

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, August 5, 2015

8:06 a.m.

Roll Call: Members Present

Linda E. Young, President
Chris Garvey, Vice President
Kevin L. Child, Member
Erin Cranor, Member
Carolyn Edwards, Member
Patrice Tew, Member

Member Absent

Deanna L. Wright, Clerk

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; Jhone Ebert, Chief Innovation and Productivity Officer, Innovative Teaching and Learning Unit, Technology and Information Systems Services Division; Jesse Welsh, Academic Manager, Innovative Learning Environments, Innovative Teaching and Learning Unit; Blake Cumbers, Assistant Superintendent, Facilities Division; Kim Loomis, Innovative Projects Coordinator, Innovative Learning Environments, Innovative Teaching and Learning Unit; Elizabeth Carrero, Executive Manager, Office of the Superintendent; Cindy Krohn, Executive Assistant to the Board, Board Office; Norma Herrera, Administrative Secretary II, Board Office; and Stephanie Gatlin, Transcriber/Recording Secretary, Board Office.

FLAG SALUTE

Trustee Tew led the Pledge of Allegiance.

BOARD MEMBER ARRIVES

Trustee Edwards arrived at the Board meeting at 8:07 a.m.

ADOPT AGENDA

Adopt agenda, except note reference material provided for Item 3.02 and move Item 3.03 to follow Item 5.01 as 5.01a.

*Motion: Garvey Second: Tew Vote: Unanimous
Trustees Child and Cranor were not present for the vote.*

TELECONFERENCE CALL CONNECTED

Teleconference call with Trustee Child was connected at 8:09 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Jennifer Manning said CCSD's external image problem does not stem from the classroom. She said CCSD could help its internal image problem by placing each employee on their appropriate step and column on the salary schedule. She spoke about the challenges of retaining teachers.

TELECONFERENCE CALL DISCONNECTED

Teleconference call with Trustee Child was disconnected at 8:12 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (continued)

Eliza Fellows said the sex education curriculum should only be about preventing disease and unwanted pregnancies and should not include sexual acts. She suggested that boys and girls should be separated in sex education class. She said students should be taught that the best way to prevent disease and pregnancy is abstinence.

Brittany Bandlely said caution should be exercised in what information is presented to students and at what age in the sex education curriculum. She said the sex education curriculum should not include sexuality information.

BOARD MEMBER ARRIVES

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

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (continued)

Kaylyn Taylor spoke about the importance of parental involvement for student success.

TELECONFERENCE CALL CONNECTED

Teleconference call with Trustee Cranor was connected at 8:18 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (continued)

Kaylyn Taylor spoke in favor of an opt-in policy for sex education.

Anthony Benavides spoke against removing abstinence-based teachings and instead teaching alternative methods of preventing sexually transmitted diseases and unwanted pregnancies in sex education. He also disagreed with teaching sex education to younger age groups.

Kathryn Blackburn said she feels that the information she received in sex education was adequate and appropriate, and she feels that parents need to be involved with providing this information to their children. She said the opt-in system needs to remain in place.

PROTOTYPE AND SITE SELECTION

Presentation and discussion on the Clark County School District's prototype and site selection for twelve new schools and two replacement schools as identified in the 2015 Capital Improvement Plan.

PROTOTYPE AND SITE SELECTION (continued)

Mr. Cumbers presented the 2015 Capital Improvement Plan New School Site and Prototype Selections as shown in Reference 3.01.

Trustee Edwards suggested that this is an opportunity to have each prototype school evaluated to compare Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) construction project to a traditional construction project to analyze whether this is cost effective.

Trustee Cranor agreed with Trustee Edwards' suggestion.

Trustee Garvey also agreed. She asked how the Guiding Principles are being tied to the plan.

Superintendent Skorkowsky said public input meetings on the Guiding Principles are scheduled to be held in August and September so that information can be used in the development of the 10-year plan. He said that information would first be taken to the Bond Oversight Committee (BOC) and then would come to the Board. He said those Guiding Principles can also be embedded in the Request for Proposal (RFP) so builders are aware of the standards set forth.

Trustee Tew said she would like the District to explore how the 21st century school facility would look; how blended learning will shape future buildings and classrooms.

Superintendent Skorkowsky suggested that a discussion on that topic be taken to the public and that input gathered and discussed further among the Board. He said another topic that should be included in the public input process is one Trustee's suggestion of looking at the potential of a K-8 building.

To Trustee Edwards' suggestion, Superintendent Skorkowsky said after the public input meetings, the concept of comparing the CMAR building process to a traditional construction process would be presented to the BOC and then brought back to the Board for input and potential action.

