

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, December 5, 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; Carlos McDade, General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel; Joyce Haldeman, Associate Superintendent, Community and Government Relations; Nicole Rourke, Executive Director, Government Affairs, Community and Government Relations; Maureen Fox, Director of Management Processes, Office of the Chief of Staff; Cindy Krohn, Executive Assistant to the Board, Board Office; 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, except move Item 3.03 to follow Item 5.01 as 5.01a.

Motion: Garvey Second: Alderman Vote: Unanimous

Trustees Cantu and Cranor were not present for the vote.

Trustee Young noted that Item 2.01 would be held until Trustee Cantú's arrival.

APPROVE REVISION OF THE 2013-2014 CALENDAR OF BOARD MEETINGS

Approval on the revision of the calendar of regular meetings of the Board of School Trustees for the period of January 2013 through January 2014, as requested in Reference 2.02.

Trustee Young noted that the January 7, 2013, Board meeting would be moved to 6:00 p.m.

BOARD MEMBER ARRIVES

Trustee Cranor arrived at the Board meeting at 8:06 a.m.

APPROVE REVISION OF THE 2013-2014 CALENDAR OF BOARD MEETINGS (continued)

Trustee Edwards stated that the July 25, 2013, Board meeting conflicts with the scheduled date for the Nevada Association of School Boards (NASB) retreat.

Superintendent Jones proposed cancelling the July 25, 2013, Board meeting.

The Trustees supported that suggestion.

Motion to approve the revised 2013-2014 calendar, changing the January 7, 2013, Board meeting to begin at 6:00 p.m. and cancelling the Board meeting scheduled for July 25, 2013.

Motion: Alderman Second: Wright Vote: Unanimous

Trustee Cantu was not present for the vote.

BOARD MEMBER ARRIVES

Trustee Cantú arrived at the Board meeting at 8:11 a.m.

APPROVE BOARD REVIEW OF THE CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES' GOVERNANCE POLICY EL-1: GLOBAL EXECUTIVE CONSTRAINT

Approval regarding suggestions for future modifications, additions, language changes, and deletions to, EL-1: Global Executive Constraint, 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 Cantú presented the following proposed language, which speaks to ensuring that the community's diversity is reflected in the representation on District committees: "The Superintendent will not fail to acknowledge the community's diversity by ensuring that District committees, focus groups, and advisory boards are a reflection of the communities they represent."

Trustee Edwards asked if Trustee Cantú is proposing that this language be placed in EL-1: Global Executive Constraint.

Trustee Cantú said that is the recommendation of staff.

Trustee Edwards said she had not had the opportunity to review the policies to see if this is the best placement for this language.

Trustee Young said she would like the opportunity to review this language and the policy as well.

APPROVE BOARD REVIEW OF THE CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES' GOVERNANCE POLICY EL-1: GLOBAL EXECUTIVE CONSTRAINT (continued)

Mrs. Fox explained that the recommendation was made to place this language in EL-1: Global Executive Constraint because this is an overarching policy that guides the Superintendent and is in line with commonly accepted business and professional practices and ethics. She added that in reviewing this language, it seemed to be another overarching principle that the Board is guiding the Superintendent in.

Trustee Alderman questioned the placement of this additional language in the policy, such as being added as a Number 1 or as a stand-alone paragraph.

Mrs. Fox said that would depend on how the Board views this additional language, but she would recommend adding the language as a Number 1.

Trustee Garvey questioned whether this language would be referring to the entire District or whether it would be specific to items and communities. She asked whether any type of protocol for trying to fulfill this directive would be identified in policy.

Trustee Cantú said this should serve as a goal of the District that administration and staff should strive for.

Trustee Edwards said that the language should allow for the possibility that the diversity of the community may not always be able to be adequately represented. She suggested that this language may need to be placed in a newly developed Executive Limitation (EL) specific to this area.

Trustee Cranor suggested that if a new EL were developed, it should be specific to treatment of the community. She said she believed the first part of the proposed language, "The Superintendent will not fail to acknowledge the community's diversity" should be included in EL-1: Global Executive Constraint.

Trustee Young commented that at times District staff is not reflective of the diversity of the District's communities, and she would like to see that changed.

Trustee Alderman asked if the new policy could replace the previously deleted EL-2: Instructional Program.

Mrs. Fox responded that it was her understanding that deleted policies should remain as such and new policies should only be added.

Mr. McDade said he would review why the decision was made to keep deleted policies in place and not reuse the policy number.

APPROVE BOARD REVIEW OF THE CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES' GOVERNANCE POLICY EL-1: GLOBAL EXECUTIVE CONSTRAINT (continued)

Motion that consideration be given to adding the language, "The Superintendent will not fail to acknowledge the community's diversity" to EL-1: Global Executive Constraint.

