

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

Wednesday, October 3, 2012

8:02 a.m.

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; Donna Mendoza Mitchell, Deputy General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel; Pat Skorkowsky, Deputy Superintendent, Instruction Unit; Jeff Weiler, Chief Financial Officer, Operations Unit; Kim Wooden, Chief Student Services Officer, Student Support Services Division; Sally Jost, Director Related Services, Special Education Related Services, 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 Alderman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPT AGENDA

Adopt agenda.

*Motion: Edwards Second: Cranor Vote: Unanimous
Trustees Wright and Cantú were not present for the vote.*

BOARD MEMBER ARRIVES

Trustee Wright arrived at the Board meeting at 8:03 a.m.

APPROVE BOARD REVIEW OF THE CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES' GOVERNANCE POLICY GP-2: GOVERNING STYLE

Approval regarding suggestions for future modifications, additions, language changes, and deletions to, GP-2: Governing Style, as requested 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.

Trustee Wright said that with regard to the language in Number 1 that reads, "...not merely a reactor to staff initiatives," the Board should remain cognizant of this point. She stated that she did not have any changes to this policy.

Trustee Young suggested that the Board should gather feedback from the public in terms of how the public perceives the Board's use or execution of Policy Governance®.

Trustee Edwards stated that she had requested in the past that an annual review of Policy Governance® be conducted and suggested that it could be held at the Board retreat.

Trustee Young said she would like to hear the public's perspective as well as.

Trustee Edwards said the meetings are public and anyone wishing to provide input could do so, and the Board members are welcome to speak to their parents at their Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) meetings also.

Trustee Alderman suggested using a tool to collect that information and feedback from the public, such as a survey. She referred to Number 3 and said that the Superintendent should know that the Trustees realized that successes do exist. She suggested the language, "...reflects the success and the need for improvement..." Regarding Number 7 and Number 8, she said that she feels the Board does well examining the policies but could improve upon their discussions on the Board's effectiveness of their use of the policies.

Trustee Cranor suggested that when a Trustee interacts with an individual, she or he should be aware of that person's perspective and how Policy Governance® is affecting that person's experience in context while being attentive to their issues and helping them to find a solution.

Trustee Garvey noted that there was a community linkage meeting held on Policy Governance®, and there was not a significant response. She commented that she does not believe the general public understands what Policy Governance® is and why the Board governs in this manner. She suggested that survey questions could include, "Do you know what Policy Governance® is?" and "Do you think it is effective or the best way to govern?"

Trustee Edwards agreed with comments made by Trustee Alderman regarding number 7. She commented that the language in Number 3 should be modified so that it reflects the Board's intentions.

APPROVE BOARD REVIEW OF THE CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES' GOVERNANCE POLICY GP-2: GOVERNING STYLE (continued)

Trustee Young said Trustees Wright and Alderman would work together to bring proposed language for Number 3 forward. She suggested placing a PowerPoint® presentation on the CCSD website to help educate the public on Policy Governance® along with an assessment offered on an annual basis for those who wish to view it.

Trustee Edwards suggested developing a tool to gather feedback that could be provided at the Trustees' PAC meetings, as well as other special Board meetings.

Trustee Alderman suggested advertising or alerting constituents via email when the time for policy review is approaching.

Trustee Cranor offered that a PowerPoint® presentation on Policy Governance® given by Dr. Ken Turner, Special Assistant to the Superintendent, to the Audit Advisory Committee previously might also be useful.

APPROVE BOARD REVIEW OF THE CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES' GOVERNANCE POLICY GP-9: MEETING PLANNING

Approval regarding suggestions for future modifications, additions, language changes, and deletions to, GP-9: Meeting Planning, as requested 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.

Trustee Wright referred to Number 3 and questioned whether this is actively being done. She suggested that a presentation by a demographer or a futurist should be an annual event.

Trustee Cranor suggested engaging teachers and gaining feedback from them regarding the direction the District is moving in and all of the current changes to assist the Board in their meeting planning and agenda development.

BOARD MEMBER ARRIVES

Trustee Cantú arrived at the Board meeting at 8:37 a.m.

APPROVE BOARD REVIEW OF THE CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES' GOVERNANCE POLICY GP-9: MEETING PLANNING (continued)

Trustee Young agreed with Trustee Cranor's suggestion and said she wants to be sure that teachers feel comfortable in providing their honest, open input.

Trustee Alderman agreed with comments made by Trustee Wright and questioned whether the planning and gathering of input should be taking place now in preparation for next year.

