listed, is recommended. (CONFIDENTIAL) **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mike Barton] (Ref. 3.02)

### **3.03 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. 3.03)

### **3.04 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. 3.04)

### **3.05 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. 3.05)

### **3.06 Employment Agreement - Assistant General Counsel and Chief Negotiator.**

Discussion and possible action on approval of an employment agreement for David Hall assigned as Assistant General Counsel and Chief Negotiator, Office of the General Counsel. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Nadine Jones] (Ref. 3.06)

### **3.07 Purchase Orders.**

Discussion and possible action on ratification of the purchase orders in the total amount of \$1,928,629.38 as listed, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mike Casey] (Ref. 3.07)

### **3.08 Purchasing Awards.**

Discussion and possible action on approval to purchase goods or services in the estimated total amount of \$9,630,300.00 in compliance with NRS 332, as listed, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mike Casey] (Ref. 3.08)

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

**3.09 Contract Award: Sandy Valley High School and Fields – Phase III Replacement at Sandy Valley High School.**

Discussion and possible action on approval of award to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder for Sandy Valley High School and Fields – Phase III Replacement at Sandy Valley High School in the amount of \$14,795,000.00, to be paid from the 2015 Capital Improvement Program, Fund 3150000000, Project C0014875; and for Mark Campbell, Interim Chief of Facilities, to act as the Board of School Trustees' designee to sign the granting documents, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mark Campbell] (Ref. 3.09)

**3.10 Contract Award: Preconstruction Services at South Career and Technical Academy.**

Discussion and possible action on approval of an award of contract to the best qualified Construction Manager at Risk for preconstruction services in support of the South Career and Technical Academy, to be paid from the 2015 Capital Improvement Program, Fund 3150000000, Project C0001640; and for Mark Campbell, Interim Chief of Facilities, to act as the Board of School Trustees' designee for all project documents, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mark Campbell] (Ref. 3.10)

**3.11 Engineering Design Services: Correct Drainage at Desert Rose Adult High School.**

Discussion and possible action on approval to select the engineering firm of Lochsa Engineering, LLC, to provide engineering design services to prepare plans, specifications and other construction documents for a design, bid, and build method of construction to correct the drainage at Desert Rose Adult High School, in the amount of \$88,660.00, to be paid from the Governmental Service Tax, Fund 3400000000, Project C0013767; and for Mark Campbell, Interim Chief of Facilities, to act as the Board of School Trustees' designee to sign the granting documents, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mark Campbell] (Ref. 3.11)

**3.12 Termination of Encroachment Agreement Between the City of Las Vegas and Clark County School District at Arbor View High School.**

Discussion and possible action on approval of a Termination of Encroachment Agreement between the City of Las Vegas and the Clark County School District at Arbor View High School to terminate an incorrectly recorded encroachment agreement on the property, and for Mark Campbell, Interim Chief of Facilities, to act as the Board of School Trustees' designee to sign the termination agreement, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mark Campbell] (Ref. 3.12).

**3.13 Right-Of-Way Landscaping Encroachment License Agreement Between the City of Las Vegas and Clark County School District at Vegas Verdes Elementary School.**

Discussion and possible action on approval of a Right-of-Way Landscaping Encroachment License Agreement between the City of Las Vegas and the Clark County School District at Vegas Verdes Elementary School in order for the District to maintain landscaping within the right-of-way, and for Mark Campbell, Interim Chief of Facilities, to act as the Board of School Trustees' designee to sign the agreement, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mark Campbell] (Ref. 3.13)

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

### **3.14 Change Order.**

Discussion and possible action on ratification of a change order for a net increase of \$64,908.36 to the construction contract for Edward A. Greer Education Center (\$64,908.36) (A & B Environmental, Inc., – 2015 Capital Improvement Program), is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mark Campbell] (Ref. 3.14)