Motion: Cranor

Trustee Edwards said she was not in support of the motion at this time.

Trustee Cantú seconded the motion.

Trustee Edwards expressed concern that language is being proposed that has not been presented to the community and is not on the agenda. She suggested bringing this item back with more information about how the rest of the policy would be impacted. She added that it was her recollection that the decision regarding reusing deleted policy numbers came from the District Attorney's office. She offered to work with Mrs. Fox and Trustee Cantú to develop proposed language to bring forward.

Trustee Alderman asked Ms. Peterson about the history of EL-2: Instructional Program.

Ms. Peterson said she would research the history and bring information forward.

Trustee Alderman said she does not support the motion because she believes that language should be kept intact and should stand alone.

Trustee Garvey said she would be in support of the motion to make sure that the discussion moving forward includes consideration of adding the language to EL-1: Global Executive Constraint. She said if the only choices were to have this language be an EL-13 or be part of EL-1: Global Executive Constraint, she would rather have it be placed in EL-1: Global Executive Constraint. She agreed with Trustee Edwards that this issue should be taken out to the community for input.

Trustee Cranor clarified that the motion was to only consider placing this language in EL-1: Global Executive Constraint as this moves forward in future discussions.

Trustee Edwards asked counsel if the Board could reorder the numbers of the policies.

Ms. Peterson agreed to research that possibility.

Vote on Trustee Cranor's motion: Yeses – 6 (Young, Wright, Cantú, Cranor, Edwards, Garvey); No – 1 (Alderman)

The motion passed.

APPROVE BOARD REVIEW OF THE CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES' GOVERNANCE POLICY EL-1: GLOBAL EXECUTIVE CONSTRAINT (continued)

Superintendent Jones expressed his appreciation and support of this effort. He offered to present the Board with an update of efforts being made in the District connected with this topic.

APPROVE STANDING ITEMS – 2013 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Prior to each legislative session the Board of School Trustees has endorsed a list of standing items. This platform provides the District's lobbying team the Board's position on a host of issues that may be raised during the course of the session. Approval on approval of the standing items for the 77th Regular Session of the Nevada Legislature as requested in Reference 3.01.

Mrs. Haldeman and Mrs. Rourke presented the proposed platform for the 77th Regular Session of the Nevada Legislature.

Trustee Edwards noted that she did not see the issue of protecting the end fund balance. She said NASB added new language to their strategic goal that speaks to protecting resources, such as land and buildings, from being taken away. She said she believes that to be important and is not sure if that idea it is reflected here.

BOARD PRESIDENT RELINQUISHES THE CHAIR

Trustee Young relinquished the chair at 9:13 a.m.

APPROVE STANDING ITEMS – 2013 LEGISLATIVE SESSION (continued)

Trustee Cranor inquired about ensuring support for students that are now being expected to meet the higher rigor as they are adjusting to the new higher expectations.

Superintendent Jones agreed that there needs to be additional support for students adjusting to higher expectations. He said that ultimately, additional staff support and resources will be needed.

Mrs. Haldeman pointed out related topics on the list that may address that issue, such as distance education, on-line and blended learning; related services for at-risk schools and students; remedial services for student proficiency; and summer school, intersession, and extended-day programs with limited transportation. She invited Trustee Cranor to craft some language to be added to this platform that supports this issue.

Trustee Cranor expressed some concern with the language "...within the Distributive School Account."

Mrs. Haldeman explained that staff's concern is in preserving the Distributive School Account (DSA).

Trustee Cranor suggested separating the bullet to express an interest in preserving the DSA and the addition of weighted pupil funding.

BOARD PRESIDENT RESUMES THE CHAIR

Trustee Young resumed the chair at 9:21 a.m.

APPROVE STANDING ITEMS – 2013 LEGISLATIVE SESSION (continued)

Trustee Alderman said she has been approached by principals with concerns about mandating that children exercise before they eat so she was pleased to see the school nutrition program added to this list.

Mrs. Haldeman said that in order to change that mandate, someone would have to support a bill draft in that direction. She added that at the time the change was made, there was a concern that students were not eating so they could hurry to get out to play.

Trustee Garvey asked how Board and legislative representative communication through the Superintendent would be supported through this session.

Mrs. Haldeman said she communicates with the Superintendent, and she reports to the Board and provides updates through the standing agenda item to be able to discuss legislative issues if necessary.

Trustee Garvey asked if there was a mechanism in place to keep individual Board members more informed of critical issues as they are happening so that the Superintendent has an indication of the Trustees' feelings on a given issue.

