

Minutes
Clark County School District
Meeting of the Board of School Trustees
Edward A. Greer Education Center, Board Room
2832 East Flamingo Road, Las Vegas, NV 89121

Work Session

Wednesday, May 4, 2022

9:07 a.m.

Roll Call: Members Present
Irene Cepeda, President
Evelyn Garcia Morales, Vice President
Lola Brooks, Clerk
Linda P. Cavazos, Member
Danielle Ford, Member
Lisa Guzmán, Member
Katie Williams, Member

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

Also present were: Nicole Malich, Board Counsel, District Attorney's Office; Cindy Krohn, Director, Board Office; Denise Zagby, Administrative Secretary II, Board Office; Dr. Debb Oliver, Executive Director, Nevada Association of School Boards; and Deb Darby-Dudley, Governance Consultant, Nevada Association of School Boards.

Flag Salute

Trustee Ford led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adoption of the Agenda

Adopt agenda.

Motion: Brooks Second: Ford Vote: Unanimous

Trustee Williams was not present for the vote.

Public Comment Period on Non-Agenda Items

Kamilah Bywaters said the Las Vegas Alliance of Black School Educators (LVABSE) requested a meeting with Superintendent Jara but was redirected to meet with Dr. Samuel Scavella, Assistant Superintendent, Equity and Diversity Education Department, College, Career, Equity and School Choice Unit. She said they are unsure, however, that Dr. Scavella's office would be able to answer their specific questions, so she said they will be requesting a meeting with the Superintendent, and she asked for the Board's support.

Board Member Arrives

Trustee Williams arrived at the Board meeting at 9:11 a.m.

Approve Nevada Association of School Boards Professional Learning Report

Approval regarding the Nevada Association of School Boards Professional Learning Report that outlines work that has occurred and provides recommendations for next steps.

There was discussion around moving forward collectively as a Board and the Trustees' commitment to adhere to the policies and guidelines they have agreed upon.

Dr. Oliver and Ms. Dudley presented the Nevada Association of School Boards (NASB) Professional Learning Report and led the Board through a discussion on each of the topics and corresponding suggested protocols and recommendations, as outlined in Reference 5.04.

Trustee Garcia Morales suggested the Board continue its training with Dr. Oliver and Ms. Darby-Dudley.

Trustee Cepeda said she would be supportive of that.

Trustee Ford said it was her understanding that there was still work that remains around superintendent accountability. She expressed support of continuing the training.

Trustee Garcia Morales asked if Dr. Oliver and Ms. Darby-Dudley had any ideas of additional trainings the Board could benefit from.

Ms. Darby-Dudley stated the Board could use their help in the areas of the superintendent evaluation process and the board self-evaluation process, and she recommended moving forward with the one-on-one support. She said she has been receiving requests for candidate forums. She recommended that if new Board members are seated, the full Board participate in a beginnings training.

Trustee Brooks suggested that the recommended trainings be brought to the June work session as options for the Board to consider.

Motion to continue working with Dr. Oliver and Ms. Darby-Dudley, requesting that they collaborate with the Board president to develop a plan for ongoing training for the Board to begin as soon as possible.

Motion: Garcia Morales Second: Cavazos

Trustee Cavazos offered a friendly amendment to the motion that the training would include one-on-one support for the Trustees.

Trustee Garcia Morales accepted the friendly amendment to the motion.

Approve Nevada Association of School Boards Professional Learning Report (continued)

Trustee Brooks asked for confirmation from legal counsel that since the contract with NASB has been terminated, a contract would need to come before the Board before any work begins.

Ms. Malich stated that is correct.

Vote on Trustee Garcia Morales's motion: Yeses – 6 (Brooks, Cavazos, Cepeda, Ford, Garcia Morales, Guzmán); No – 1 (Williams)

The motion passed.

Public Hearing

Tashika Lawson stated her respect for the Board decreases each time she attends a meeting. She noted a comment that was made by one of the facilitators, which was “you lose focus when you focus on the minority,” and said they should be focusing on including everyone’s voices, listening to what they need to hear and removing “I” when it comes to doing their jobs.

Upcoming Meeting of the Board of Trustees – Thursday, May 12, 2022, 5:00 p.m.

Trustee Cepeda stated the upcoming meeting of the Board would be held on Thursday, May 12, 2022, at 5:00 p.m., and the following meeting for the final budget was scheduled for Monday, May 16, 2022.

Public Comment Period on Non-Agenda Items

Tashika Lawson spoke about the Trustees’ use of their social media accounts as was discussed earlier and said refraining from posting certain things is not so much an infringement on their rights but is more about holding themselves accountable for how they represent their constituents and what the children see. She offered suggestions for Board members’ behavior.

Adjourn: 1:04 p.m.

Motion: Williams Second: Ford Vote: Unanimous