

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

Wednesday, January 6, 2016

8:01 a.m.

Roll Call: Members Present
Linda E. Young, President
Chris Garvey, Vice President
Deanna L. Wright, Clerk
Kevin L. Child, Member
Erin Cranor, Member
Carolyn Edwards, Member
Patrice Tew, Member

Pat Skorkowsky, Superintendent of Schools

Also present were: Mary-Anne Miller, Board Counsel, District Attorney's Office; Carlos McDade, General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel; Kim Wooden, Deputy Superintendent, Educational and Operational Excellence Unit; Cindy Krohn, Executive Assistant to the Board, Board Office; Elizabeth Carrero, Executive Manager, Office of the Superintendent; and Norma Herrera, Administrative Secretary II, Board Office.

TELECONFERENCE CALL CONNECTED

Teleconference call with Trustee Tew was connected at 8:01 a.m.

FLAG SALUTE

Trustee Cranor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPT AGENDA

Adopt agenda.

Motion: Garvey Second: Edwards Vote: Unanimous

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

APPROVE ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES – PRESIDENT

Approval on the election of the Office of the President.

Trustee Edwards nominated Trustee Wright for the Office of the President.

Trustee Cranor nominated Trustee Young for the Office of the President.

Trustee Cranor asked Trustee Young to accept the nomination, stating that this is a particularly unique year with successes and a momentum that have occurred under Trustee Young's leadership that they need to carry forward. She said she also feels it would be appropriate for Trustee Young to remain as the Board president on the AB 394 committee.

Trustee Young said she would accept the nomination.

Trustee Young nominated Trustee Garvey for the Office of the President.

Trustee Garvey said she would be willing to serve as Board president for those same reasons stated by Trustee Cranor. She said she believes each Board member should have the opportunity to represent the Board and to take on leadership roles.

Trustee Wright spoke about how she would strengthen the Board and Superintendent as a team through professional development and teambuilding and what the Board needs to do to continue forward and increase student achievement. She recognized the need to build on work that has begun, including Open Book, aligning priorities with Strategic Imperatives and the budget. She said she has learned and has grown in her position on the Board and said she was ready to step into this leadership role, and she asked for the Board's support.

Trustee Young commented that it has been her privilege to serve the Board and the District. She spoke about what is required to be involved in education, not just from the Board, but from the community, the students, the families, and District staff. She said she would be willing to serve in the position of Board president again. She thanked the Trustees for their support.

Motion to close nominations.

Motion: Cranor

Trustee Cranor urged the Board members to vote for Trustee Young for the Office of the President, particularly because of the work that is being done on the AB 394 committees and the example that Trustee Young has been toward that work.

Second: Edwards

Trustee Edwards asked that the Trustees consider the comments that have been made with regard to growing leadership, and she said this is an opportunity now to grow leadership by voting for Trustee Wright to be the Board president.

APPROVE ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES – PRESIDENT

(continued)

She said she believed that Trustee Wright made some excellent points with regard to her growth and maturity, and she believes Trustee Wright's goals are in line with the work that has begun.

Trustee Tew commented that these are particularly unusual circumstances that the District is facing with the current legislation. She said because of the extraordinary times, she feels that the Board needs to maintain its current leadership. She spoke about the need for community and business outreach, as well as relationships established with media, youth groups, and other school districts as the Board moves forward in working in a collaborative manner with the community. She said Trustee Young is strong and multifaceted in this area.

Trustee Child said this is about the children, not about the Trustees' positions on the Board.

Vote on Trustee Cranor's motion was unanimous.

Vote for Trustee Wright for Office of the President failed.

Vote for Trustee Young for Office of the President passed.

APPROVE ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES – VICE PRESIDENT

Approval on the election of the Office of the Vice President.

Trustee Cranor nominated Trustee Garvey for the Office of the Vice President.

Motion to close nominations.

Motion: Child Second: Edwards Vote: Unanimous

Trustee Garvey was elected for the Office of the Vice President.

APPROVE ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES – CLERK

Approval on the election of the Office of the Clerk.

Trustee Cranor nominated Trustee Wright for the Office of the Clerk.

Trustee Wright declined the nomination for the Office of the Clerk.

Trustee Edwards nominated herself for the Office of the Clerk.

Trustee Cranor nominated Trustee Tew for the Office of the Clerk.

Motion to close nominations.

Motion: Wright Second: Edwards Vote: Unanimous

APPROVE ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES – CLERK (continued)

Trustee Edwards expressed appreciation for the work that has been done over the past few years with the Strategic Imperatives and Open Book and moving forward with reviewing the Board's governance model, and she said she would like be a part of moving that forward, focusing on student achievement and advancing the Board as a team. She said that cannot happen without better communication among Board members. She said she would welcome the opportunity to serve in a leadership capacity, and she asked for the Board's support.

