

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 6, 2019

8:09 a.m.

Roll Call: Members Present
Lola Brooks, President
Linda P. Cavazos, Vice President
Chris Garvey, Clerk
Irene Cepeda, Member
Danielle Ford, 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, Ancillary Support; Diane Gullett, Deputy Superintendent, Office of the Deputy Superintendent; Mike Barton, Chief College, Career and Equity Officer, College, Career and Equity Unit; Kirsten Searer, Chief Communications and Community Engagement Officer, Community Engagement Unit; Dan Wray, Chief Technology Officer, Technology and Information Systems Services Division, Operational Services Unit; Brad Keating, Director, Government Relations Department, Community Engagement Unit (via teleconference); Gia Moore, Director, Magnet/CTA Department, Technology and Information Systems Services Division; Leonardo Benavides, Coordinator III, Government Relations Department, Community Engagement Unit; Cindy Krohn, Executive Assistant, Board Office; and Jeanetta Edmond, Administrative Secretary II, Board Office.

Teleconference Call Connected

Teleconference call with Trustee Brooks, Trustee Garvey, and Trustee Young was connected at 8:09 a.m.

Flag Salute

Trustee Cepeda led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adoption of the Agenda

Adopt agenda.

Motion: Cepeda Second: Ford Vote: Unanimous

Trustee Wright was not present for the vote.

Public Comment Period on Non-Agenda Items

Lorraine Gaither said her daughter was RPCd (Required Parent Conference) due to “unacceptable school behavior” because she was doodling in class. She said the teacher then went through her daughter’s sketchbook and took issue with a particular drawing. She mentioned that her daughter has Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD) and takes medication and has a 504 plan.

Christine Smith Olsey said her family provided a binder of her daughter’s health information and an independent evaluation to her daughter’s school, and she said they were never given information about how to obtain a 504 plan. She suggested that the Board mandate that schools disclose that information to families. She said the information that is currently in CCSD documents tells parents that they can request a 504 plan or a referral but does not tell them how to do so. She suggested updating the 504 plan procedure documents, training for school staff, and meeting with parents to gather input on what should be included in the procedure documents.

Board Member Arrives

Trustee Wright arrived at the Board meeting at 8:20 a.m.

Clark County School District Magnet Programs and Career and Technical Academies
Presentation and discussion regarding Clark County School District Magnet Schools and Career and Technical Academies.

Dr. Barton and Ms. Moore gave a presentation on the District’s magnet school programs and career and technical academies (CTAs) as shown in Reference 4.01.

Teleconference Call Disconnected

Teleconference call with Trustee Brooks was disconnected at 8:31 a.m.

Board Member Arrives

Trustee Brooks arrived at the Board meeting at 8:31 a.m.

Clark County School District Magnet Programs and Career and Technical Academies (continued)
Ms. Moore continued the presentation.

Trustee Wright mentioned transportation, magnets broken down by Trustee district, and a list of each magnet and the programs they offer as some of the topics she would have liked to have seen included in the presentation. She asked that the gaps of areas of the services being offered be included in future presentations. She asked about increasing seats and the additional funds that a magnet school gets compared to traditional school.

Clark County School District Magnet Programs and Career and Technical Academies (continued)
Superintendent Jara said staff can provide the transportation information, but they are also beginning to look at where some of the career and technical education (CTE) programs are available as well. He said staff is currently drafting a comprehensive map across the valley that will show where the gaps are. He said as they continue to move forward, they will provide more information to the Board and can provide more detailed information in a follow-up presentation.

Teleconference Call Disconnected

Teleconference call with Trustee Young was disconnected at 8:55 a.m.

Board Member Arrives

Trustee Young arrived at the Board meeting at 8:55 a.m.

Clark County School District Magnet Programs and Career and Technical Academies (continued)

Dr. Barton said Trustee Cepeda previously requested information pertaining to funding, and a memorandum was being finalized at this time to provide to the Superintendent.

Trustee Garvey asked that the impact of the changes to the transportation policy as it relates existing magnet schools and how it might impact the trajectory of the number of future applicants be included in the follow-up presentation.

Ms. Moore said staff is currently looking at the impact of transportation on the magnet schools, specifically at Del Sol High School. She said they are also looking at some cost neutral transportation solutions.

Trustee Garvey asked staff to include how transportation has affected academic performance at existing magnet schools that have lost students because of transportation issues. She asked also that plans for sustaining programs that were implemented using federal grants be included as well.

Board President Relinquishes Chair

Trustee Brooks relinquished the chair at 9:04 a.m.

Clark County School District Magnet Programs and Career and Technical Academies (continued)

Dr. Barton said staff would include that information and bring it back to the Superintendent and to the Board.

Trustee Garvey said she would also like to discuss how demographics have changed and whether the District is still using magnet schools as a way to comply with federal regulations.

Ms. Moore said the goal is to reduce, eliminate, or prevent racial isolation, which is addressed through targeted recruiting plans. She said there are other factors, such as transportation, that affect that as well.

Board President Resumes Chair

Trustee Brooks resumed the chair at 9:08 a.m.

Clark County School District Magnet Programs and Career and Technical Academies (continued)

Trustee Young said with relation to the number of African-American students participating in magnet programs, she would suggest finding ways to connect with parents. She suggested also looking at the diverse demographics of the staff in magnet schools as far as it reflects the diversity of the District.

Trustee Brooks suggested that information be added to the gap analysis that shows middle schools that consistently have students who are not granted entry into high school magnet programs because they do not meet the qualifications.

Trustee Ford suggested, theoretically, as a means of addressing the limited space and transportation issues, building smaller academies, using busses to transport students from their zoned schools to the academies, and acquiring existing buildings and modifying them to fit the needs of the academies. She asked what challenges would be presented with changing how the District provides equitable access to magnet school programs.

Superintendent Jara said reviewing and analyzing the magnet program is part of the work the District is doing with its partners.

Dr. Barton said that model that Trustee Ford alluded to exists at Desert Rose High School where students are bussed in to attend specialized programs. He said moving forward some middle school specialty programs will be introduced.

Trustee Wright requested that a hot spot map showing zip codes that are underrepresented in magnet or career and technical schools and broken down by school level be included in the follow-up presentation. She suggested using transportation hubs to provide transportation to more students.

Legislative Updates

Discussion and update regarding state legislation that could affect education, including, but not limited to: reports of current legislative issues and events; the establishment of the District's position on proposed legislation; and guidance to the superintendent and legislative staff.

Ms. Searer and Mr. Keating reported on current activities taking place during the 2019 Legislative Session and reviewed bills that affect education.

Trustee Wright said the employee bargaining groups pledged their support of Senate Bill (SB) 26 and agreed that the funds should be in a savings account and should be protected, but it seems they are opposing it. She suggested that staff get their commitment in writing.

Legislative Updates (continued)

Trustee Garvey referred to AB 168 and school safety and requested that updates be provided to the Board regarding early interventions and training for staff as it relates to school safety.

Public Hearing

Darlene Anderson said she has been trying to find information related to education in Nevada and how it impacts the African-American community, and data is difficult to find. She said she wants to know how to be more involved so she can bring more concerns forward.

Update on Transfer of Responsibility Site-Based Technology Support Pilot

Presentation and discussion on the Transfer of Responsibility Site-Based Technology Support Pilot.

Mr. Wray presented an update on the site-based technology support pilot as shown in Reference 4.03.

Board and Superintendent Communication

None.

Trustee Requests for Agenda Items or Information

None.

Public Comment Period on Non-Agenda Items

None.

Adjourn: 11:16 p.m.

Motion: Cavazos Second: Cepeda Vote: Unanimous