

MINUTES
CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
LAS VEGAS PAIUTE TRIBE RESERVATION, MULTIPURPOSE BUILDING
1316 SACKETT STREET, LAS VEGAS, NV 89106

COMMUNITY LINKAGE

Wednesday, November 19, 2014

6:34 p.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; Phoebe Redmond, Assistant General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel; Jeffrey Geihs, Assistant Chief Student Achievement Officer, Instruction Unit; Joyce Haldeman, Associate Superintendent, Community and Government Relations; Deb Hegna, Director, Grants Development and Administration Department, Educational and Operational Excellence Unit; Greta Peay, Director, Equity and Diversity Education Department, Office of the Superintendent; Michelle Booth, Director, Communications Office, Office of the Chief of Staff; Brandon Moeller, Assistant Director, Equity and Diversity Education Department; Cindy Krohn, Executive Assistant to the Board, Board Office; and Michele Nelson, Photographer, Communications Office, Office of the Chief of Staff.

FLAG SALUTE

Trustee Cranor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPT AGENDA

Adopt agenda.

Motion: Edwards Second: Garvey Vote: Unanimous

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

COMMUNITY LINKAGE

Discussion with members of the Las Vegas Paiute Tribe for the purpose of obtaining input on the education of the Las Vegas Paiute students who attend the Clark County School District.

Trustee Young thanked the Las Vegas Paiute Tribe for their work and participation in helping to bring this meeting together. She introduced the Trustees and Superintendent Skorkowsky.

Tribal Chair, Ben Tso, welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for their support. He introduced the Las Vegas Paiute Education Committee.

Superintendent Skorkowsky introduced District staff.

Petra Wilson, chairperson of the Clark County Indian Education Committee (IEC) for Title VII and Johnson O'Malley, introduced others who are part of the committee and program. She briefly discussed her background and history of the IEC.

Rex Wilson, IEC, shared that American Indian/Alaska Native students nationwide have the highest dropout rate amongst other ethnic groups. He presented a proposal for CCSD to consider as a solution to this critical issue; that is, to create an independent and dedicated Indian education department. He explained that through this plan, the IEC would like to increase the Native American student graduation rate in CCSD by 10-20 percent within 2 years and up to 50 percent in 10 years.

Mrs. Wilson shared information prepared by the National Indian Education Association regarding a cultural-based education for Native American students. She talked about the structure IEC would like to have for the proposed Indian education department.

Public Hearing

Mercedes Krause (phonetic) said tutors are not always available at the school site so there needs to be a location where students can go and be tutored. She said there also needs to be a meeting place where students can connect culturally and have academic and social support.

Candice Freeman (phonetic) encouraged parents to get involved and be supportive. She asked about the budget amount for the Moapa Education Service Center and asked who the IEP coordinator was. She said she would like to see the Student Success Advocate (SSA) be more active and more responsive to students' needs.

Dawn Bruce (phonetic) spoke in favor of separating the Indian education program from the Equity and Diversity Education Department. She said the SSA's, especially the non-Native SSA's, are not corresponding effectively with students.

Melissa Barbary (phonetic) also spoke in favor of separating the Indian education department from the Equity and Diversity Education Department, stating they may be better able to identify students in danger.

COMMUNITY LINKAGE (continued)

Mrs. Wilson (phonetic) talked about the differences in Native American culture and behavior and other cultures and the importance of mentorship. She said the colleges and universities need to be involved.

Luwanda Cushman (phonetic) asked about zoning and transportation for her daughter who lives in Snow Mountain and attends Indian Springs School.

Marcia Mahone (phonetic) spoke about her daughter who attends Indian Springs but had to attend Arbor View for summer school and said she would like her daughter to attend Arbor View.

Julie Manardo (phonetic) said her son attends Indian Springs and has an IEP. She said the Option 2 diploma he would be awarded cannot be used for community college. She said she would like him to continue and earn a traditional diploma.

A parent said she feels her child who attends Indian Springs has been pushed into special education.

Della Frank (phonetic) said she found out about some positive things going on in a meeting with the Department of Education. She said she would like to have additional resources to help the students and the Center.

Dianna Croci (phonetic) asked if Project Coordinators and SSA's meet regularly to plan the year.

Mercedes Krause (phonetic) said SSA's are supposed to be at each school. She asked if someone at the school can work with the SSA at that particular school.

Mrs. Wilson questioned what direction Indian education is going in. She asked if the District could look at what worked and what did not work over the years. She said she would like to see additional locations throughout the city where tutoring is available for students.

Irea Auzi (phonetic) suggested that the SSA should consider meeting with the students in groups so they can meet other Native American children at their school, and she said it is preferable that the representative be Native American.

Candice Freeman (phonetic) asked who was responsible for getting information about tutoring out to the schools.

Susan Anderson (phonetic) expressed concerns with the transportation for the Indian Springs students. She said the bus sits at the bridge while the children wait and then when it comes to pick them up, the children have to run to catch it or get left. She said those students that miss the bus are not able to get to school.

COMMUNITY LINKAGE (continued)

Daryn Pete (phonetic) said she was made aware that some of her friends' younger siblings were being told that Native Americans no longer exist.

Darla (phonetic) said the issues and concerns expressed here are happening all over, not just in Clark County School District. She said she looks forward to working with Native-American students and the community.

Mike Padeken (phonetic) said as a tutor one of the biggest issues he saw was not having enough parents getting their students to the location. He said the parents need to view education as a high priority.

Trustee Corbett shared that in 2012 the Nevada Department of Education board adopted a Native American curriculum to serve as a supplemental curriculum. He said the curriculum is available on the Nevada Department of Education website. He said the supplemental curriculum is not mandated and suggested there would be an opportunity then to lobby during the upcoming legislation session. He suggested that parents work with their children's schools to get that supplemental curriculum integrated.

Trustee Wright suggested that the IEC could work with the different schools a well.

A parent said she would like to see the push for this come from the school district instead of just from the parents.

Mercedes Krause (phonetic) inquired about putting a board together for Native American History Month for resources and activities that could work together with the community and the District throughout the year in preparation.

Dawn Bruce (phonetic) thanked the Board and Superintendent Skorkowsky for reaching out to the community.

The Board presented the Las Vegas Paiute Tribe with a certificate of appreciation.

AGENDA PLANNING: ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

None.

DISCUSSION AND REQUEST FOR SPECIAL MEETINGS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

ADJOURN: 8:22 p.m.

Motion: Edwards Second: Garvey Vote: Unanimous