

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 1, 2012

8:00 a.m.

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Roll Call:    Members Present  
                Dr. Linda E. Young, President  
                Deanna L. Wright, Vice President  
                Lorraine Alderman, Clerk  
                Dr. René Cantú, Jr., Member  
                Erin E. Cranor, Member  
                Carolyn Edwards, Member  
                Chris Garvey, Member  
                Dwight D. Jones, Superintendent of Schools

Also present were: Mary Ann Peterson, Board Counsel, District Attorney's Office; Carlos McDade, General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel; Pat Skorkowsky, Deputy Superintendent, Instruction Unit; Jeffrey Weiler, Chief Financial Officer, Operations Support Unit; Staci Vesneske, Chief Human Resources Officer, Human Resources Division; Joyce Haldeman, Associate Superintendent, Community and Government Relations; Nicole Rourke, Executive Director, Government Affairs, Community and Government Relations; 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.

**TELECONFERENCE CALL CONNECTED**

Teleconference call with Trustee Wright was connected at 8:00 a.m.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Trustee Young recognized and welcomed Dr. Cantú to the Board. She recognized and welcomed Mr. Skorkowsky as the new Deputy Superintendent.

**FLAG SALUTE**

Trustee Alderman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ADOPT AGENDA**

*Adopt agenda.*

*Motion: Edwards    Second: Cranor    Vote: Unanimous*

### **APPROVE ITEMS 2.01 THROUGH 2.03**

Approval of Item 2.01, 2.02, and 2.03, respectively, as follows:

#### **APPROVE REVIEW OF THE CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICY 7124**

Approval regarding suggestions for future modifications, additions, language changes, and deletions to Clark County School District Policy 7124, Converting Elementary Schools to and from Multitrack Year-Round Calendars and Flexible Double Sessions, as recommended in Reference 2.01. 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.

#### **APPROVE REVIEW OF THE CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT REGULATION 7124**

Approval regarding suggestions for future modifications, additions, language changes, and deletions to Clark County School District Regulation 7124, Converting Elementary Schools to and from Multitrack Year-Round Calendars and Flexible Double Sessions, as recommended in Reference 2.02. 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.

#### **APPROVE REVIEW OF THE CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT REGULATION 7111**

Approval regarding suggestions for future modifications, additions, language changes, and deletions to Clark County School District Regulation 7111, District Attendance Zoning, as recommended in Reference 2.03. 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.

Mr. Weiler explained the need for the modifications of Policy 7124, Regulation 7124, and Regulation 7111 and the development of those modifications.

Superintendent Jones said the changes are proposed in an effort to be responsive to concerns expressed by the Trustees.

Trustee Cranor expressed appreciation to staff for their work on these modifications. She commented that operational funds are having to be moved to address capital needs, which could be money going to teachers.

Trustee Alderman thanked staff for their work and expressed appreciation for the information shown, stating that it shows parents where the needs are, and it provides a true depiction of the current situation with regard to capital funding.

Trustee Edwards also expressed appreciation for the work that staff has done. She cautioned that completely changing a policy in this manner may need minor adjustments in the future.

**APPROVE ITEMS 2.01 THROUGH 2.03 (continued)**

Trustee Young spoke positively about the changes presented, mentioning specifically Early Warning Notice, page 4 of 16.

*Motion to move forward with a Notice of Intent to change Policy 7124, Regulation 7124, and Regulation 7111, as presented, with the flexibility to make modifications based on input from the Attendance Zone Advisory Commission (AZAC) and others with later review.*

*Motion: Edwards Second: Cranor*

Trustee Cranor recognized the Transportation Department for the detailed and transparent transportation cost information they began providing to AZAC three years ago.

*Vote on Trustee Edwards' motion was unanimous.*

**APPROVE 1998 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM - REVISION 17**

Approval of the 1998 Capital Improvement Plan - Revision 17, as recommended in Reference 2.04.

Mr. Weiler presented the 1998 Capital Improvement Plan - Revision 17 to the Board and explained the reasons for those revisions in greater detail.

**TELECONFERENCE CALL DISCONNECTED**

Teleconference call with Trustee Wright was disconnected at 8:44 a.m.

**1998 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM - REVISION 17 (continued)**

*Motion to approve Revision 17 as submitted with the following change: to add the construction and remaining necessary design of the Moapa Valley High School gym addition as detailed in the blueprints donated by KGA Architecture; the gym addition to be the first project to be funded from the remaining 1998 bond monies totaling \$44,604,000. The remaining items listed in Revision 17 BOC revised option A to be completed as bond monies allow in order of priority as determined by the Superintendent and his staff*

*Motion: Garvey Second: Alderman*

Trustee Cranor asked if the motion is approved as presented, would the HVAC project be pushed into the bridge capital program.