Mr. Cumbers noted that Rex Bell and Lincoln Elementary Schools will both be CMAR projects, and staff could consider the CMAR process for three of the six schools to be built.

ONLINE AND BLENDED LEARNING UPDATE

Presentation and discussion regarding online and blended learning in the Clark County School District, including its current implementation, programs of study, and the plan to increase opportunities for students to participate in online and blended learning.

Ms. Ebert, Ms. Loomis, and Dr. Welsh gave a presentation on blended learning as shown in Reference 3.02.

Trustee Young asked what is being done to support those families who do not have access to the technology needed.

ONLINE AND BLENDED LEARNING UPDATE (continued)

Superintendent Skorkowsky said in the One-to-One schools the District is providing devices to the students and is also providing at-home Wi-Fi access at a reduced cost. He suggested that another discussion regarding the Guiding Principles could be moving CCSD schools to One-to-One technology and access for families.

Trustee Young asked about outreach efforts to those parents who are not comfortable with technology.

Ms. Ebert talked about working with the Trustees' parent meetings and the community and educating them on the potential power through the uses of technology. She said staff would be more active in providing information for the Trustees' newsletters.

Trustee Young inquired about the possibility of a mobile unit for Wi-Fi use.

Superintendent Skorkowsky said the "CCSD On the Move" van would be on display at the Back-to-School fairs. He said it is outfitted with technology and Wi-Fi and would be available for use by the Family and Community Engagement Services Department, and that department would also be working with the Infinite Campus team to teach parents how they can be more engaged in their children's education through technology.

Trustee Edwards asked about advanced placement (AP) courses being developed for the rural schools, and she asked about the issue of a highly qualified teacher in the classroom so that the teacher online is the highly qualified teacher.

Dr. Welsh explained that the enactment of SB58 during the 2013 legislature allows for students engaged in an online course to be supported by a licensed teacher in the online class, and it is not required for the licensed teacher to be in the classroom as long as the instruction provided online is being provided by the licensed teacher. He said the District-developed courses are available for other districts and schools to use if they wish to adopt them, and the District has reached out to all of the districts in the state to offer support.

Trustee Edwards asked what the District is doing to promote the opportunities for students at the rural schools to take advantage of the online coursework.

Trustee Garvey expressed concern with parents not getting a clear explanation of what blended learning is. She talked about forcing teachers to now teach in a blended format, and she asked about autonomy for teaching and what support is being offered for teachers who may not have the technology skills and are questioning whether they should leave the classroom.

ONLINE AND BLENDED LEARNING UPDATE (continued)

Superintendent Skorkowsky said blended learning is not required by the District. He said it is optional and is typically determined at the school level and with teachers who have expressed an interest. He said there may be instances where administrators are moving their schools towards blended learning, and the District can help address those particular situations.

Trustee Garvey asked for an update on entering grades on Infinite Campus. She asked if a return on investment (ROI) can be directly linked to this blended learning format in terms of student achievement at Harold J. Brinley Middle School.

Ms. Ebert said Brinley Middle School just implemented this program last school year so that information is not available yet. She offered that ROI information is available on the e3: Engage, Empower, Explore Project, One-to-One schools. She said teacher focus groups for Infinite Campus have been held, and changes have been made to streamline the process and improve teacher use.

Trustee Garvey asked for a report at the end of the 2015-2016 school year regarding success of the blended learning program to include how this aligned to the Board's strategic imperatives and what the outcomes are in terms of student achievement. She asked what the cost would be excluding the Nevada Learning Academy.

Superintendent Skorkowsky said staff could review innovative programs to look at student achievement in future reports.

Trustee Tew suggested having a place on the CCSD website for teachers to learn about and discuss blended learning. She said she would like to have a list of resources referencing blended learning.

AGENDA PLANNING: ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Trustee Edwards asked that there be three sex education items brought forward in September to include discussing the possibility of giving SEAC permission to review and make recommendations for changes to the operational guide.

Trustee Tew requested that staff look at the possibility of delivering sex education in a modular format.

Superintendent Skorkowsky suggested having that discussion within the current sex education discussions.

DISCUSSION AND REQUEST FOR SPECIAL MEETINGS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

EMPLOYEE LABOR RELATIONS AND CLOSED SESSION

Approval of closed session pursuant to NRS 288.

Motion: Edwards Second: Child Vote: Unanimous

RECESS: 10:19 a.m.

RECONVENE: 11:21 a.m.

ADJOURN: 11:21 a.m.