

MINUTES
CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
EAST CAREER AND TECHNICAL ACADEMY, BANQUET ROOM
6705 VEGAS VALLEY DRIVE, LAS VEGAS, NV 89142

BOARD RETREAT

Friday, February 15, 2013

9:00 a.m.

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; Pat Skorkowsky, Deputy Superintendent, Instruction Unit; Kirsten Searer, Chief of Staff, Office of the Chief of Staff; Joyce Haldeman, Associate Superintendent, Community and Government Relations; Maureen Fox, Director of Management Processes, Office of the Chief of Staff; Ken Turner, Special Assistant to the Superintendent; 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 Erik Kieser, Erik Kieser Consulting.

FLAG SALUTE

Trustee Edwards led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPT AGENDA

Adopt agenda.

Motion: Cranor Second: Tew Vote: Unanimous

Trustee Alderman, Trustee Wright, and Trustee Young were not present for the vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

APPROVE BOARD REVIEW OF THE CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES' GOVERNANCE POLICY E-1: VISION STATEMENT AND E-2: ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Approval regarding suggestions for future modifications, additions, language changes, and deletions to, E-1: Vision Statement and E-2: Academic Achievement, as requested in Reference 3.01. By direction of the Board, Any changes recommended at this meeting will not be implemented unless adopted by the public policy review process at a regular meeting of the Board of School Trustees.

BOARD MEMBERS ARRIVE

Trustee Alderman, Trustee Wright, and Trustee Young arrived at the Board meeting at 9:07 a.m.

APPROVE BOARD REVIEW OF THE CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES' GOVERNANCE POLICY E-1: VISION STATEMENT AND E-2: ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT (continued)

Trustee Cranor read the proposed language as follows: "All students will acquire the attitude, skills, knowledge and values necessary to achieve academically and contribute in a diverse global society. Upon graduation, students will be prepared for postsecondary career success."

Trustee Alderman said she feels that the statement is too general, and that the vision should change periodically to reflect the Board's focus and what is expected of the District.

Trustee Garvey said in this vision statement all families should be kept in mind. She said she would like to add to the statement.

Trustee Wright shared her constituents' input that the words "attitude" and "values" were too similar; to leave the word "economy" out of the statement; that it is the parents' responsibility to teach attitude and values and the schools' responsibility to teach skills and knowledge; to use "ambition" or "disposition" instead of "attitude; that they struggled with adding "postsecondary career success" because it is missing the educational piece by focusing too heavily on what should be instilled at home.

Trustee Young said attitude is an important piece for her because she recognizes that it is difficult for a student to learn without the right attitude. She stated that graduation from high school should not be the end focus; that it should go beyond graduation.

Trustee Cranor said that she could agree to using "enthusiasm" in place of "attitude."

Trustee Alderman said that the statement is too long, that it needs to show how the Board is addressing issues unique to the District, and that it should be concise and relevant to current issues.

Mr. Kieser said that vision statements should be kept brief.

APPROVE BOARD REVIEW OF THE CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES' GOVERNANCE POLICY E-1: VISION STATEMENT AND E-2: ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT (continued)

Superintendent Jones agreed that the statement should be succinct and then expanded upon in other statements or areas.

Trustee Alderman said much of what is being discussed here belongs in E-2: Academic Achievement.

Through the discussion the following language was developed and proposed: "All students graduate prepared to succeed and contribute in a diverse global society."

There was discussion regarding the need to take these proposed changes with the public and gather input.

Motion to bring the above Vision Statement back as a Notice of Intent, with individual Trustees taking this language to their parent groups and constituents to gather input.

Motion: Garvey Second: Alderman Vote: Unanimous

RECESS: 9:54 a.m.

RECONVENE: 10:00 a.m.

LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Presentation and discussion from Erik Kieser, Erik Kieser Consulting, on consideration of strategies for improving and enhancing Trustee and Superintendent Leadership.

Discussion included how the Board uses Policy Governance® to govern the Superintendent; how the Board articulates Policy Governance® to the public; how the Trustees respond to constituents; staff following through with constituent concerns and providing feedback to the Trustees; how Policy Governance® translates into the Trustees' role with regard to constituent services and primary and secondary roles of the Trustees; defining the job of the Board and the job of the Superintendent; and what Policy Governance means in terms of the Board and Superintendent relationship.

RECESS: 10:40 a.m.

RECONVENE: 10:45 a.m.

LEADERSHIP TRAINING (continued)

The discussion continued with what the Trustees feel is their job and responsibility and the Trustees interaction in the community and at the schools.

RECESS: 11:15 a.m.

RECONVENE: 11:32 a.m.

LEADERSHIP TRAINING (continued)

The discussion continued with how Trustees try to be responsive to constituents and how they communicate with school administrators.

The Board and staff also discussed ways in which to more effectively communicate and handle situations in interacting with staff; how to properly respond to constituent concerns; and how the Trustees could receive proper feedback in following up with particular issues. The conversation also included the idea of responding to editorials and letters written to the editor in an effort to provide accurate, factual information.

The Board discussed and committed to the agreements and said they would come back and review their progress on these goals in one year.

The Trustees asked that the Board request information be provided to the Board on a biweekly basis.

RECESS: 1:02 p.m.

RECONVENE: 1:42 p.m.

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 reviewed notes captured from their previous discussion regarding what they felt worked well, what they did not like, and what they wanted to change.

Trustee Edwards said an issue with the Board's self-evaluation is whether the Board members take it seriously, and she said the difficulty in that is that it can be challenging for the Trustees to express themselves in an open meeting forum.

Ms. Peterson explained that this self-evaluation is not something that is required by law, that it is a deliberation over how the Board felt that it performed with regard to its own rules. She said that is not an action over which the District has control in terms of responsibilities it has been given by state statute.

Trustee Edwards offered that the Board could conduct their self-evaluation monthly at the end of the Board meeting for a short period.

The Board discussed the importance of having a constructive, open dialogue when conducting their self-evaluations.

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

Trustee Cranor suggested imposing a time limit on the self-evaluation period.

Trustee Edwards suggested that instead of abruptly stopping the conversation, that there be an expectation that the discussion is to last for 5 to 10 minutes. She said Board counsel and the Superintendent should be present, and it would be recorded.

The Board members agreed with Trustee Edwards' suggestion to conduct the self-evaluation after the Board meetings, and that they would try this process for next month's self-evaluation.

APPROVE BOARD REVIEW OF THE CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES' GOVERNANCE POLICY APPENDIX: DEBRIEFING DOCUMENT

Approval regarding suggestions for future modifications, additions, language changes, and deletions to, Appendix: Debriefing Document, as requested in Reference 3.04. By direction of the Board, any changes recommended at this meeting will not be implemented unless adopted by the public policy review process at a regular meeting of the Board of School Trustees.

Trustee Edwards noted that she added "Name" at the top of the document and that the reference number will no longer be on the document because it will not be part of the agenda.

Trustee Cranor commented that the ranking numbers are not helpful.

Trustee Edwards suggested removing the grid and simply leaving space for comments. She said this is a working document that can be changed, and she suggested that the Trustees try this document for six months and review whether or not it works for them and what needs to be done differently.

AGENDA PLANNING: ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Trustee Edwards noted that Trustee Alderman and Trustee Young would work on E-2: Academic Achievement and bring it back to the Board.

DISCUSSION AND REQUEST FOR SPECIAL MEETINGS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

ADJOURN: 2:05 p.m.

Motion: Wright Second: Young Vote: Unanimous

Meeting minutes transcribed by Stephanie Gatlin, Transcriber/Recording Secretary, Board Office.