Mr. Weiler said that the HVAC project would have to be delayed unless there were some additional savings. He said he hoped to have a Revision 18 that would yield some additional funding.

**TELECONFERENCE CALL RECONNECTED**

Teleconference call with Trustee Wright was reconnected at 8:47 a.m.

**1998 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM - REVISION 17 (continued)**

Trustee Cranor expressed concern with the current motion on behalf of students who attend a school in her area where there are very serious problems with the air conditioning.

**POINT OF ORDER**

Trustee Edwards said this motion includes details not included in the agenda or backup material.

**1998 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM - REVISION 17 (continued)**

Ms. Peterson responded that the agenda item is general and addresses the possible changes to be made and the inclusion of the gym can be addressed with this agenda item.

Trustee Edwards said there are communities who did not understand that changes could be made like this on this agenda. She said the Board should be careful adding a single item that is not noticed on the agenda or included in the backup material.

Trustee Garvey recalled two incidences in which this issue has been discussed, once in a public Bond Oversight Committee (BOC) meeting, and once in her report provided to the Board. She said with regard to the HVAC, her intent in stating the motion in this way was to give staff the flexibility to prioritize.

Trustee Wright expressed concern with the motion, stating a specific school had not been added to a revision in the past. She agreed with Trustee Edwards that other communities would have been here expressing their needs if they were aware that this could be done.

In response to Trustee Cranor's question, Superintendent Jones commented that while he does agree the HVAC systems are a priority, all of the projects presented are of priority, and the motion as presented gives staff latitude to decide which projects may be recommended to be postponed.

Trustee Cantú asked whether this project had been considered by staff and BOC in their deliberations, and how decisions are made in prioritizing the list of needs.

Mr. Weiler offered to provide a full explanation of the prioritization process to Trustee Cantú. He said that conversations have included early discussions of the bridge capital program and educational equity, which entails bringing schools up to other schools standards.

Trustee Edwards inquired about BOC's discussion and vote to consider the Moapa High School gym on Revision 17.

Trustee Garvey said that the vote was a split decision, and with that, a new recommendation was made to have the Moapa Valley community come before the Board to address their need for a gym, which was a passing vote.

**1998 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM - REVISION 17 (continued)**

Trustee Edwards said the BOC does not decide what the Board places on their agenda for consideration. She said although she does recognize the needs of this community, there are other communities with needs. She said she would not be able to support the motion.

Trustee Alderman asked if it was stated or implied that a new gym for Moapa Valley would be provided in the 1998 bond.

Superintendent Jones said there was no formal recommendation or promise made to the community that he is aware of.

Trustee Alderman asked if other schools, such as Sandy Valley and West Prep, were given the impression that they would receive anything in the 1998 bond.

Superintendent Jones said to his understanding nothing was implied to those other schools. He said he believes that what was built was what was recommended by staff and supported by the Trustees.

Trustee Alderman asked if a new school was considered by staff or by BOC to be included in Revision 17 for the southwest part of the valley.

Superintendent Jones said it was a recommendation that he considered bringing forward but realized that the project would have used too much of the resources, and that consideration is addressed in the bridge capital program. He said he elected to address more needs and bring forward the recommendations before the Board today.

Trustee Alderman said that perception plays a role here, and it was implied at some point that this community was going to get a gym. She said she was in support of the Board giving this serious consideration.

Trustee Garvey agreed that a new school is needed in the southwest but said if that were approved today, it would still be two years before students were impacted. She said all of the HVAC system issues cannot be solved at once so choices have to be made. She said this choice is being brought forward for safety issues and equity issues.

Trustee Young said that she is in support of this community having a gym. She talked about the safety and equity issues that Moapa faces. She recognized that there are issues that other communities face that need to be addressed as well, but that the needs in Moapa have been a long-standing concern.

Trustee Wright said she understands the needs of Moapa Valley, but there are other needs at other schools that should also to be addressed. She asked if Boulder City was considered for a replacement school on the last bond.

**1998 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM - REVISION 17 (continued)**

Mr. Weiler said that he does not believe there were any total replacement schools included in the original 1998 bond program. He said he would verify that information.

Trustee Wright asked Mrs. Haldeman if Boulder City was under the impression that they were going to get a full school replacement and then later agreed to a phase replacement.

Mrs. Haldeman said there were no total school replacements in the beginning of the 1998 program. She offered that there were needs recognized but never placed on the funded list, which is what she believes caused some to believe that their needs were going to be addressed with the 1998 bond. She explained that there was some discussion later regarding a school replacement, but it was the community that did not want to replace their school and agreed to a phase replacement instead. She said the first two phases have been completed, but the third phase, replacement of the classrooms, has been on hold for some time.