### **3.15 Change in Services.**

Discussion and possible action on ratification of services to the architectural services agreement for a net increase of \$1,143,784.27 to the agreements for Phase II Replacement Southeast Career and Technical Academy (\$1,143,784.27) to be paid from the 2015 Capital Improvement Program, Fund 3150000000, Project C0013575, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mark Campbell] (Ref. 3.15)

### **3.16 New Grant Application: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Program – Nevada Department of Family and Child Services.**

Discussion and possible action on the authorization to submit and implement the Prevention Before Apprehension program to proactively reduce risk factors and enhance protective factors for at-risk or delinquent CCSD students, from March 11, 2022, through September 30, 2026; to be paid from Unit 0137, Fund 0280, in the amount of \$405,672.50, with no impact on the General Fund, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Henry Blackeye] (Ref. 3.16)

### **3.17 Special Counsel Rate of Compensation.**

Discussion and possible action on approval of the rate of compensation of Parker Nelson & Associates, to be retained by the District as special counsel at a rate up to \$375.00 per hour, and as required by NRS 41.0344, and to authorize Luke Puschnig, General Counsel, to act as the Board of School Trustees designee to sign the necessary documents pertaining thereto is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Luke Puschnig] (Ref. 3.17)

### **Focus: 2024 Strategic Plan Update – Student Discipline**

Presentation and discussion on Focus: 2024 Indicators and Results pertaining to SS-4(C): Student discipline.

Dr. Mike Barton, Chief College, Career, Equity and School Choice Officer, College, Career, Equity and School Choice Unit, and Dr. John Anzalone, Assistant Superintendent, Education Services Division, College, Career, Equity and School Choice Unit, provided an update on student discipline as part of the Focus: 2024 Strategic Plan, as shown in Reference 4.01.

### **Public Hearing**

Dr. Kyle Rogers questioned why other forms of discipline were not included. He said the discipline has not reduced but the category the discipline is assigned to has been changed so that it appears to have decreased. He encouraged the Board to ask for more data.

**Focus: 2024 Strategic Plan Update – Student Discipline (continued)**

Rebecca Garcia recognized issues of inequity in the District and said it must be addressed. She said data is only useful in context and when it includes the whole picture. She said there is also confusion around what discipline practices are and consistency from school to school, classroom to classroom.

Lisa Bailey said she is aware that the data was selected to show what staff wanted it to show. She questioned the language “target” and asked why they would target expulsions for students, and she pointed out the differences in the targets between student groups. She said the inequities in how students are treated is not addressed.

Sarah Comroe said what is actually happening is different than what is being presented here. She urged the Board to ask for more because the information being provided is misleading the Board.

Jaimie Tadrzynski pointed out that the townhall meetings that are happening with students do not include the students who are in behavioral schools or who have been suspended or in Schools Targeting Alternative Reform On-Site (STAROn), so it is not representative. She said they need to be talking to those students and not their peers.

Anna Binder expressed frustration that she has been blocked several times from being able to share information about upcoming meetings.

Pastor M. J. Ivy stated African Americans are looking for a champion in the District. He spoke about a lack of transparency and integrity. He said he is looking to the Board and to the Superintendent. He said African Americans are not being represented and African American men are needed in the classroom, in the boardroom, and in leadership positions.

Matthew Yealy expressed disappointment in the District. He said there is a serious problem in his community across from Chapparral High School with students trespassing in their gated community, using drugs and being destructive. He said they have assaulted him on multiple occasions. He said he has been told by the school principal, CCSD Police Services, and others that they are unable to enforce Policy 5146.1, which states that students are not allowed to leave campus during school hours without permission.

Trustees Ford inquired about the data for inhouse suspensions, Required Parent Conferences (RPCs) and STAROn programs.

Superintendent Jara stated staff has brought forward the information that was requested by the Board. He said staff does not have the data requested by Trustee Ford with them at this time as it was not a request of the Board.

