

MINUTES
CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES SCHOOL NAME COMMITTEE
TELECONFERENCE ONLY

Tuesday, October 27, 2020

5:03 p.m.

Members Present

Deanna L. Wright, Chair
Chris Garvey, Member
Meredith Freeman, Member
Tarsha Hillmon, Member
Myron Martin, Member
Beatriz Romero, Member
Virginia Valentine, Member

Members Absent

Communications and Community Relations

(Strategic Projects)

Kori Kloberdanz, Director

WELCOME

Trustee Deanna L. Wright, Chair, School Name Committee, welcomed the public to the School Name Committee's teleconference meeting, noting that today's meeting was being broadcast and recorded on Facebook Live.

Trustee Wright also welcomed the Committee's newest member, Meredith Becker Freeman, the parent representative appointed by Superintendent Dr. Jesus F. Jara. Ms. Freeman is a member of the HOPE parent organization and serves as Vice President of Leadership for the Nevada PTA.

In addition, Trustee Wright thanked both Beatriz Romero, the Committee's teacher representative, and Tarsha Hillmon, the Committee's administrator representative, for their service. Ms. Romero has served two consecutive terms on the School Name Committee over the last four years and thus cannot serve any longer per policy guidelines, and Ms. Hillmon has completed her two-year term and opted not to serve another term. Trustee Wright said she was grateful for their thoughtfulness and dedication.

Myron Martin, President and CEO of The Smith Center for the Performing Arts, and Virginia Valentine, President of the Nevada Resort Association, have completed their two-year terms of service as community representatives on the Committee and both have agreed to accept Dr. Jara's invitation to serve a second term, Trustee Wright announced. She thanked both for the willingness to donate their time and talents on behalf of the Clark County School District.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Adoption of the agenda for October 27, 2020.

Motion: Garvey

Second: Martin

Vote: 7-0

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the minutes of June 16, 2020.

Motion: Martin

Second: Hillmon

Vote: 7-0

2020 CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: FINALISTS. Discussion and possible action to review the six finalists from the 2020 Call for Nominations and forward a recommendation to name one new elementary school and one new middle school to open in fall 2021 for approval to the Board of School Trustees, is recommended.

The 2020 Call for Nominations was held earlier this year and 41 applications were received by the School Name Committee. After an independent rating process by the seven Committee members, six finalists were selected for further consideration.

Trustee Wright thanked everyone on the videoconference for the time and effort they took in preparing the excellent applications that were received and for being a part of this meeting to represent their nominee.

- Finalist: Hannah Brown Speakers: Jan Jones Blackhurst and former U.S. Senator Harry Reid
- Finalist: Barry and June Gunderson Speakers: Dr. Jamie Linn Gunderson
- Finalist: Bob and Alison Kasner Speakers: Principal Jennifer Furman-Born and D.J. Allen
- Finalist: Ben Lesser Speakers: Ann Raskin, Ben Lesser, and Jerry Engel
- Finalist: Dr. Bruce Miller Speakers: Dr. Lisa Miller and Dr. Kay Carl
- Finalist: Billie Knight Rayford Speakers: Berna Rhodes-Ford, Quentin Scott, and Principal Ramona Esparza

Before the ballot process began, Trustee Wright mentioned this was the time to discuss the candidates as the Committee and to consider its priorities for naming a school. Trustee Wright noted that Committee members could take into account the following factors as they make their selections:

- Presentations made today
- Complete applications (provided in the reference material)
- Combined rating scores
- Diversity of race, gender, position, background, and other areas.
- Overall fit with the honor of being a school namesake

Committee members expressed the difficulty ahead of them in narrowing down the selection to just two namesakes out of the six finalists, acknowledging that all of them were deserving of recognition.

Trustee Garvey asked the representatives of each nominee if they had any issues or objection if they were to be approved as a namesake for either of the two schools based on their geographic location. (The elementary school will be located in Henderson and the middle school will be located in the southwest part of the valley.) All six finalists and/or their representatives said they had no objection.

Prior to ballots being cast, Trustee Wright said nominees must receive at least four votes to be recommended for final approval to the Board of Trustees.

As prescribed in the Naming of Schools and Education-Related Facilities Procedural Guide, the Committee voted via ballot to select a name for one of the two new school facilities. Three separate votes were held on the first recommendation, with Hannah Marie Brown receiving five votes. Two separate votes were held on the second recommendation, with Barry and June Gunderson receiving four votes.

Motion to recommend to the Board of School Trustees to name a new elementary school or a middle school after either Hannah Marie Brown School or Barry and June Gunderson.

Motion: Martin Second: Romero Vote: 7-0

UPDATE ON THE RENAMING OF HELEN ANDERSON TOLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL. The Committee will receive an update on the transition plan for Helen Anderson Toland Elementary School resulting from the Board of Trustees decision on September 10, 2020, to rescind the name of Kit Carson Elementary School.

Ms. Kloberdanz informed the Committee that on September 10, 2020, the Board of School Trustees voted to rescind the name of Kit Carson Elementary School, as provided in Policy 7223 Naming of Schools and Education-Related Facilities.

The previously approved school namesake Helen Anderson Toland has been assigned as the new namesake for the school.

Ms. Kloberdanz said that CCSD's Strategic Projects Department has been meeting with the school's principal and other CCSD departments as part of the transition.

APPROVE AGENDA PLANNING AND FUTURE MEETINGS

No meetings are planned at this time. The next meeting will be held in early 2021 to discuss any items submitted for School Name Committee consideration.

CCSD Staff will reach out to members to check availability in order to schedule each meeting.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENT

The Committee did receive one public comment suggesting that substitute teachers be allowed to update their ID stickers via mail instead of in person at the Greer Education Center.

ADJOURN: 7:06 p.m.

Trustee Wright asked if there were any comments by Committee members prior to seeking a motion to adjourn. Ms. Romero and Ms. Hillmon said it was a pleasure to serve and that they learned a lot from the Committee. Trustee Garvey said serving on the Committee opens your eyes to all of the wonderful things happening at CCSD. Ms. Valentine said to those no longer serving on the Committee that it was pleasure working with them. Ms. Freeman said she was excited to be a part of the Committee moving forward. Trustee Wright concluded, in response to Committee members noting how difficult it is to select school namesakes among so many worthy candidates, that is hard selecting between the "cream of the cream." Mr. Martin thanked the Trustees for their service.

Motion: Freeman Second: Romero Vote: 7-0