

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 6, 2014

8:02 a.m.

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

Pat Skorkowsky, Superintendent of Schools

Also present were: Carlos McDade, General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel; Kim Wooden, Deputy Superintendent, Educational and Operational Excellence Unit; Jhone Ebert, Chief Innovation and Productivity Officer, Innovative Teaching and Learning Unit, Technology and Information Systems Services Division; Joyce Haldeman, Associate Superintendent, Community and Government Relations; Nicole Rourke, Executive Director, Government Affairs, Community and Government Relations; Gia Moore, Director, Magnet/CTA Department, Technology and Information Systems Services Division; Jesse Welsh, Academic Manager, Innovative Learning Environments, Technology and Information Systems Services Division; Cindy Krohn, Executive Assistant to the Board, Board Office; Elizabeth Carrero, Executive Manager, Office of the Superintendent; Lisa Chrapcynski, Administrative Secretary II, Board Office; and Stephanie Gatlin, Transcriber/Recording Secretary, Board Office.

FLAG SALUTE

Trustee Tew led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPT AGENDA

Adopt agenda, except note reference material provided for Items 4.01 and 4.02.

Motion: Young Second: Wright Vote: Unanimous

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

APPROVE BILL DRAFT REQUESTS – 2015 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Approval regarding bill draft requests to be submitted for the 78th Regular Session of the Nevada Legislature, pursuant to NRS 218D.205, as requested.

Mrs. Haldeman said the District is allowed to submit two bill draft requests for each legislative session, and staff is bringing three options forward for the Board to consider. She said the deadline for submitting the bill draft requests is September 1, 2014.

Mrs. Rourke presented three bill draft options for the Board to consider for the 2015 legislative session, including proposed bill draft language. The bill draft options presented were Bill Draft Option 1 – Temporary Permit for New Licensees; Bill Draft Option 2 – Testing Requirements; and Bill Draft Option 3 – Teacher Pipeline: Require Certain Evaluation Information on Recent Graduates of Teacher Preparation Programs.

Trustee Wright said she was pleased with the proposed language for Option 2 and said she was in favor of that option. She said she is also supportive of Option 1.

Trustee Young said Option 1 is essential, and she expressed support of Option 1 and Option 2.

Trustee Cranor also spoke in favor of Options 1 and 2. She said she feels Options 1 and 2 would meet the most immediate imperatives, and Option 3 could help with a more long-term solution.

Trustee Edwards agreed with the other Trustees' statements in support of Options 1 and 2. She suggested that the District look at ways to protect the end fund balance from bargaining.

Motion to accept Bill Draft Options 1 and 2 for the 2015 legislative session.

Motion: Young Second: Edwards Vote: Unanimous

Mrs. Haldeman briefly reported on the recent Legislative Committee on Education meeting and said she would provide a full report when it becomes available.

ENHANCING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT WHILE ADDRESSING SEAT CAPACITY IN THE CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Presentation on plans to increase opportunities for students to participate in highly successful programs of study while decreasing overcrowding and improving building utilization.

Superintendent Skorkowsky said this presentation looks at ways to utilize available seats and potentially relieve overcrowding in some areas, while creating opportunities for more students to participate in magnet and specialized programs, and expanding the most successful programs in the District.

ENHANCING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT WHILE ADDRESSING SEAT CAPACITY IN THE CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT (continued)

Mrs. Ebert, Dr. Welsh, and Ms. Moore's presentation included the following topics: Concept Overview and Goals; Magnet Schools – 20 Years of Success; Magnet and Career and Technical Academy Achievements; Magnet and CTA Application Data; Top 5 Magnet/CTA Programs by Number of Applications; Magnet and CTA Geographic Interest – Elementary Schools, Middle Schools, and High Schools; Magnet Programs – District Comparison; Top 5 Career and Technical Education Programs at Comprehensive Schools; Enrollment Hotspots – Elementary Schools, Middle Schools, and High Schools; Magnet Expansion and Select Schools Overview; New Magnet Elementary Schools; New Magnet Middle Schools; New Magnet High Schools; Piggott ES International Baccalaureate Magnet; Tarr ES IB Magnet; McCaw ES STEM with Geological Science Focus Magnet; Guinn MS STEM Magnet; Johnson JHS IB Magnet; Thurman White MS Performing Arts Magnet; Brown JHS IB Magnet; Eldorado HS STEM Magnet; Del Sol HS Performing Arts Magnet; Spring Valley HS IB Magnet; Basic HS IB Magnet; Select Schools Overview – Bonanza HS, Chaparral HS, Mojave HS, Silverado HS, Western HS; Comparison Facility Costs; Magnet Expansion and Select Schools Transportation Concepts; Magnet Expansion and Select Schools Program Development; and Our Goal: Academic Excellence.

Trustee Corbett asked for data on magnet participation for zoned students at each level and data on proportionality in the current demographic.

Trustee Edwards asked if the District would be coordinating with the Nevada Mining Association (NMA) to understand what the career requirements are.

Superintendent Skorkowsky said he has had conversations with Tim Crowley, president of the NMA, and District has begun building partnerships with the NMA, specifically in the engineering fields.

Trustee Edwards asked for information regarding the cost of this program expansion and how that would be funded. She asked if a preference would be given to students who live in proximity of the schools and if the District is going to ensure that those seats are filled with those students first.

Mrs. Ebert said it is the current process to make a percentage of seats available first to the students who live near the schools.

Trustee Edwards asked if any consideration has been given to placing an IB or STEM program at Lomie G. Herd Elementary School in the future.

ENHANCING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT WHILE ADDRESSING SEAT CAPACITY IN THE CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT (continued)

Trustee Young said these programs require quality teachers. She suggested that the District needs to work with the higher education institutes so their programs are in alignment with how the District is moving forward as it relates to the highly qualified teachers needed to teach these magnet and CTE programs. She asked if there are plans to partner the CTEs with the Select Schools through the transition.

