

Minutes
Clark County School District
Special Meeting of the Board of School Trustees
Ed. W. Clark High School, Library
4291 W. Pennwood Avenue., Las Vegas, NV 89102

Friday, July 12, 2019

8:11 a.m.

Roll Call:	<u>Members Present</u> Lola Brooks, President Linda P. Cavazos, Vice President Irene Cepeda, Member Danielle Ford, Member Linda E. Young, Member	<u>Members Absent</u> Chris Garvey, Clerk Deanna L. Wright, Member
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Jesus F. Jara, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

Also present were: Mary-Anne Miller, Board Counsel, District Attorney's Office; Elizabeth Carrero, Executive Manager/Director II, Office of the Superintendent; Cindy Krohn, Executive Assistant, Board Office; Lisa Chrapcynski, Administrative Secretary II, Board Office; Jonathan Porras, Office Specialist II; Community Engagement Unit; Marilyn Kirkpatrick, Clark County Commission; Punam Mathur, meeting facilitator; and Stephanie Gatlin, Transcriber/Recording Secretary, Board Office.

Flag Salute

Trustee Cepeda led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adoption of the Agenda

Adopt agenda.

*Motion: Cepeda Second: Cavazos Vote: Unanimous
Trustee Ford and Trustee Young were not present for the vote.*

Board Member Arrives

Trustee Young arrived at the Board meeting at 8:12 a.m.

Public Comment Period on Non-Agenda Items

Autumn Tampa said she was disrespected and booed by audience members when she spoke at the last Board meeting, and no one on the Board spoke up about it. She said there is a lack of respect in CCSD for people who have different opinions.

Trustees extended their apologies to Ms. Tampa.

Board Member Arrives

Trustee Ford arrived at the Board meeting at 8:17 a.m.

Chronic Absenteeism, Pre-Kindergarten, and Workforce Training

Presentation and discussion regarding chronic absenteeism, pre-kindergarten, and workforce training in the Clark County School District.

Trustee Brooks explained the purpose and format of today's meeting and introduced Clark County Commissioner Chair Marilyn Kirkpatrick.

Commissioner Kirkpatrick spoke about Assembly Bill (AB) 309 and the role of the Clark County Commissioners and CCSD and the opportunity to work collaboratively to address and change long-standing issues in the community.

Superintendent Jara thanked attendees for being there and being part of the discussion. He reviewed data related to chronic absenteeism, pre-kindergarten, and workforce training as shown in Reference 3.01.

Ms. Mathur asked attendees to introduce themselves and give one word describing their highest aspiration for education in Clark County.

Ms. Mathur explained the purpose of this meeting and the format of the discussions to take place in the breakout sessions.

Attendees dispersed into the breakout session room of their choice.

During the breakout sessions, participants discussed the topic of their session through guiding questions and brainstormed initiatives to present to the Clark County Commission. At the conclusion of the breakout sessions, participants returned to the general meeting area.

Trustee Brooks thanked everyone for their involvement and invited Trustees to present on their group's topic.

Trustee Cavazos turned the time to Felicia Ortiz, State Board of Education, and Kimberly Bashman, Robert L. Taylor Elementary School, to present for their group.

Ms. Ortiz said their group would like to see a decrease in chronic absenteeism of 10 percent per year over the next five years per school.

Ms. Basham said the group's strategy would be to add an attendance officer for each high school in feeder alignment by the fall of 2020.

Ms. Ortiz said that would cost approximately \$76,000.00 per officer.

Chronic Absenteeism, Pre-Kindergarten, and Workforce Training (continued)

Ms. Ortiz said the group's second strategy would be to bring Communities In Schools (CIS) into every Title I school, which would be 200 schools at a cost of approximately \$59,000.00 per year per school.

Trustee Brooks asked if the group talked about involving parents in discussions who are not sending their children to school.

Ms. Ortiz said yes, family engagement is an important piece of reaching their goals so ensuring there is effective communication between the schools and the parents is vital. She said communication from the District out to the community on the value and importance of making sure children attend school is also important.

