

Minutes
Clark County School District
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, January 8, 2020

8:18 a.m.

Roll Call: Members Present
Lola Brooks, President
Linda P. Cavazos, Vice President
Danielle Ford, Clerk
Irene Cepeda, Member
Chris Garvey, Member
Deanna L. Wright, Member
Linda E. Young, Member

Jesus F. Jara, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

Also present were: Mary-Anne Miller, Board Counsel, District Attorney's Office; Eleissa Lavelle, General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel; Elizabeth Carrero, Executive Manager/Director II, Office of the Superintendent; Cindy Krohn, Director, Board Office; and Jeanetta Edmond, Administrative Secretary II, Board Office.

Flag Salute

Trustee Garvey led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adoption of the Agenda

Adopt agenda.

Motion: Garvey Second: Ford Vote: Unanimous

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

None.

Approve Organization of the Board of School Trustees - President

Approval on the election of the Office of the President.

Public Hearing

Dr. S. S. Rogers said the perception of the community is that the Trustees lack character. He said the leadership team of the Board excludes certain members, and they are biased against certain communities.

Approve Organization of the Board of School Trustees – President (continued)

Trustee Garvey nominated Trustee Brooks for President.

Trustee Ford nominated herself for President.

Trustee Brooks said the Board has made a lot of progress this past year, and she would like to remain in the position of President to complete the things that she has started.

Trustee Ford said with three of the current Board members leaving the Board after this year, the Board officer positions should go to Board members who have not had that opportunity to be able to learn from the experienced members while they are still on the Board. She said also she has the leadership skills and has the time to devote to the position and has a deep understanding of the Board's governance model.

Motion to close nominations.

Motion: Wright Second: Cavazos

Trustee Young said her vote would be for equity, diversity, and inclusion, and Trustee Brooks does not model those concepts in her opinion.

Public Hearing (continued)

Dr. S. S. Rogers said he does not support the leadership of Trustee Brooks nor Trustee Cavazos.

Vote on Trustee Wright's motion was unanimous.

*Vote on Trustee Brooks for President: Yeses – 5 (Brooks, Cavazos, Cepeda, Garvey, Wright);
Noes – 2 (Ford, Young)*

The motion passed.

Approve Organization of the Board of School Trustees - Vice President

Approval on the election of the Office of the Vice President.

Trustee Ford nominated herself for Vice President.

Trustee Wright nominated Trustee Cavazos for Vice President.

Trustee Ford said if the same Board officers remain in place and if Trustee Brooks remains on the Board, next year Trustee Brooks would be the only Board member with governance experience. She said she should be Vice President so she could learn how the Board governs appropriately and be able to learn from the current members.

Approve Organization of the Board of School Trustees - Vice President (continued)

Trustee Cavazos said she would like to continue in the roll of Vice President, looking forward to 2021, which will be a legislative session year. She added that she would be interested in running for Board President in 2021 and said continuing as Vice President this year would give her additional experience. She thanked Trustee Ford for being willing to take on the role of Vice President and being willing to learn.

Trustee Young said she appreciates Trustee Cavazos' kindness and compassion and her efforts to reach out but said she feels it does not go far enough for her community. She said the reason why she would support Trustee Ford is because there may be a different perspective and a different approach.

Motion to close nominations.

Motion: Young Second: Garvey Vote: Unanimous

Public Hearing

Dr. S. S. Rogers said the Board votes in the pattern of five to two with the same people voting the same way, and this type of pattern has been going on for several years. He said this needs to change, and there needs to be compassion on the Board.

Vote on Trustee Ford for Vice President: Noes – 5 (Brooks, Cavazos, Cepeda, Garvey, Wright); Yeses – 2 (Ford, Young);

The motion did not pass.

Vote on Trustee Cavazos for Vice President was unanimous.

Approve Organization of the Board of School Trustees - Clerk

Approval on the election of the Office of the Clerk.

Trustee Garvey nominated Trustee Ford for Clerk.

Trustee Ford said she does not feel she would be comfortable in the role of Clerk this year with the current President and Vice President because she does not feel there has been proper fiscal oversight. She declined the nomination for Clerk.

Trustee Cepeda, Trustee Young, and Trustee Cavazos encouraged Trustee Ford to reconsider accepting the nomination for Clerk.

Trustee Ford accepted the nomination for Clerk.

Motion to close nominations.

Motion: Wright Second: Cepeda Vote: Unanimous

Approve Organization of the Board of School Trustees – Clerk (continued)

Vote on Trustee Ford for Clerk was unanimous.

Trustee Cavazos suggested that the Board develop a more collaborative and a more democratic process for electing Board officers for the future, such as having a ballot where all nominees are voted on at the same time like in other districts.

Retreat Planning

Discussion on planning for the Board Retreat scheduled on January 24, 2020.

The Board had a retreat pre-planning discussion around Board activities, functions, and responsibilities. They also discussed how the retreat would be structured and the topics that would be discussed.

Board and Superintendent Communication

Superintendent Jara shared information about the upcoming Thriving Communities event where New York City Schools Chancellor Richard Carranza would be speaking on Universal Pre-K.

Trustee Request for Agenda Items or Information

Trustee Young said she would like to discuss the possibility of having a school representative attend her parent and community meetings.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

None.

Adjourn: 10:05 a.m.

Motion: Wright Second: Cavazos Vote: Unanimous