Trustee Wright asked that the vote be postponed until she could return to the meeting, at which time she would ask that this item be placed on a separate agenda so that other communities have the opportunity to come present their case to the Board.

Mr. Weiler confirmed that there were no replacement schools in the beginning of the 1998 bond program and later phased replacements were added.

*Motion to hold this item.*

*Motion: Edwards Second: Wright*

Trustee Young asked counsel to advise on the motion to hold with regard to public speaking.

Ms. Peterson confirmed that a motion to hold takes precedence over any other motion, and that the speakers may still address the agenda item.

Trustee Edwards said she believes that there are communities that are not aware that they could be here to present their case. She said a promise was made by one Trustee without the support of the Board, so that promise was not a commitment of the Board. She said this would not be a fair decision when other communities' needs are not being heard.

Trustee Edwards suggested that the Board should hold this decision today, inform the other communities, bring the item back, and hear from the public.

Trustee Cranor said that she agrees with Trustee Garvey that this is not an unfair request, and she agreed that there are other needs that are critical. She asked if the Board would be able to act on any other options on today's agenda if the motion to hold passes, and whether the work in Revision 17 would be halted if the motion to hold passes.

**1998 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM - REVISION 17 (continued)**

Trustee Wright stated that she was in favor of the motion to hold and opposed to the original motion.

**TELECONFERENCE CALL DISCONNECTED**

Teleconference call with Trustee Wright was disconnected at 9:40 a.m.

**1998 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM - REVISION 17 (continued)**

Mrs. Peterson said nothing further could be done today if the motion to hold were to pass.

Superintendent Jones said staff would not be able to move forward on any of the revisions without approval of the Board. He said staff is optimistic that there will be a Revision 18, so an option could be for the Board to approve Revision 17 and bring the item under discussion back under Revision 18.

Trustee Cranor asked if both motions were to fail and Revision 17 were approved, could the Board direct BOC to consider the inclusion of the gym in Revision 18 in the context of the other issues.

Trustee Young said that this issue keeps coming forward without any solutions, which is why it was voted by BOC to bring this item to the Board.

Trustee Garvey agreed that this issue has been going from one group to the next with no resolution. She said she could not support the motion to hold because it would also postpone projects that are vital to the schools and the communities. She said she is in support of Trustee Wright's request to hold the original vote until she could return to the meeting.

Trustee Young said that this issue has been ongoing, and that something needs to be done at this point. She said she would not support the motion to hold.

Trustee Cantú asked if the Board would be setting a precedent by making a decision based on a verbal commitment made by a single Board member. He asked about a further review of the prioritized items to maybe find funds for this project.

Mrs. Peterson said a discussion or commitment made by one Board member is not a decision by the Board.

Trustee Cantú asked if the Board would be setting a precedent, though, under these circumstances.

Mrs. Peterson said that is not a legal matter, but rather is a Board decision and if the Board decided to vote in favor of this motion, it would set a precedent.

Superintendent Jones answered that the prioritized list could be reconsidered.

**1998 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM - REVISION 17 (continued)**

Trustee Alderman said she believes other schools have had the opportunity to come before the Board and express their needs in the past year and a half. She said she is not in favor of the motion to hold this item.

Trustee Garvey clarified that the Trustee being referred to in this discussion as the individual who implied that this gym would be built is no longer on the Board.

Trustee Edwards suggested that the Board hear public comment at this time; and that if Trustee Wright is not back by the end of public comment, the Board should move to the next agenda item and come back to this one.

**TELECONFERENCE CALL CONNECTED**

Teleconference call with Trustee Wright was reconnected at 9:58 a.m.

**1998 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM - REVISION 17 (continued)**

Public Hearing

Gary, Batchelor, Jackson Mortensen, Sgt. Bret Empey, Geniel Ozaki, Sheri Lyman, Vernon Robison, Larry Moses, Dallas Larsen, Matt Messer, R. J. Hubert, David Bruins, Grant Hanevold, Kay Barlow, and Dakota Waters, spoke from the perspective of students, parents, and school staff and administrators, and they talked about their needs for a gym at Moapa Valley High School, citing safety, equity, and access issues.

**TELECONFERENCE CALL DISCONNECTED**

Teleconference call with Trustee Wright was disconnected at 10:40 a.m.

**BOARD MEMBER ARRIVES**

Trustee Wright arrived at the Board meeting at 10:41 a.m.

