

MINUTES  
CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES SCHOOL NAME COMMITTEE  
EDWARD A. GREER EDUCATION CENTER, BOARD ROOM  
2832 EAST FLAMINGO ROAD, LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89121

Tuesday, April 26, 2022

5:30 p.m.

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Members Present

Irene A. Cepeda, Chair  
Linda P. Cavazos, Member  
Meredith Freeman, Member  
Myron Martin, Member  
Dr. Kathi-Anne Rozek, Member  
Virginia Valentine, Member

Members Absent

Juliana Urtubey, Member

Communications Unit

Tod Story, Chief Communications Officer  
Michael Campbell, Coordinator

Office of the General Counsel

Patrick J. Murch, Assistant General Counsel

**WELCOME**

Trustee Irene A. Cepeda, Chair of the School Name Committee, welcomed the public to the School Name Committee's meeting that was also broadcast on ccsd.net. Trustee Cepeda called the meeting to order and led the Committee and members of the public in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Adoption of the agenda for April 26, 2022.

*Motion: Cavazos      Second: Freeman      Vote: 6-0*

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

No comments were made.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Approval of the minutes of May 11, 2021.

*Motion: Dr. Rozek      Second: Freeman      Vote: 6-0*

**NAMING OF DISTRICT FACILITIES. Discussion and possible action to forward a recommendation to name a technical training academy, the Central Technical Training Academy, for approval to the Board of School Trustees.**

CCSD Region 3's Superintendent, Dr. Deanna Jaskolski, presented the recommendation to name a technical training academy, currently under construction and scheduled to open during the 2022-2023 school year, the Central Technical Training Academy.

Dr. Jaskolski said the academy will be a nontraditional high school that will focus on career pathway training through Career and Technical Education coursework, credentialing, and work-based learning opportunities. She added that students at this technical training academy will participate in the following programs of study for the next school year: construction technology and advanced manufacturing.

Programs will include opportunities for students to have industry-recognized credentials, Dr. Jaskolski said. The school also will embed business and entrepreneurial skills, Dr. Jaskolski said. Students will also participate in work-based learning through internships and other work experiences.

In addition to the CTE program classes at this state-of-the-art facility, Dr. Jaskolski said, students will take classes to fulfill their high school graduation requirements. During the day, the academy will be a Choice School for students from across the Clark County School District. At night, the academy will have training opportunities for students concurrently enrolled in the Clark County School District and adult education.

Dr. Jaskolski recommended that the school be named the Central Technical Training Academy as it reflects the school's location and its program offerings.

Following Dr. Jaskolski's presentation, Trustee Cavazos said she was happy about the hybrid option in the evening and she thinks it would be of great service to the community.

Motion to recommend to the Board of School Trustees to name a school the Central Technical Training Academy.

*Motion: Martin                      Second: Freeman                      Vote: 6-0*

**NAMING OF PORTIONS OF FACILITIES. Discussion and possible action to forward a recommendation to name the quad at Liberty High School, the Emilio Fernandez Student Complex/Plaza, for approval to the Board of School Trustees.**

Liberty High School Principal Derek Bellow presented the recommendation to name the quad at Liberty High School, the Emilio Fernandez Student Complex/Plaza.

Principal Bellow said that Emilio Fernandez helped shape and improve the lives of thousands of students across the Clark County School District, including his own. Mr. Fernandez retired from CCSD in 2005, Principal Bellow said, after a distinguished 34-year career as a teacher, counselor, and administrator.

Mr. Fernandez was so highly respected, Principal Bellow added, he was tasked with opening two schools: Francis Cortney Jr. High School in 1998 and Liberty High School in 2003. Mr. Fernandez is a champion of learning for all kids and no student could have had a better advocate serving them than him, Principal Bellow said.

Mr. Fernandez told the Committee it was a special moment for him, noting that he arrived in the United States in 1961 when he was 12. He ultimately graduated from Las Vegas High School and received his bachelor's and master's degree from UNLV.

After retirement following 34 years of service to the District, Mr. Fernandez said he was offered the position of principal of St. Christopher K-8 Catholic School in North Las Vegas. He chose education as a lifetime career, Mr. Fernandez said, because he wanted children to not only believe in themselves but to also deepen their love for learning and to acquire the necessary skills for critical thinking and communicating with others.

Trustee Cavazos said it was appropriate the Committee was considering naming the quad area of the high school. As a former high school teacher, Trustee Cavazos said she knows the quad is the central gathering place – the hub – for the school. Mr. Fernandez’s spirit and distinguished career as an educator, Trustee Cavazos added, would encompass the whole school.