**Focus: 2024 Strategic Plan Update – Student Discipline** (continued)

Discussion was had related to information being gathered from students who are exhibiting violent behavior or have been suspended or expelled; differences in the incidence of violence between comprehensive schools and career and technical education (CTE) schools; potentially working with other organizations to help address what the data shows, especially as it relates to students who have been disproportionately targeted; who parents and families can turn to for help or guidance regarding disciplinary actions; how the student townhall meetings are scheduled; determining root causes; restorative justice practices or training that have been implemented; efforts to generate parent engagement; why home visits and pairing social workers with police officers was chosen as a strategy; and restorative practices.

Trustee Cavazos asked that more information related to the student townhall meetings be provided to the Trustees.

**Safe Learning and Working Environment**

Presentation and discussion regarding a safe learning and working environment.

Dr. Barton; Brigid Duffy, Director, Juvenile Division, District Attorney's Office; Michael Whelihan, Assistant Director of Juvenile Probation, Department of Juvenile Justice Services; Henry Blackeye, Chief of Police, Police Services; Dr. Anzalone; Dr. Samuel Scavella, Assistant Superintendent, Equity and Diversity Education Department, College, Career, Equity and School Choice Unit; Brian Zink, Lieutenant, Police Services; Lori Smith, Administrative Division – School Social Worker, Police Services; and Dr. Steven Ufford, Investigations Bureau Detective, Police Services, provided a presentation on a safe learning and working environment, as shown in Reference 5.01.

**Public Hearing**

Marie Neisess expressed concern with the intensity of the violence that is happening on campuses. She said these violent acts start in elementary school and suggested it is at that level that mental health providers are needed.

Dan Price said violent acts on campus have increased and students have asked him about distance learning options as an alternative to coming onto campus. He said they need social workers in schools, and he said the progressive discipline process is not always effective.

Dr. Kyle Rogers said the process that was presented today was not his family's experience. He stated the data being presented is false. He also stated The Harbor does not help. He said the CCSD police comments made in response to people on their Facebook page do not show de-escalation.

### **Safe Learning and Working Environment (continued)**

Elizabeth Adler spoke about how schools have prepared themselves and efforts they have made to address school violence and said even with these supports in place, everyone still struggles with behavioral issues on campus. She said they need social workers to proactively work with students in the classrooms.

Diana Battista expressed concern that special education students are not getting the services or supports that they are entitled to, which may be affecting the child's behavior and may lead to disciplinary actions that are preventable.

Troy Martinez talked about how Dads in Schools and the community wants to work with the school district, and he asked that the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) be expedited and allow Dad's in Schools to begin to boost morale and make students feel safe.

Lisa Bailey read a message from Akiko Cooks expressing concerns about what might happen when police go to people's homes, recalling the names of Black people killed by police officers, and stating they should also be discussing youth being radicalized by white supremacy extremists. Ms. Baily agreed and said it is a big problem. She asked if everyone has gone through implicit bias training and if mental health evaluations are performed on everyone involved.

Jim Frazee stated the Clark County Education Association (CCEA) wants to work with the District to resolve these issues. He said he was in favor of restorative justice, but violence cannot be tolerated. He said some students come to school with learned violent behaviors, and it needs to be addressed but the other students need to have a safe learning community also.

Pastor M. J. Ivy offered to be a part of the solution on this issue. He suggested holding three meetings that he said would be moderated with the Board and the community at high schools of the Board's choosing to hash out some of the issues and discuss possible solutions.

Anna Binder said the community has been asking for a program like Dads in Schools. She said they were needed years ago and said she asked previously where the priority is to get parent volunteers' background checks completed so they can participate in the program. She said she has been unable to obtain assessment and outcome data although she has requested it many times.

Sarah Comroe asked how breaking into a community would build a relationship with that community. She talked about how the mistreatment of staff impacts relationship building and culture and school climate and student behavior and about how staff is not doing enough when it comes to social emotional work.

Matthew Yealy shared his experience of being attacked by students and the process and what took place following the attack. He said nothing has happened with the School Justice Partnership program and he is deeply concerned that he has never been reached out to as a victim.

