

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, March 5, 2014

8:01 a.m.

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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; Jim McIntosh, Chief Financial Officer, Business and Finance Division; Joyce Haldeman, Associate Superintendent, Community and Government Relations; Jeremy Hauser, Associate Superintendent, Operational 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 Young led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ADOPT AGENDA**

*Adopt agenda.*

*Motion: Young    Second: Tew    Vote: Unanimous*

*Trustee Wright was not present for the vote.*

**TELECONFERENCE CALL CONNECTED**

Teleconference call with Trustee Wright was connected at 8:04 a.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Gene Lazaroff expressed concern regarding the reorganization of the facilities department.

## **FUTURE CAPITAL PROGRAM**

Presentation, discussion, and possible action for the development of a future capital program.

Mrs. Haldeman went through the backup material which included reasons the ballot question failed, deadlines, a list of other ballot questions anticipated for 2014, and timing pros and cons of CCSD's next ballot question, and she recalled the discussion of the February 5 Board Work Session. She said staff's recommendation is that the Board not go forward with a ballot question in 2014 because an appropriate amount of time is needed to do so. She said a list of topics that need to be discussed include how many seats would be needed for full-day kindergarten for all students, the kindergarten classroom ratio moving into full-day kindergarten, the condition and the number of portables, replacing portables or building permanent facilities, land acquisition, adequate technology available, Wi-Fi systems, equity among schools, ongoing needs of older schools, deferred maintenance, scope and cost of basic maintenance that has been backlogged, the need for additions, school replacement, whether a school is needed in a particular area or if rezoning should take place, and possible phase replacements.

Mr. McDade said he would also recommend not moving forward in 2014, which would allow counsel the opportunity to gain clarity in the area of what is appropriate in terms of activities that are allowable in bringing information to the community about a ballot question and then use that information to develop a plan.

Trustee Edwards asked how the District would manage if the Board did not move forward in 2014. She asked when a school would be built if they waited until 2016.

Mr. McIntosh explained that once the ballot question passed, the District would not be borrowing money until fiscal year 2017, and it would be approximately two to two-and-a-half years before a school could be built, so it would be opened potentially in fiscal year 2021.

Trustee Edwards said that if the growth continues, the District would be looking at year-round calendars for many more schools and possibly double sessions. She asked Mr. McIntosh to speak to the other revenues the District has.

Mr. McIntosh said the other revenue sources to the District's capital program are the rollover rate on the property taxes, the room tax, and the real property transfer tax. He said the District would be relying on these revenues to make it through to 2016, if the Board does not move forward with a ballot question in 2014. He said the District is bringing in approximately \$87 million annually in these revenues, leaving approximately \$10 million available to be spent on capital programs over the next few years after paying debt service.

Trustee Edwards said she does not believe the public was informed properly with the last ballot question. She said she believes a committee should be formed that could raise private dollars. She said she agrees with staff's recommendation. She suggested that the District may need to look at a District-wide rezoning to address the fact that some schools are underutilized while others are overcrowded, and the Attendance Zone Advisory Commission (AZAC) may have to be tasked with looking at this specifically.

## **FUTURE CAPITAL PROGRAM (continued)**

Trustee Garvey asked for counsel's opinion on forming a committee before gaining clarity on permissible activities so they can begin to prepare for future bond issues.

Mr. McDade said he believes that counsel would be able to get clarity on this issue first and then form a committee still allowing enough time to do what needs to be done.

Superintendent Skorkowsky said staff is looking at options to help relieve overcrowding through offering special programs presented as open enrollment. He said staff may have to look at the zoning possibilities, which may include 5<sup>th</sup>-graders moving into middle schools where there are open seats, for example.

Trustee Tew agreed with Trustee Edwards that every possible space and open seat should be utilized. She said there is work that needs to be done in the community to connect those constituents that do not have children in the District so they want to support education. She spoke in support of staff's recommendation.

Trustee Young said she also supports staff's recommendation. She said that work needs to be done to improve the messaging of a capital program; that those without students in the District need to be shown how they and their community would benefit from a capital program; that the open enrollment option needs to be considered; that District-wide rezoning with the future growth in mind needs to be considered; that focus groups with those who are against a capital program should be conducted; and that they should continue to educate the public on the benefits of an educated population.

Trustee Corbett recommended that they also discuss looking at leasing facilities.

Trustee Edwards said they also need to consider implications of SB142 as they look at repair and building opportunities and whether some of those options are cost-effective. She said they should also be considering implications for legislation in 2015.

Superintendent Skorkowsky said the Board will see a new policy and possibly a regulation in relation to performance contracting, which would address new legislative changes. He said he is also in discussions internally and with other county superintendents regarding how to leverage needs with the next legislative session in efforts to gain a steady stream of income for the capital program.

Trustee Cranor requested that all discussions be held in the context of student impact so they can always be aware of the potential for both negative and positive impacts on students and families.

Public Hearing

## **FUTURE CAPITAL PROGRAM (continued)**

Mr. Lazaroff suggested some of the schools could be re-designated, and he suggested utilizing resources, such as the higher education institutions, to brainstorm ideas. He said he is against delaying the bond question because schools in need now would not benefit for many years.

Seth Rau suggested that the Board should consider the number of charter schools possibly coming online and communicating with the State Public Charter School Authority and the Charter School Association of Nevada to ensure that every child has access to a quality school close to their home.