Motion to recommend to the Board of School Trustees to name the quad at Liberty High School, the Emilio Fernandez Student Complex/Plaza.

*Motion: Cavazos      Second: Dr. Rozek      Vote: 6-0*

**NAMING OF PORTIONS OF FACILITIES. Discussion and possible action to forward a recommendation to name a soccer field at Shadow Ridge High School, the Hillary LaVoie Field, for approval to the Board of School Trustees.**

Aaron Olson, an assistant principal at Shadow Ridge High School, representing Principal Traci Kannon, presented the recommendation to name a soccer field at Shadow Ridge High School, the Hillary LaVoie Field. Accompanying Mr. Aaron were the parents of Hillary LaVoie.

Mr. Olson said Hillary LaVoie was an excellent student at Shadow Ridge High School. She graduated and went to college. In 2010, Ms. Lavoie died in a car accident. Since that time, her parents have been advocates of safe teen driving, including making presentations before the Nevada Legislature, community organizations, and a number of CCSD schools, including Shadow Ridge High School.

Mr. Olson also mentioned that the Nevada Department of Public Safety named Hillary LaVoie’s parents as Safety Citizen of the Year in 2011 for promoting safe teen driving.

The school’s administration supported the naming after Hillary LaVoie to support safe teen driving, Mr. Olson said. Brian LaVoie – the father of Hillary LaVoie and also the boys soccer coach at Shadow Ridge High School – spoke to the Committee. Mr. LaVoie said naming the soccer field for Hillary LaVoie – at the place he said his daughter loved the most – was not just to honor a deceased student but also to support safe teen driving.

Motion to recommend to the Board of School Trustees to name a soccer field at Shadow Ridge High School, the Hillary LaVoie Field.

*Motion: Freeman      Second: Dr. Rozek      Vote: 6-0*

**NAMING OF PORTIONS OF FACILITIES. Discussion and possible action to forward a recommendation to name a soccer field at Eldorado High School, the Gerald Pentsil Field, for approval to the Board of School Trustees.**

Eldorado High School Principal Christina Brockett presented the recommendation to name a soccer field at Eldorado High School, the Gerald Pentsil Field. Principal Brockett was accompanied by Varsity Boys Soccer Coach David Ostler.

Principal Brockett discussed Gerald Pentsil’s legacy, including his role as coach of the championship-winning soccer program as well as his impact on academics. Coach Pentsil had been an educator at Eldorado High School for 29 years, touching thousands of former Sun Devils’ lives, Principal Brockett said. Former students speak of his positive attitude, his willingness to connect to others, and his spirit to never give up – and this included students who weren’t soccer players, she said. He cultivated in students the desire to want to learn more, Principal Brockett added, and helped instill the principles needed to build a championship program.

Mr. Ostler said he had the privilege to play for Mr. Pentsil, graduating from Eldorado High School in 1998. He later became the assistant coach to Mr. Pentsil for both the boys and the girls soccer program. In terms of his legacy, Mr. Ostler said there have been 18 former students who have played for Mr. Pentsil who went on to coach in CCSD.

Motion to recommend to the Board of School Trustees to name a soccer field at Eldorado High School, the Gerald Pentsil Field.

*Motion: Dr. Rozek                      Second: Cavazos                      Vote: 6-0*

**AGENDA PLANNING AND FUTURE MEETINGS. Discussion and possible action on future agenda items and meetings.**

Trustee Cepeda said normally in the spring or summer, the Committee would have a Call for Nominations, but there are no new elementary or middle schools that are planned to open for the 2023-2024 school year, so there will not be a Call for Nominations this year.

There are a number of replacement schools that are planned to open, Trustee Cepeda added, but since they already have a namesake, they will retain their current name.

However, over the course of the next year, Trustee Cepeda said the Committee will have opportunities to name portions of facilities of schools – such as libraries, multipurpose rooms, gyms, and athletic fields – to honor outstanding individuals who have made an exceptional contribution to advance education in Clark County.

At this time, Trustee Cepeda said the Committee does not have any pending applications, so no meeting dates are scheduled for the immediate future.

Trustee Cepeda, noting that the Committee probably would not meet again until October at the earliest, recognized two Committee members whose terms would end in September. (CCSD policy limits Committee members to serving two two-year terms.) Trustee Cepeda thanked Committee Members Myron Martin and Virginia Valentine for the insight, contributions, and commitment to the District during their four years of service.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS.**

No comments were made.

**ADJOURN:** 6:03 p.m.

*Motion: Dr. Rozek                      Second: Freeman                      Vote: 6-0*