APPROVE BOARD REVIEW OF THE CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES' GOVERNANCE POLICY GP-9: MEETING PLANNING (continued)

Trustee Edwards said this policy language does not indicate that the presentations need to happen annually. She said these items listed in Number 3 are examples of what could be done, and as it is currently written, it is not a formalized process, but that the Board has the ability to make it more formalized.

Trustee Alderman referenced the first sentence in Number 3 in terms of considering what the Board wants to accomplish, and she said the Board could improve in their thinking strategically for the future as a whole.

Trustee Young noted that any changes being proposed in Items 2.01 through 2.07 would come forward as a Notice of Intent.

Public Hearing

Ruben Murillo expressed appreciation for the Trustees wanting to invite teachers to provide input but made the point that retaliation for teacher input is a reality. He said there needs to be a stand by the Board that says teacher input is valued and safe.

APPROVE BOARD REVIEW OF THE CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES' GOVERNANCE POLICY GP-15: BOARD AFFILIATED COMMITTEES

Approval regarding suggestions for future modifications, additions, language changes, and deletions to, GP-15: Board Affiliated Committees, as requested 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.

Trustee Wright noted that the Clark County Parks and Recreation board has not met in more than two years. She wondered if it should be removed from the Board's standing committees list.

Trustee Young stated that the Clark County Parks and Recreation board has been reestablished.

Trustee Alderman requested that the Appendix associated with GP-15: Board Affiliated Committees be modified to reflect an appointment time for the Public Education Foundation representative from a January to December appointment to a July to June appointment.

Trustee Edwards suggested that the appointment information should be noted here in a footnote, as well as in the Appendix.

APPROVE BOARD REVIEW OF THE CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES' GOVERNANCE POLICY B/SL-3: ACCOUNTABILITY OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Approval regarding suggestions for future modifications, additions, language changes, and deletions to, B/SL-3: Accountability of the Superintendent, as requested in Reference 2.04. 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 Wright suggested adding the language to the end of Number 1, "...unless given direction by the Superintendent," as the Board often works with upper-level staff.

Trustee Edwards pointed out that the policy already gives permission to the Board to communicate with staff and said she does not believe the Superintendent should give permission to the Board to instruct staff.

Trustee Cranor agreed with leaving the sentence as stated because staff should have a clear understanding that the Board does not have the authority to instruct them.

Trustee Wright agreed that no changes were necessary.

Trustee Young agreed with comments made by Trustee Edwards and Trustee Cranor. She suggested changing the word "instruction" to "direction."

Trustee Cantú suggested the word "directives" in place of "instruction."

Trustee Alderman said that she preferred the word "instruction" because it does not leave the meaning to interpretation.

The Board reached consensus to leave the word "instruction" in place.

APPROVE BOARD REVIEW OF THE CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES' GOVERNANCE POLICY EL-6: FINANCIAL CONDITION AND ACTIVITIES

Approval regarding suggestions for future modifications, additions, language changes, and deletions to, EL-6: Financial Condition and Activities, as requested in Reference 2.05. 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 Wright stated that she did not have any proposed changes to this policy.

Trustee Alderman asked if the language in Number 3 would apply to the current Pay-As-You-Go (PAYGO) ballot question if it were approved by voters.

APPROVE BOARD REVIEW OF THE CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES' GOVERNANCE POLICY EL-6: FINANCIAL CONDITION AND ACTIVITIES
(continued)

Mr. Weiler explained that with regard to "future bond issues," even without this policy in place there are laws in place that require staff to come to the Board before they issue debt, which they are not authorized to do under the PAYGO program. He said that regarding "commit bond funds," that would not technically apply to the PAYGO program. He suggested perhaps "bond and capital funds" or similar language.

Trustee Alderman suggested the language, "...commit bond funds or capital funds."

The Board members agreed with Trustee Alderman's proposed language change.

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

Approval regarding suggestions for future modifications, additions, language changes, and deletions to, E-2: Academic Achievement, as requested in Reference 2.06. 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 Wright noted that the Board is presently discussing a possible revision of the opening paragraph.

Trustee Cantú asked about a reference to the accountability in achieving the statement that is in the opening paragraph.

Trustee Edwards explained that the Board directs only the Superintendent who then directs teachers and staff. She said that E-2: Academic Achievement is the Ends policy that the Superintendent is judged on and is the policy that drives the goals of the District.

Trustee Cantú said that there should be some accountability referenced specifically speaking to how this is being accomplished and who is responsible.