Trustee Edwards suggested that the Board may want to work with other entities in Clark County to halt the issuance of building permits if the schools in a particular area are overcrowded.

Trustee Tew said there is discussion among parents and charter schools, and she agreed that charters will be an option for addressing growth and the number of students.

*Motion to accept staff's recommendation to not move forward with a bond question in 2014.*

*Motion: Corbett    Second: Tew    Vote: Unanimous*

Superintendent Skorkowsky said there has been adequate Board consent to have an agenda item on every second meeting of the month to discuss this topic.

Trustee Edwards asked that there be follow-up with Mr. McDade concerning allowable activities for the Board.

## **OPERATIONAL SERVICES DIVISION REFORMS**

Presentation and discussion to provide information regarding reforms implemented by the Operational Services Division to improve customer service and work order response time to schools.

Mr. Hauser presented the reforms that have been implemented by the Operational Services Division. His presentation included How Maintenance and Operations Fit Into the Organization, OSD Goals, Operations Managers, Service Providers Zones, Service Providers Mobile Maintenance Vans (MMV), Building Managers, and Feedback From Schools.

Trustee Edwards asked to know who is responsible for the Trustees' schools.

Mr. Hauser said he would forward that information to the Board after the meeting

Trustee Edwards expressed concern that the recycling and energy management programs do not cease. She said there are community members who have suggested that having an educator over facilities may not be the best situation, and that she shares those concerns. She said she just wants to be sure that there is expertise in that area.

### **OPERATIONAL SERVICES DIVISION REFORMS (continued)**

Trustee Young expressed appreciation for the changes that have been made in an effort to provide better service. She said she would be interested in hearing feedback from the people out in the field.

Trustee Tew asked about the fee schedule for services, and she asked if this reorganization has impacted employee morale and if it shows in the number of sick days employees take.

Mr. Hauser explained how the fees apply depending on the scope of work that needs to be done. He commented that in terms of morale, people are being held to a higher standard of accountability, and issues still exist such as abuse of attendance or leaving early, for example, because to an extent for some people, it is about more work and harder work. He said the morale of the top performers is well up because they embrace the changes and the empowerment. In response to Trustee Edwards' question about the recycling and energy management programs, he said the recycling program is being maintained, and it has grown, and staff continues to be cognizant of energy savings opportunities and realizing those savings and cautious about incurring additional maintenance costs.

### **TELECONFERENCE CALL DISCONNECTED**

Teleconference call with Trustee Wright was disconnected at 10:01 a.m.

### **OPERATIONAL SERVICES DIVISION REFORMS (continued)**

Staff members shared their thoughts and experiences with the implementation of these reforms. Those who addressed the Board were Carlos Morales, Administrator on Special Assignment; Andrew Washington, Mobile Maintenance Van (MMV) Supervisor; Bernard Scott, Grounds Supervisor; Bill Urista, Grounds Supervisor; Craig D. Davis, Operations Manager; Justin Shiffert, Zone Supervisor; Ryan Giron, Building Manager; Gregg Peterson, Zone Supervisor; Naji Mehanna, Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) Tech II; and Jenny Jones, Operations Manager.

Board members thanked staff for their dedication and enthusiasm.

Trustee Tew asked if it has been beneficial having the work orders tracked online.

Mr. Hauser said he believes it will be, but staff continues to work on improving what type of information is being communicated, how it is being communicated, and the usability of the data.

Mr. Skorkowsky thanked the members of the Bond Oversight Committee (BOC) that were present and members of the community who met with him and expressed their concerns.

## **APPROVE CORRECTION TO THE 2013-2014 AMENDED FINAL BUDGET**

Approval to accept the corrected Schedule CC, Page 58, of the 2013-2014 Amended Final Budget for the Clark County School District, as recommended in Reference 4.02.

Mr. McIntosh brought forward a correction to the Amended Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2014 shown in Reference 4.02, page 2 of 2, which is the updated page. He said the Department of Taxation has agreed to accept the corrected page as part of the Amended Final Budget.

*Motion to accept the correction to the Amended Final Budget*

*Motion: Edwards Second: Tew Vote: Unanimous*

*Trustee Wright was not present for the vote.*

## **AGENDA PLANNING: ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS**

Trustee Cranor suggested turning the item to be discussed at the March 20, 2014, Open Parent and Community meeting over to Superintendent Skorkowsky so that he may present the plan to improve learning.

## **DISCUSSION AND REQUEST FOR SPECIAL MEETINGS**

Trustee Cranor proposed a Board retreat in the spring to discuss the topic of student achievement data and defining and understanding success with a student data expert.

Trustee Corbett asked if there was an opportunity to coordinate that discussion with the most recent student achievement data that is coming from the Nevada Department of Education.

Superintendent Skorkowsky said the state's data will not be available until June and would first need to be verified by the state.

Trustee Garvey suggested holding the retreat in May with the available data and then another one later in the summer as a type of recap to include the state data.

The Trustees agreed with that suggestion.

Trustee Cranor suggested holding a retreat in August with Consuelo Kickbusch and experts within the school district to discuss leadership capacities with regard to specific student populations.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Theo Small said the Teachers and Leaders Council (TLC) would be meeting next Wednesday, and a portion of their agenda would include multiple measures of student data. He said he could offer more information after that meeting.

**ADJOURN:** 10:43 a.m.

*Motion: Edwards Second: Tew Vote: Unanimous*

*Trustee Wright was not present for the vote.*