Trustee Tew asked if the proportionality shown on page 6 of 71 is reflective of the programs being offered in the schools currently.

Mrs. Ebert said yes, these programs were selected based on current student interest.

Trustee Garvey asked how these options are going to be marketed so the community is made aware of these programs.

Mrs. Ebert said social media, partnerships that have been developed, and meet-ups with community organizations are all avenues of marketing that would be used.

Trustee Wright said Gordon McCaw Elementary School would need additional tools to be able to be successful in offering a STEM program. She asked about an expansion and additional selections within the programs. She asked what would happen in the future when there are no longer seats available in the Select Schools because of enrollment growth. She suggested that the District develop a one-page spreadsheet of the information to provide at parent and community meetings.

Trustee Young said some students need one skill to help put them through college as they pursue an education in another field. She said some high schools offer programs that enable students to graduate with a career-ready skill. She suggested there should be opportunities for programs such as automotive and plumbing through partnering with community organizations and businesses.

Superintendent Skorkowsky said as this plan moves forward, the Board would continue to get updates. He said the District would be working closely with business and community partners to expand these programs.

FUTURE BUILDING PROGRAMS – REZONING AREAS

Discussion regarding rezoning areas.

Superintendent Skorkowsky suggested that the Board keep the information provided in the previous presentation in mind as they have the discussion on rezoning areas, and have the discussion with the intent of providing direction to AZAC.

FUTURE BUILDING PROGRAMS – REZONING AREAS (continued)

Trustee Edwards said she believes there are some areas that should still be looked at. She suggested looking at rezoning middle schools in the Southwest. She said she believes the coming IB program at Spring Valley High School would solve the issue in that area for high schools.

Trustee Wright said she does not believe a Districtwide rezone is necessary at this time. She said she was concerned with growth due to the Inspirada development, and she believes the coming STEM program at McCaw Elementary School would help, but she is concerned about the middle school level. She said she believes the coming programs at Del Sol and Basic High Schools would help the situation at the high school level. She said she is also concerned with the enrollment level at Coronado High School.

Trustee Garvey commented that at this point her area has time to experience the relief that the proposed plan would provide. She said she is concerned that in her area there seems to be an appetite for charter schools. She wondered to what level, in terms of accountability and responsibility, the charter schools and involved parties have to work with traditional schools in the planning of how public dollars are spent.

Mr. McDade noted that the information the Trustees are referring to is found in Reference 4.02, pages 69-71.

Trustee Young said her main concern is keeping the Prime 6 schools together, and she believes there may have to be some rezoning with her elementary schools. She said she would like to keep feeder school alignment intact. She said her middle schools and high schools are not an immediate concern at this point.

Superintendent Skorkowsky said the challenge in Trustee Young's area is having to go out of the area to find available seats. He said one idea is to look at increasing capacity by building an addition to provide more seats on their campus to keep kids in their neighborhoods.

Trustee Tew asked if schools would be in a holding pattern in terms of rezoning to allow for principals to correct their zone variances, which may resolve the issue in some schools and prevent moving students unnecessarily.

Superintendent Skorkowsky said those schools' numbers would be reviewed before they are looked at for rezoning to see if the overcrowding issue could be resolved without rezoning.

Trustee Garvey asked for a brief update on the minority to majority situation as it relates to zoning.

Superintendent Skorkowsky said staff is currently looking at that with legal counsel as a possibility of including that as part of the Office for Civil rights (OCR) resolution agreement. He said through discussing this concept, they will also look at zone variances and residential affidavits.

FUTURE BUILDING PROGRAMS – REZONING AREAS (continued)

Trustee Corbett said there are academic strengths in year-round schedules, specifically in District D's east side area. He said he would like to work with the District in involving those communities, showing them what year-round looks like and the academic strengths that schedule brings. He said he would also like to provide information to that community about existing year-round track break programs.

Superintendent Skorkowsky agreed and said that adding the 17 extra instructional days to the Zoom Schools served to extend the academic learning environment exposing students to English for an extended time period. He said adding those extra days also allowed students to continue to get meals during the summer.

Trustee Cranor suggested looking at "out of the box" concepts that have been suggested to her by staff such as utilizing existing office space or storefront space for the early childhood learning program in addressing the overcrowding issues on the east side.

ENHANCING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT WHILE ADDRESSING SEAT CAPACITY IN THE CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT (continued)

Public Comment

Theo Small suggested keeping track of budgets while looking at these opportunities. He said there were some concerns expressed regarding the highest academic achieving students leaving their schools for choice schools, affecting their current school's scores. He said students attending a school with a magnet program also need to be challenged and on a clear path. He offered to work with Equity and Diversity Education Department regarding modifying the language "minority to majority."

AGENDA PLANNING: ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Trustee Young requested an agenda item to discuss concerns surrounding students' lack of handwriting skills.

Trustee Garvey requested that the presentation requested by Trustee Young include information on any neurological development that is gained through handwriting as opposed to keyboarding.

Trustee Cranor announced that the Board retreat date has been changed to August 29.

Trustee Corbett suggested having a discussion at the Board retreat surrounding Board and superintendent communication.

DISCUSSION AND REQUEST FOR SPECIAL MEETINGS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Stephen Augspurger said as the District moves forward with different initiatives and programs, the impact those would have on the performance evaluation system must be considered. He said he supports the magnet expansion program, but as choice is opened to families, students are going to go where the best opportunities for them are, and some schools are not going to benefit. He said close attention needs to be placed on resources through this expansion.

ADJOURN: 10:25 a.m.

Motion: Edwards Second: Tew Vote: Unanimous