### **Safe Learning and Working Environment (continued)**

John Carlo suggested installing metal detectors in the schools and having one entrance and one exit. He also suggested getting the Army National Guard into the schools. He asked that the incidents of school violence be broken down by Trustee district. He also offered to build a military school funded by CCSD.

David Gomez shared his family's experience with The Harbor and how it helped his son. He suggested there should be more focus on providing supports for youth who have been rehabilitated as they return to the community.

LaJuana Clark shared that she has been the victim of crime four separate times and said the treatment that her children received was not helpful. She said she has been looking for assistance since September and she thinks the crime within the city and within the schools has a lot to do with the lack of assistance.

James Allen shared some of his experience as an inmate earning his GED and serving 30 years in prison. He said he works with community leaders and people in the District, and he talked about how students having cell phones in schools is detrimental. He said they want to be mentors, and they want to help.

Trustee Williams requested that a Harbor representative come give an in-depth presentation at a future Board meeting.

Discussion was had regarding the particulars of the grant in Item 3.16; the severity of school violence and the process of the District Attorney's office once a referral is made by school police; support from the Board, the community and community leaders as the work continues; including educators, school staff and parents, utilizing central service staff resources, and involving community groups in townhall meetings; potentially reconvening the Safety Committee; actions that could be taken right now that would have an immediate positive impact; the legal obligation and responsibility to educate all children; recognizing the mental health and social-emotional struggles students may be dealing with; the responsibilities that have been placed on educators; recognizing that this is not solely a school district issue and getting social services, other municipalities, and the community to do some of this work that needs to be done; and determining factors in the use of pepper spray.

Trustee Ford suggested placing Dads in Schools in Desert Oasis High School as a step in addressing school violence that would help students as early as tomorrow.

Trustee Garcia Morales said she was also interested in expediting Dads in Schools and volunteered to work with Trustee Ford to move that forward.

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

Dr. Kyle Rogers shared his family's experience with The Harbor after his son took a weapon to school. He said these programs are not working as well as the Board thinks that they are. He said he is concerned about being retaliated against, and he asked that the Board have an agenda item to discuss developing a policy that protects whistleblowers.

Karen Oliver-Brown introduced her grandson that she said was gone for two and a half years. She shared that a meeting would be held by the Library District to discuss expanding programs from West Las Vegas to the entire city. She said her grandson needs an Individual Education Plan (IEP) and a daily communication log from his teacher to the home, and she shared information about Spectrum Center. She commented that whatever children experience stays with them, including violence.

Ramont L. Williams Sr. said more positive resolutions are needed in addressing the topic of violence in schools and all the issues surrounding that. He suggested the District needs to use the influences that the children will listen to. He said the District needs to bring people in that can influence the children, and police officers cannot do it.

John Carlo shared a bible verse. He agreed that the issue of violence in schools is not solely the Board's responsibility. He said he is asking the Board to share the burden. He announced his candidacy for CCSD Board of Trustee District G.

David Gomez stated the Dads in Schools program does not need Board approval, only approval to go onto campuses. He said interventions are needed because social-emotional learning needs to be implemented. He agreed with the previous speaker that it is going to take the students seeing someone they can relate to for them to make a change.

Hannah Comroe stated that in the classroom special education students are given accommodations and she questioned why that is not happening at Board meetings. She said she liked that Trustee Ford was trying to make a difference for tomorrow but because of Board policy nothing will happen right away, and it will be the students who suffer.

Anna Binder stated that she has communication from the principal at Desert Oasis High School that she requested Dads in Schools months ago. She said if a principal is requesting it and it is a school expense, they should not have to wait.

### **Upcoming Meeting of the Board of Trustees – Thursday, March 24, 2022, 5:00 p.m.**

Trustee Cepeda stated the next Board meeting would be held on March 24, 2022, at 5:00 p.m., and an officers meeting would be scheduled soon.

**Adjourn:** 10:16 p.m.

*Motion: Cavazos    Second: Ford    Vote: Unanimous*