Trustee Cranor responded that the monitoring report that is developed in response to the policy is very detailed and comprehensive in addressing the accountability and achievement of the Ends.

Mr. Skorkowsky offered to provide a copy of last year's monitoring report to Trustee Cantú.

APPROVE BOARD REVIEW OF THE CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES' GOVERNANCE POLICY APPENDIX: SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION MANUAL

Approval regarding suggestions for future modifications, additions, language changes, and deletions to, Appendix: Superintendent Evaluation Manual, as requested in Reference 2.07. 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 Wright stated that she did not have any proposed changes to the Appendix.

Trustee Alderman disagreed that the Sample Language for annual written evaluation on page 5 of 5 is indeed a sample but instead is more like a fill-in-the-blank form. She asked if there was some standard language that could be used to develop a sample.

Trustee Cranor suggested making available on the CCSD website the manual and the monitoring reports and perhaps a printed copy kept in the Board Office as well.

Trustee Edwards stated that the Trustees are provided with that information every January when the Board conducts the Superintendent's annual evaluation, and the monitoring reports appear on the CCSD website in the Board agendas.

Trustee Young offered that the information is also available through BoardDocs®. She suggested that perhaps it could be made available in a different location so that people could view it throughout the year.

Trustee Edwards suggested that perhaps there could be a link to the Superintendent's evaluation on the CCSD website under the Board of School Trustees.

Trustee Cantú commented that the information should be more easily accessible and the language used to find the information in a search should be easy to understand, clear, and easily accessible as well.

Mr. Skorkowsky said that staff would look for ways to make that information more accessible and user-friendly.

HEALTH PARTNERSHIPS AND SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTERS

Presentation and discussion regarding updated information on health partnerships and school-based health centers.

Ms. Wooden briefly spoke about the work that has been done and continues to be done in developing partnerships, providing quality health services to CCSD students, and continually improving the process.

HEALTH PARTNERSHIPS AND SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTERS (continued)

Ms. Jost gave a presentation on the health partnerships and school-based health centers. Her presentation included: Formal Agreement Process, Health-Related Partnerships, Recent Agreements, School-Based Health Center (SBHC) Locations, Pending CCSD Health-Related Partnerships, SBHC Eligible Students, Dental Services, Mental Health Services, Health-Related Partnerships Monitoring Process, Services Delivered 2011-2012, and Nevada SBHC Standards.

Trustee Edwards suggested that a CCSD School Board Trustee should be a member of the Nevada SBHC Standards committee. She stated that the Nevada Association of School Boards (NASB) has been encouraging legislators to consider school board involvement and input in connection with the implementation of school-based programs. She offered that the NASB could be helpful in selecting a representative of that committee.

Trustee Garvey thanked everyone involved in this process for their hard work and commitment. She suggested staff working with partners to develop a standard of necessary and appropriate data to be included in staff's reports. She expressed the great need for mental health services.

Trustee Alderman agreed that the community engagement piece of this program and process is essential.

Trustee Cantú agreed that mental health issues need to be addressed. He said one issue is that individuals do not view mental illness in the same way as they view physical illness, and he said he hopes the community could be educated and enlightened as to this issue.

Trustee Cranor suggested considering the possibility of expanding the Sex Education Committee's duties to utilize their expertise in addressing reproductive services in the future.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Stephen Augspurger spoke highly of Dr. Ken Turner, Special Assistant to the Superintendent, and his abilities and expertise but said Dr. Turner has become more of an employee than a consultant, including giving direction to CCSD staff that, on occasion, has been inappropriate. He asked that attention be given to this matter.

Monica Brett introduced Nevada Energy Wise Educators, a community-wide education initiative. She said their partners include NV Energy, the U.S. Green Building Council – Nevada, and Workforce Connections.

BOARD MEMBER LEAVES DAIS

Trustee Garvey left the dais at 10:48 a.m.

AGENDA PLANNING: ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

None.

DISCUSSION AND REQUEST FOR SPECIAL MEETINGS

None.

EMPLOYEE LABOR RELATIONS AND CLOSED SESSION

Approval of closed session pursuant to NRS 288.

Motion: Edwards Second: Cranor Vote: Unanimous

Trustee Garvey was not present for the vote.

RECESS: 10:49 a.m.

BOARD MEMBER LEAVES MEETING

Trustee Wright left the Board meeting at 11:29 a.m.

RECONVENE: 11:29 a.m.

ADJOURN: 11:29 a.m.

Motion: Cantú Second: Edwards Vote: Unanimous

Trustee Wright and Trustee Garvey were not present for the vote.