Ms. Basham talked about surveying and assessing the different needs in different communities so the attendance officer or the CIS coordinator could address those specific needs.

Trustee Ford and Trustee Cepeda presented on workforce training.

Trustee Ford said their group proposes creating a new double session school schedule to be held at certain schools that would be called "hubs" and that would be accessible to surrounding schools. She said by opening access and using resources already in place, the District would be able to offer opportunities for workforce training to traditional students and adult education students.

Trustee Cepeda talked about how offering workforce training at these hubs would address access to programs, having an adequate number of qualified teachers, and having enough facility space.

Trustee Ford said with the funding for this training, the District could staff more teachers, ask current teachers if they would like to take on an extra shift, and ask experts in corporate to work with students one day per week. She said the hubs would be distributed equitably across Clark County and transportation would be available.

Terri Shuman asked if the group calculated any transportation costs.

Trustee Cepeda said they did not calculate costs. She said there would be a need for additional support professionals, teachers, transportation, and building maintenance in terms of keeping the facility open for extended hours.

Trustee Ford said this would also be an opportunity for adults who have graduated from high school and want specific training. She said this would help with dropout rates and chronic absenteeism as well. She said there is also the potential for increased community partnerships.

Chronic Absenteeism, Pre-Kindergarten, and Workforce Training (continued)

Ms. Ortiz asked if the group discussed partnering with entities such as community colleges, Workforce Connections, and the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) to help cover costs. She asked about adults being on campus with high school students.

Trustee Ford said the group considered this from a “big picture” perspective, and there are still many details to be worked out.

Trustee Young presented on pre-kindergarten. She called her group Team GREEN: Getting Resources for Early Education Now.

Trustee Young explained that the initiative the group discussed was to expand the kindergarten programs that already exist in the 226 elementary schools to include pre-kindergarten. She said they want to target the homeless population as part of this initiative. She said information that would be needed includes the number of preschool students at each school, the number of preschool age homeless children, and an education level baseline for an assessment model.

Julie Kasper, Dr. Beth Howe Center, said they would like to see the expansion of the pre-kindergarten program be universal across the Valley. She said in order to meet the capacity needs for that, the District needs to work with the community and possibly partner with community centers in proximity to the schools.

Melonie Poster, Harvey N. Dondero Elementary School, said the group’s overall theme was to expand the pre-kindergarten program and make it accessible to all and reaching out to the homeless population and bringing those students into the schools to start the pre-kindergarten program. She noted that kindergarten is still not required.

David Hudzick, Clarence Piggott Academy of International Studies Elementary School, said the group also discussed issues that are barriers for many families, such as transportation and families unwilling to disclose personal information. He said the group talked about how the District could involve more of the community through United Way, local libraries, ministries, the culinary union, and asking the media to report on the importance of getting kids to school.

Trustee Young added that a nutritional program is an important factor for children at that developmental age. She said they also wanted to ensure professional training for early childhood education teachers, as well as training for parents and the community.

Trustee Brooks asked if a universal standard would be applied across programs throughout the community.

Trustee Young said Universal Design Learning (UDL) was included in the group’s discussion.

Chronic Absenteeism, Pre-Kindergarten, and Workforce Training (continued)

Autumn Tampa noted that the request for funding would be to cover the cost of training, additional staff, transportation, capacity, and materials to be able to expand the early education program.

Ms. Mathur thanked everyone for their participation.

Board and Superintendent Communication

None.

Trustee Requests for Agenda Items or Information

None.

Public Comment Period on Non-Agenda Items

Autumn Tampa thanked the Board for holding this meeting but said because of the time, the day, and short notice, she does not believe enough people were aware of the meeting. She recommended that the Board hold these types of meetings when everyone can attend.

Terri Shuman said everything that was said here was meaningful and those ideas and information need to be carried forward into action to create change.

Adjourn: 12:01 p.m.

Motion: Young Second: Cavazos Vote: Unanimous