Trustee Tew said she looks forward to serving as Clerk alongside Trustee Garvey and Trustee Young. She said she believes moving toward Balanced Governance™ is essential. She spoke about the need for the Board to be accountable to the public. She talked about all the possibilities and opportunities she sees for the future within the District and for the Board.

Trustee Cranor expressed support of Trustee Tew for Clerk, citing Trustee Tew's enthusiastic support of Balanced Governance™ and having the energy necessary for building on student successes moving forward.

Vote for Trustee Edwards for the Office of the Clerk failed.

BOARD MEMBER LEAVES

Trustee Wright left the Board meeting at 8:39 a.m.

APPROVE ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES – CLERK (continued)

Vote for Trustee Tew for the Office of the Clerk passed.

Trustee Wright was not present for the vote.

RECESS: 8:40 a.m.

RECONVENE: 8:50 a.m.

Public Hearing

Hilda Matias said she came to the meeting to observe the dynamics of the Board meeting as part of her administrative credential requirements in California. She expressed concerns regarding the behavior she observed during the organization of the Board.

STRUCTURE AND FORMAT OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT DATA AND INFORMATION

Discussion of a structure and format to report 2015-2016 student achievement data and information regarding Board Ends governance policies, E-1: Vision Statement, E-2: Student Achievement, and Appendix A, E-2: Student Achievement, to the Board of School Trustees during calendar year 2016.

STRUCTURE AND FORMAT OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT DATA AND INFORMATION

(continued)

Superintendent Skorkowsky said this discussion is about the effectiveness of how District staff reports to the Board student achievement data related to the goals set forth in the Pledge of Achievement and alignment to the Strategic Imperatives. He asked that as Board Retreats are scheduled, time is allotted for reporting on the progress of those goals. He talked about possibly having time for staff to present major initiatives at Board Work Sessions as well.

Trustee Cranor suggested that the activities or the focus that would be most beneficial this year are to sustain what is currently happening that has stemmed from the Strategic Imperatives; to seek out ways to highlight and be conversant in student successes out in the community and at community events, keeping them tied to the overarching goals, maintaining the clarity of the goals; and to continue strictly aligning resources to the Strategic Imperatives.

Trustee Garvey commented that having discussions on the Strategic Imperatives, goals, and how they are translating into real-life actions in the schools is important. She said as part of developing policy, the Board needs to have continued feedback on the implementation and practice of the policy so they know if it is working and what modifications should be made to the policy, if any. She said the Board and Superintendent need to be able to have informal conversations regarding budgetary issues or operational issues and how that may be impeding the District from adhering to policy and what may need to be done to enable the District to reach the intent of the policy or if a policy may have possible unintended consequences. She said in terms of student achievement, they also need to explore how the most effective, successful programs or initiatives could be spread across the District.

Trustee Young said they need to articulate more with parents, religious organizations, and community members in terms of the Pledge of Achievement so they are more engaged. She talked about the need to be able to share data with the community. She said the culture of the District and how people feel is also important. She said they need to continue to cultivate relationships, continue to focus on academics and rigor, convey to students that everything they are learning is relevant to their future, articulate that everyone involved, Trustees, parents, students, churches, organizations, and community, has their own set of responsibilities, and to respect one another.

Trustee Edwards said she believes it is important to acknowledge the challenges as well as the accomplishments in the retreat presentations so the Board can be conversant about how the Board and the District are addressing those challenges. She said some of the retreat work needs to be focused on team building for the Board and the Superintendent. She agreed that they need to continue to work on and strengthen aligning the budget to the Strategic Imperatives.

Trustee Child suggested that they need to work on cultivating relationships with federal, state, county, and local elected officials to be able to show them what the District is doing and how important funding is to be able to do the work.

STRUCTURE AND FORMAT OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT DATA AND INFORMATION

(continued)

Trustee Tew agreed with building relationships with legislators. She said building those relationships and being able to have meaningful conversations with legislators is critical during this time. She said the challenges and accomplishments shared by schools should be captured so that it is accessible to everyone, and she said she would like to hear more from teachers.

Trustee Young suggested acknowledging the accomplishments of CCSD staff in terms of continuing education and completing advanced degree programs and using those individuals as a resource.

EMPLOYEE LABOR RELATIONS AND CLOSED SESSION

None.

AGENDA PLANNING: ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

None.

DISCUSSION AND REQUEST FOR SPECIAL MEETINGS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

ADJOURN: 9:41 a.m.

*Motion: Edwards Second: Child Vote: Unanimous
Trustee Wright was not present for the vote.*