Mrs. Haldeman said that during the legislative session, staff sends the Board weekly reports of issues that are being discussed.

Trustee Edwards read the NASB strategic goal added language, "...including individual district revenue streams and resources," and she suggested that it is the "revenue streams and resources" that she would like to have intended in this document. With regard to language concerning reforms to Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 288, she suggested that the language concerning a Reduction in Force (RIF) at the previous legislative session be made stronger; that the issue of the Evergreen Clause should be reviewed; and that there needs to be a discussion regarding the District's ability to terminate employment of individuals who engage in certain criminal or drug activities. She said that the Board and District should have a statement defining their position on teacher-student sexual activity.

Trustee Wright suggested expanding the language regarding sexual relationships between teachers and students to include the District's legal rights with regard to termination of employment. She suggested being more descriptive in terms of "technology."

Trustee Cranor offered the language to address her previous point, "Additional teaching positions in support of student attainment of increased rigor."

APPROVE STANDING ITEMS – 2013 LEGISLATIVE SESSION (continued)

Motion to approve with the additional conceptual language.

Motion: Cranor

Trustee Cranor withdrew her motion for further discussion.

Trustee Cantú expressed support of reforms to 288 and the Evergreen Clause mentioned by Trustee Edwards. He noted that there was no language in the document that speaks to support of adult education or students after they drop out.

Mrs. Haldeman invited Trustee Cantú to craft some language with regard to that issue.

Trustee Cantú suggested that there needs to be language to support school choice and the expansion of charter schools.

Mrs. Haldeman pointed to the second bullet under "Support policies pertaining to boards of school trustees" and offered to add the words "school choice" with the Board's support.

Trustee Cantú suggested that Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) reform should be considered.

Trustee Cranor suggested dividing that bullet under "Support policies pertaining to boards of school trustees" to read "Authority to act in supervising charter schools and facilitating school choice," and "Authority to determine how independent study, virtual learning, profit-making ownership, and home instruction are interpreted."

Mrs. Haldeman agreed with that suggestion. She recommended adding a bullet that reads, "Reengagement of disconnected youth."

Trustee Cantú offered, "Reengagement of disconnected youth and adults."

Motion to accept the legislative platform as revised.

Motion: Edwards Second: Alderman Vote: Unanimous

APPROVE RESOLUTION ON SEQUESTRATION

Approval on submitting a resolution urging Congress to amend the Budget Control Act of 2011 to avoid further cuts to federal education funding.

Mrs. Haldeman presented the proposed resolution opposing sequestration.

Trustee Young suggested changing "schoolchildren" to "students;" adding language to read, "...that would affect our schools, students, parents, and communities;" and adding her middle initial "E" to the signature block.

APPROVE RESOLUTION ON SEQUESTRATION (continued)

Motion to approve the document as written.

Motion: Edwards Second: Cranor

The Trustees agreed to have Trustee Young's middle initial added to the document.

Vote on Trustee Edwards' motion was unanimous.

AGENDA PLANNING: ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Trustee Garvey requested an item on the January 9, 2013, Board work session agenda to discuss the possibility of setting up a working group of two Trustees to work with the Board president as liaisons between the Superintendent, Board, and legislature during the 2013 legislative session.

Trustee Edwards said that she and Trustee Cantú would be bringing a proposed policy to the next Board meeting.

Trustee Wright asked for an agenda item at the next Board meeting to review the District's remaining bond money and anticipated spending.

Trustee Cranor suggested that the topic requested by Trustee Garvey may fit well as part of the Board's retreat discussion to be able to discuss issues such as personal opinion with regard to legislative actions versus issues the Board is able to agree upon; the relationship between the Board and the Superintendent, thus the lobbyists; and the relationship between individual Board members in their direct interactions with lobbyists.

Trustee Garvey stated that her concern is that this needs to take place before the session begins.

DISCUSSION AND REQUEST FOR SPECIAL MEETINGS

Trustee Cranor suggested a meeting in January to address these fundamental issues before any interaction with the legislature during the session.

Trustee Garvey noted that she would not be available on January 18 or 19.

Trustee Edwards noted that the Board orientation is scheduled for January 25 and 26, and that she has a commitment on January 18 as well.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

EMPLOYEE LABOR RELATIONS AND CLOSED SESSION

Approval of closed session pursuant to NRS 288.

Motion: Edwards Second: Cantú Vote: Unanimous

RECESS: 10:22 a.m.

BOARD MEMBERS LEAVE

Trustees Garvey and Wright left the Board meeting during the recess.

RECONVENE: 11:09 a.m.

ADJOURN: 11:09 a.m.

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