**1998 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM - REVISION 17 (continued)**

Public Hearing (continued)

Cam Walker spoke in opposition to the current process and the motion and recommendation before the Board. He said Boulder City is in need of a school, and he suggested that this money be used to build new classrooms in Boulder City.

Frank Hawkins addressed the issue of equity and what the 1998 bond monies have been spent on. He suggested that there needs to be more openness and transparency concerning the condition of the schools and how the District spends bond money.

Trustee Wright reiterated that she feels the other communities deserve a chance to come before the Board and present their needs. She noted that Moapa, Boulder City, and Laughlin are on the new list for construction.

**1998 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM - REVISION 17 (continued)**

*Vote on Trustee Edwards' motion: Yeses – 2 (Wright, Edwards); Noes – 5 (Young, Alderman, Cantú, Cranor, Garvey)*

*The motion failed.*

Trustee Edwards asked if the Moapa gym is on the bridge plan.

Superintendent Jones said that is correct.

Trustee Edwards asked if Sandy Valley's project is on the bridge list, and if Boulder City's project is on the bridge list.

Superintendent Jones answered that the Boulder City's project is part of the bridge program.

Mr. Weiler said Sandy Valley's project is not on the bridge list.

Trustee Edwards said she believes the Board is setting a bad precedent in considering this request in this manner. She said she believes the motion violates policies with regard to the process in place for building facilities.

Trustee Cranor asked how soon this item could be agendaized to be able to hear the issues in their entirety in the context of all the current operational and capital issues.

Trustee Young asked for input from counsel.

Mrs. Peterson said in her opinion Trustee Garvey's motion is appropriate as it relates to the agenda item.

Trustee Cranor said that her concern is to have the opportunity to make this decision in context of other information that is not included in the current discussion.

Trustee Cantú said he could support the current motion as long as the BOC Revised Option A recommendations could be prioritized and addressed.

Trustees continued to express their views.

Trustee Alderman suggested that the motion be revised to remove the reference to the architectural firm.

Trustee Cranor said the Board should give themselves the opportunity to make this decision in context. She said one piece of context that has not been considered is that \$16 million of the 1998 bond has been spent in the Moapa Valley community.

### **1998 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM - REVISION 17 (continued)**

Trustee Edwards agreed that there are facts that are not being considered here, such as the fact that \$16 million of the 1998 bond money has been spent in the Moapa Valley community, the school's capacity, and the gym's level of need based on the Facility Condition Index (FCI).

*Trustee Garvey amended her motion to remove the reference to KGA Architecture and any items tied to that particular firm. She amended her motion to be: "Motion to approve Revision 17 as submitted with the following change: to add the construction of the Moapa Valley High School gym addition; the gym addition to be the first project to be funded from the remaining 1998 bond monies totaling \$44,604,000. The remaining items listed in Revision 17 BOC revised option A to be completed as bond monies allow in order of priority as determined by the Superintendent and his staff.*

*Trustee Alderman agreed to that amendment.*

### **CALL FOR THE QUESTION**

*Trustee Garvey called for the question. Trustee Alderman supported the call for the question.*

Trustee Cantú said he still needed clarification that those items he mentioned earlier; namely, roofs and air conditioners, would be safeguarded; if not, he would not be comfortable with the motion.

Trustee Alderman clarified that that this should be a debate on the call for the question only.

Trustee Edwards stated that the others who want to speak on this item should be allowed to do so.

*Vote on call for the question: Yeses – 4 (Young, Alderman, Cantú, Garvey); Noes – 3 (Edwards, Cranor, Wright)*

*Vote on Trustee Garvey's motion: Yeses – 4 (Young, Alderman, Cantú, Garvey); Noes – 3 (Wright, Edwards, Cranor)*

### **BOARD MEMBER LEAVES**

Trustee Garvey left the Board meeting at 11:30 a.m.

Trustee Young suggested that Items 2.05 and 2.06 be moved to the August 9, 2012, Board meeting.

There was no consensus to move those items to the August 9, 2012, Board meeting.

**RECESS:** 11:33 a.m.

### **BOARD MEMBER LEAVES**

Trustee Wright left the Board meeting at 11:33 a.m.

RECONVENE: 11:45 a.m.

**APPROVE ITEMS 2.05 AND 2.06**

Approval of Items 2.05 and 2.06, respectively, as follows:

**APPROVE BILL DRAFT REQUESTS – 2013 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Approval regarding approval to submit two bill draft requests for the 77th Regular Session of the Nevada Legislature, pursuant to NRS 218D.205, as requested in Reference 2.05.

