

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, February 6, 2013

08:03 a.m.

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

Dwight D. Jones, Superintendent of Schools

Also present were: Mary Ann Peterson, Board Counsel, District Attorney's Office;  
Donna Mendoza Mitchell, Deputy General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel;  
Pat Skorkowsky, Deputy Superintendent, Instruction Unit; Jeff Weiler, Chief Financial Officer;  
Business and Finance Division; Kim Wooden, Chief Student Services Officer, Student Support  
Services Division; Cindy Krohn, Executive Assistant to the Board, Board Office; Elizabeth Carrero,  
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent, Office of the Superintendent; Lisa Chrapcynski,  
Administrative Secretary II, Board Office; and Stephanie Gatlin, Transcriber/Recording Secretary,  
Board Office.

**FLAG SALUTE**

Trustee Garvey led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ADOPT AGENDA**

*Adopt agenda, except move Item 4.01 to follow Item 6.01 as 6.01a, and note revised reference material for Item 3.01.*

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

**BOARD MEMBER ARRIVES**

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

## **APPROVE SUPERINTENDENT'S EVALUATION**

Approval on the superintendent's evaluation.

Trustee Edwards stated that the overall evaluation of the Superintendent has been conducted throughout the year by review and acceptance of the monitoring reports.

Trustee Edwards read the following summary of the monitoring reports: "Based upon the Board's acceptance of the monitoring reports and the ongoing monitoring of the organization's and the Superintendent's performance during the preceding year, the Board reaches the following conclusions relative to the Superintendent's performance: Executive Limitations – Approval with respect to the Superintendent's performance on meeting the Executive Limitations the Board has set for him, it is moved that the Board finds as follows: The Superintendent is in compliance regarding his performance on EL-1: Global Executive Constraint, EL-3: Treatment of Students and Their Families, EL-4: Treatment of Staff, EL-5: Financial Planning and Budgeting, EL-6: Financial Conditions and Activities, EL-7: Emergency Superintendent Succession, EL-8: Asset Protection, and EL-9: Compensation and Benefits.

"The Superintendent was found in compliance with commendation on EL-10: Communication and Support to the Board, noting that the Board expects a revised interpretation for item Number 8 for the 2013-2014 monitoring report. With regard to Ends the Board finds the Superintendent is in compliance with E-1: Global Mission. The Board also finds on E-2: Academic Achievement in compliance with exception/notation that the Board is looking for more evidence with regard to the soft skills on the next monitoring report."

## **BOARD MEMBER ARRIVES**

Trustee Tew arrived at the Board meeting at 8:09 a.m.

## **APPROVE SUPERINTENDENT'S EVALUATION (continued)**

*Motion to accept.*

*Motion: Young    Second: Cranor*

## **TELECONFERENCE CALL CONNECTED**

Teleconference call with Trustee Wright was connected at 8:12 a.m.

## **APPROVE SUPERINTENDENT'S EVALUATION (continued)**

The Board and the Superintendent discussed areas that they feel the District is doing well in and progressing, areas where they feel improvement is needed, and the programs and initiatives that they want to see started or continued.

*Vote on Trustee Young's motion was unanimous.*

### **APPROVE SUPERINTENDENT'S EVALUATION (continued)**

Superintendent Jones expressed appreciation for the support and guidance of the Board and the efforts on behalf of District staff. He spoke about the importance of the continued efforts to move the District forward on behalf of students. He acknowledged staff for their commitment to moving the District forward and getting better results for students, and he expressed admiration for the teachers and school staff who support and work closely with students every day.

### **APPROVE THE CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES' SELF EVALUATION**

Approval regarding an evaluation by the Clark County School District Board of School Trustees of its performance, effectiveness, efficiency, and progress toward goals previously set and establishment of goals for the Board for the upcoming year.

The Trustees were provided their individual Board evaluations that were conducted over the past year and the objectives and goals that came out of the Board's previous self-evaluation.

Trustee Edwards said she would like to discuss practices or procedures that the Board would like to continue, change, discontinue, or implement. She asked for feedback on continuing to receive briefings, the current seating arrangement, the time protocol for giving additional time to speakers, having a single Trustee responding to student speakers and a single Trustee giving feedback on presentations.

