

MINUTES
CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
BONANZA HIGH SCHOOL, THEATER
6665 WEST DEL REY, LAS VEGAS, NV 89146

COMMUNITY LINKAGE

Thursday, March 20, 2014

5:36 p.m.

Roll Call: Members Present

Erin E. Cranor, President
Linda E. Young, Vice President
Stavan Corbett, Member
Carolyn Edwards, Member
Chris Garvey, Member

Members Absent

Patrice Tew, Clerk
Deanna L. Wright, Member

Pat Skorkowsky, Superintendent of Schools

Also present were: Carlos McDade, General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel; 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 Corbett led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPT AGENDA

Adopt agenda.

Motion: Edwards Second: Garvey Vote: Unanimous

Trustee Cranor was not present for the vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Michael Hollis said special needs students are not receiving the care that they need in Performance Zone 5. He said he has been told to lie to students' parents. He said CCSD is not following the Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) that are in place.

FOCUS AREAS FOR CCSD STRATEGIC PLANNING

Discussion and input on the identified focus areas and the strategic plan for academic excellence, engagement, school support, and clarity and focus.

FOCUS AREAS FOR CCSD STRATEGIC PLANNING (continued)

Superintendent Skorkowsky provided a type of survey sheet for the attendees to provide their input as it pertains to the Focus Areas. He explained that the Board determines the vision, and it is his job, along with the entire CCSD faculty and staff, to put into practice the idea of the vision, and then the Board evaluates him on his interpretation of the vision and on how well he met that vision through his performance as an employee. He gave a presentation on the Focus Areas for CCSD's strategic planning. His presentation included Work Streams and Focus Areas and Goals.

Public Hearing

James H. Campbell said the District needs the community's help and additional funding for this plan. He offered that 90 percent of students that he saw in juvenile court recently were there because of drugs.

Braxton Pacatte said he believes that the District should bargain honestly and fairly with the unions. He shared that the principal at his daughter's school did not allow he and his wife to participate in his daughter's education, and they moved her to another school. He said teachers should be tested and held accountable and be able to demonstrate proficiency.

Michael Hollis said students should be able to participate in all the activities that they can handle, and some teachers and athletic coaches are stopping them from doing so.

Patrina McKinney said her concerns revolve around the achievement gap and college readiness. She said her son never had a teacher that looked like him or related to him in terms of culture. She spoke about all of the activities and programs that her son has participated in to prepare for college through an organization outside of the District.

Zhan Okuda-Lim agreed that students' math education needs to continue throughout high school. He agreed with the previous speaker regarding the importance of participating in activities.

BOARD MEMBER ARRIVES

Trustee Cranor arrived at the Board meeting at 6:30 p.m.

FOCUS AREAS FOR CCSD STRATEGIC PLANNING (continued)

Public Hearing

Victoria Williams said the school district has many principals who were not master teachers and are not able to guide their teachers. She said principals need to be trained in what a master teacher looks like. She said another issue is teachers being promoted because of who they know or who they are affiliated with, and the best candidates are being overlooked. She said teachers should be promoted on the basis of achievements and student success.

FOCUS AREAS FOR CCSD STRATEGIC PLANNING (continued)

Linda Johnson thanked the Superintendent and Trustess for their efforts in reaching out to the community and to their constituents. She asked what support is available for Advanced Placement (AP) classes and exams. She said she hoped that the Six Pillars continues to be a part of the District's family and community engagement efforts.

Ruby Kalama spoke about her grandson's educational experience moving from school to school and stability issues. She said she is worried about the social aspect of his educational experience.

Valerie Wright said she and others wonder why the District has taken so long to address the concerns that parents are expressing about not being welcomed in the schools. She asked what the District is doing to discipline administrators who engage in acts of discrimination. She said other areas that need to be addressed are inclusion of all cultures, an insufficient number of Black teachers and staff members, and social promotions as opposed to addressing students' deficiencies.

Alicia Watson suggested that if counselors could be involved sooner, perhaps seniors who are credit deficient could have the opportunity to earn those credits before graduation. She said students should be allowed to begin kindergarten before five years of age if they can demonstrate readiness. She asked what programs and supports are in place for students who struggle in school but do not have learning disabilities.

Deb Newbecker agreed that students should maintain a full academic schedule in high school. She asked how the District was going to help students reach their goals without resources for textbooks.

Beatriz Rubio asked how parents are going to be held accountable.

Zhan Okuda-Lim spoke about the balance between academics and activities. He said he hopes that in the future the District provides more of these types of meetings and that more parents and community members attend and ask questions and provide their input.

Trustee Cranor recognized former first lady Sandy Miller and Assemblywoman Marilyn Dondero Loop who were in attendance. She thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

AGENDA PLANNING: ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

None.

DISCUSSION AND REQUEST FOR SPECIAL MEETINGS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

ADJOURN: 7:10 p.m.

Motion: Edwards Second: Young Vote: Unanimous