**STANDING ITEMS – 2013 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Prior to each legislative session the Board of School Trustees has endorsed a list of standing items. Discussion of the standing items for the 77th Regular Session of the Nevada Legislature is requested.

Mrs. Haldeman explained that CCSD has the opportunity to present two bill draft requests (BDRs) to the legislature to be considered, which would be due on September 1, 2012. She said she and Mrs. Rourke would be presenting eight BDRs for the Board's review.

Mrs. Haldeman presented Options 1-4; Mrs. Rourke presented Options 5-8.

Trustee Alderman said that she was in favor of Option 2: Charter Schools. She expressed concern with having something in place to ensure that individuals are appropriately trained for Staffing for Digital Learning Environments under Option 3: Digital Learning Act.

Trustee Edwards inquired about protecting the ending fund balance from bargaining.

Superintendent Jones agreed that the ending fund balance has been an issue of concern and warrants further consideration.

Trustee Edwards offered that there was some language in iNVEST that addressed this issue. She said this may also be addressed through another source, therefore, may not have to be presented as one of the District's BDRs. She said she was in favor of Option 2: Charter Schools.

Trustee Cantú commented that school choice is important for parents and expressed support of Option 2: Charter Schools. He spoke to Option 6: New Method for Funding Public Schools and said he believes that weighted funding is essential and would resolve critical issues such as proficiency and dropout rates.

Trustee Cranor said the options that stand out to her as having the greatest return for students are Option 6: New Method for Funding Public Schools, Option 5: Nevada High School Proficiency Exam, Option 3: Digital Learning Act, and Option 2: Charter Schools.

**APPROVE ITEMS 2.05 AND 5.06 (continued)**

Trustee Young commented that she believes Option 6: New Method for Funding Public Schools is essential. She expressed interest in looking at protecting the ending fund balance from negotiations. She said she is also in favor of Option 5: Nevada High School Proficiency Exam and Option 3: Digital Learning Act. Speaking of charter schools, she expressed a concern with the lack of accessibility to the charter school of people in the community. She said she also had a concern with utilizing CCSD facilities for charter schools with the facilities issues the District faces. Lastly, she wondered if the District would have the authority to reject a charter school.

Superintendent Jones said that those concerns expressed by Trustee Young are valid and are why staff is proposing that Option 2: Charter Schools be presented as a BDR.

Trustee Edwards said she believed that it would be better if Option 6: New Method for Funding Public Schools came out of committee, rather than from the District.

Trustee Alderman asked that staff address her question regarding the training for the Staffing for Digital Learning Environments.

Mrs. Haldeman explained that the level of detail in bill drafts is simply headline information but said that staff could address the appropriateness of training for those individuals. She said she views this as a local control issue with the state taking a broad approach and allowing the District to make the change, and then the Board setting the parameters.

Trustee Alderman said she was concerned with being faced with another unfunded mandate.

Mrs. Haldeman suggested that the training could be addressed through the Curriculum and Professional Development Division.

Trustee Cranor asked, with regard to the Nevada High School Proficiency Exam (NHSPE) and moving toward the use of another exit exam, if there are other groups discussing and supporting that as Nevada moves toward a higher standard.

Mrs. Haldeman said that she believes this particular issue has more support from the educational community than any other issue at this moment.

*Motion to accept Option 2: Charter Schools and Option 3: Digital Learning Act as the District's bill draft choices.*

*Motion: Cranor    Second: Alderman*

Trustee Cranor requested that Trustee Alderman be directly involved in the drafting of the Digital Learning Act bill draft.

Trustee Young said she would like to be involved in the bill draft for Option 2: Charter Schools.

**APPROVE ITEMS 2.05 AND 5.06 (continued)**

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

*Trustees Wright and Garvey were not present for the vote.*

Mrs. Haldeman explained that her office has pulled the BDRs associated with education from the 2013 BRD list to provide to the Board.

Mrs. Rourke presented the standing items platform, Reference 2.06, as approved by the Board for the 2011 Legislative Session. She explained that she had been reviewing different ways to revise it, and she asked that the Board members review the document and provide feedback.

Mrs. Haldeman said this would be brought back as an agenda item scheduled in December or January to discuss the Board members' opinions on this standing item list. She asked that the Board provide their input no later than December 1<sup>st</sup>.

Trustee Young asked Mrs. Krohn to send reminders to the Board two weeks before the December 1<sup>st</sup> due date.

**AGENDA PLANNING: ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS**

None.

**DISCUSSION AND REQUEST FOR SPECIAL MEETINGS**

None.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

None.

**ADJOURN:** 12:41 p.m.

*Motion: Edwards Second: Cranor Vote: Unanimous*

*Trustees Wright and Garvey were not present for the vote.*