Trustee Edwards said as a standard procedure the Trustees ought to continue to ask questions ahead of time so that staff is prepared to answer any potential questions that may be raised at the meetings. She stated that she raises questions that she has on agenda items with the Chief of Staff, and the Chief of Staff then makes the Superintendent aware of the questions being asked and directs those questions to the appropriate persons. She said that does not preclude anyone from contacting the individual named on the agenda item but offered that as an option for the Trustees.

Trustee Aldeman said more briefings on certain topics would be helpful.

Trustee Young said she would like to be given adequate time to conduct some research and gather information so that she is well-informed about the topics. She said the reference material needs to be provided to the Board well in advance of the meetings.

Trustee Garvey said the Board talked about receiving information that shows what went in to the decision-making process and support from staff in bringing an item forward, and she said she would like to see that coming to the Board.

Trustee Cranor said briefings by request work for her, and she offered that as an option for the Trustees to consider. She said in doing this, she is able to bring a concise summary of the information for the record, lending to the efficiency of the meeting.

**APPROVE THE CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES' SELF EVALUATION** (continued)

Trustee Wright suggested having briefings available for those Trustees who feel that they need it for a particular issue. She said she would also like to have backup material provided earlier, and she would also like to receive information related to the pros and cons of the decision-making process of an item. She suggested having the Trustees and the Superintendent take pictures with the student speakers.

Trustee Young suggested having the clergy be invited from the same area as the student speakers for that particular meeting and perhaps have that person be included in the photograph as well.

Trustee Alderman wondered if the Board would like to consider holding public comment period twice during work sessions as it does for regular meetings.

The Board members agreed with that suggestion.

Trustee Edwards summarized that the Board would begin taking pictures with student speakers and would begin offering public comment period at the beginning and at the end of the work sessions. She said the discussion of this meeting would be captured and provided to the Trustees to review throughout the year. She recommended that the Trustees bring their debriefing document to the upcoming retreat to discuss possibly changing the format of the document, specifically the "comment" portion.

Trustee Alderman said she would like to discuss the process for speakers to sign up for public comment.

Trustee Edwards suggested having that conversation at the retreat as well.

**RECESS:** 9:32 a.m.

**TELECONFERENCE CALL DISCONNECTED**

Teleconference call with Trustee Wright was disconnected at 9:32 a.m.

**RECONVENE:** 9:41 a.m.

## **ADOPT CONSENT AGENDA**

Adoption of Consent Agenda.

- 3.01 OUT-OF-DISTRICT CONSULTANT – DR. KENNETH TURNER. Discussion and possible action on approval to extend the current contract with Dr. Kenneth Turner for one additional year to provide confidential advice directly to the Superintendent concerning the development of human capital programs; design and deliver an expanded suite of online performance management tools to gauge achievement and academic growth; design and deliver an expanded suite of online performance management tools to report Return on Investment; complete the launch of the Office of School Reform and Innovation to promote schools that enhance parent satisfaction, maximize academic growth and narrow gaps; continue facilitating the Superintendent's Educational Opportunities Council (SEOAC) to examine the disproportional discipline of minority students in the District; provide input on more effective use of time, human, and material resources to address student learning needs; recommendations for the improvement of policy governance; development of political strategy, research and program evaluation, and other duties as assigned, for an approximate total cost of \$250,000.00, to be effective March 1, 2013, through February 28, 2014, contingent on and to be paid from private funding as those funds become available, with no impact to the general fund, is recommended. [Contact Person: Dwight D. Jones] (Ref. 3.01)

Trustee Garvey raised questions with regard to duties, responsibilities, scope of work, length of time, office space and clerical support, and authority in terms of consultant versus an employee. She asked for more information related to the terms of this contract. She asked what the projected length of this contract would be to reach the goals set for the District in this area.

## **TELECONFERENCE CALL RECONNECTED**

Teleconference call with Trustee Wright was reconnected at 9:45 a.m.

## **ADOPT CONSENT AGENDA (continued)**

Trustee Garvey asked for clarification of whether the District is meeting the legal requirements for how Dr. Turner is compensated for his services. She said it needs to be made clear that consultants do not have direct supervision or authority over employees. She questioned the use of private dollars for something that is a long-term need for the District as opposed to the cost being shared by the taxpayers. She asked for more information regarding the one-time locating fee described in the contract. She said with regard to a specific deliverable described in the contract, it appears that there is a consultant assisting Dr. Turner, and she asked how we ensure sustainability and move the District's leadership into desired positions.

Trustee Young said she would like to have more time to review the contract and confer with the Board's counsel to answer any questions she may have. She questioned the fact that this is the third year of a one-year contract as opposed to having a 2-year, 3-year, or 5-year contract, for instance, and how that is articulated to the constituents.

## **ADOPT CONSENT AGENDA (continued)**

Trustee Garvey asked about training District employees to do the job that Dr. Turner is doing. She asked if the funds for this contract have been deposited into the account from Windsong Trust, and if not, when the funds would be deposited.

Trustee Cranor suggested changing "other duties as assigned" to "other deliverables as requested," in the last paragraph in Revised Reference 3.01, speaking to the distinction between consultant and employee.

Trustee Wright expressed support of renewing this contract.

Trustee Alderman said she is also in favor of renewing this contract, but she is also supportive of allowing everyone time to gain clarification and have their questions answered. She said there needs to be assurances that consultants act as advisors but do not have direct influence or authority over employees.

Trustee Edwards also expressed support of approving the contract. She said she believed that because the funding for this contract is private, the contract must be year-to-year because the funding is not guaranteed beyond that and is partly based on need. She said she does not want to require that every contract over \$50,000 must be reviewed in its entirety and approved by the Board. She said the Board ought to be cautious of its roll in evaluating contractors, which she does not feel is the Board's responsibility.

Trustee Edwards stated that this agenda item would come back on the February 14 Board agenda.

## **Public Hearing**

John Johnson spoke about his experience being involved in the school district in Hayward, California, and how that school district dealt with its consultant contracts.

Superintendent Jones responded that there is a history in the community of skepticism of consultants. He spoke to the value of Dr. Turner's work. He explained that he has brought the contract forward each year for renewal in order to make sure he was able to raise the funds. He assured the Board that Dr. Turner works with staff but does not supervise staff. With regard to Trustee Garvey's comment concerning two consultants working on the same project, he clarified that he pulled the other consultant off of that project and only Dr. Turner is working in that area. He said staff will answer those questions and concerns expressed by the Board and make that information available to the public as well.

## **BOARD MEMBER LEAVES**

Trustee Cranor left the Board meeting at 10:36 a.m.

## **AGENDA PLANNING: ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS**

Trustee Garvey requested an agenda item for the Board to receive a presentation on the work of the Office of Innovation.

Superintendent Jones said staff set a deadline of March 1 to have a completed draft, and suggested it could be an agenda item in the early part of March.

Trustee Edwards noted that an agenda item with a recommendation from the Attendance Zone Advisory Commission (AZAC) would be coming forward on March 6.

## **DISCUSSION AND REQUEST FOR SPECIAL MEETINGS**

None

## **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Michael Hollis said he has not been compensated for work he performed as a basketball coach last September, and that he believes he has been terminated as an act of retaliation.

Chrys Verner introduced a charity called Kids that Give, which is a recognition program that encourages the culture of giving among children.

John Johnson expressed concern that his son's needs are not being met as a CCSD student with an individualized education plan (IEP). He said he was interested in being involved in CCSD.

## **APPROVE EMPLOYEE LABOR RELATIONS AND CLOSED SESSION**

*Approval of closed session pursuant to NRS 288.*

*Motion: Alderman Second: Young Vote: Unanimous*

**RECESS:** 10:57 a.m.

## **TELECONFERENCE CALL DISCONNECTED**

Teleconference call with Trustee Wright was disconnected at 10:57 a.m.

**RECONVENE:** 11:57 a.m.

## **BOARD MEMBERS LEAVE THE MEETING**

Trustees Garvey and Young left the Board meeting at 11:57 a.m.

## **TELECONFERENCE CALL RECONNECTED**

Teleconference call with Trustee Wright was reconnected at 11:57 a.m.

**ADJOURN:** 11:58 a.m.

*Motion: Tew Second: Wright Vote: Unanimous*

*Trustees Cranor, Garvey, and Young were not present for the vote.*