

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, Nevada 89121

Work Session

Wednesday, July 6, 2022

9:03 a.m.

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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;  
Dr. Brenda Larsen-Mitchell, Deputy Superintendent, Office of the Deputy Superintendent;  
Cindy Krohn, Director, Board Office; Carmen West, Executive Manager/Director II, Office of the  
Superintendent; and Denise Zagby, Administrative Secretary II, Board Office.

**Teleconference Call Connected**

Teleconference call with Trustee Ford, Trustee Guzmán, and Trustee Williams was connected at  
9:03 a.m.

**Flag Salute**

Trustee Garcia Morales led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Adoption of the Agenda**

*Adopt agenda.*

*Motion: Cavazos    Second: Garcia Morales    Vote: Unanimous*

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items**

Michelle Cox spoke about her son's experience in CCSD that she says has devastated her family  
and said they are still experiencing retaliation. She said no one has attempted to contact her or her  
attorney to address these issues. She asked that an investigation be conducted.

**Approve Notice of Intent – Clark County School District Board of Trustees Governance Policy, GP-11: Public Comment**

Approval of the Notice of Intent to Adopt, Repeal, or Amend Clark County School District Governance Policy GP-11: Public Comment, prior to submission, to the Board of Trustees for approval on August 11, 2022, as recommended in Reference 3.01.

**Public Hearing**

Anna Binder said with the number of consent agenda items, three minutes is not a lot of time to speak. She stated if this item passes, she would probably like an opinion from the attorney general's office. She said pushing all non-agenda item comments to the end of the meeting is unfair to the public.

Ed Gonzalez said he is in support of the Board trying to gain control of the meetings. He asked when it comes to personal attacks and addressing a specific Trustee, whether he would be in violation of the policy if he mentioned a conversation he had with his Trustee or addressed his Trustee directly, for instance. He expressed concern about the proposed time limit placed on the consent agenda and suggested perhaps five minutes. He suggested giving some clarity to the process and the behavior that could have a member of the public banned from Board meetings.

Trustee Cepeda and Ms. Malich gave an overview of the proposed changes to the policy.

Trustee Ford asked if they were going to continue allowing students to speak at the beginning of the meeting.

Ms. Malich stated that in being in compliance with Open Meeting Law (OML), Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 241, giving preference to others could put the Board at risk of being in violation.

Trustee Ford suggested creating options to hear from the community regularly outside of the Board meetings.

Trustee Guzmán asked if the Board would continue hearing public comment after a presentation and before Board discussion.

Ms. Malich explained that public comment would be heard after the Board's discussion and prior to their vote.

Trustee Guzmán asked what the thought process was behind this change.

Ms. Malich said it is to be in compliance with NRS 241.020.

Trustee Guzmán asked where the Board would gather public input on non-action items.

**Approve Notice of Intent – Clark County School District Board of Trustees Governance Policy, GP-11: Public Comment (continued)**

Trustee Cepeda stated OML is specific to action items, so this is aligning more to the letter of the law. She said that is something they could talk through.

Ms. Malich said they could consider things like forums and community events, but she said there is no legal requirement to hear public comment on non-action items. She stated the public could also speak on those items during the non-action public comment portion of the meeting.

Trustee Williams stated she thinks these changes will be helpful for the Board and for the public.

Trustee Cavazos asked what other school district's public comment policies were most influential in making these proposed changes.

Trustee Cepeda said Board officers, staff, and legal counsel reviewed several different school districts' policies, including entities in Nevada and in other states.

Trustee Garcia Morales asked what other ways the community can communicate with the Board besides the public comment period on non-action items at the Board meeting and potential parent and community (PAC) meetings.

Ms. Malich said community members could write to the Board members, contact them through calling the Board Office, and email the Board members as a whole or individually.

Trustee Brooks said these proposed changes are, in part, meant to bring clarity and to bring equal treatment of all meeting attendees. She said she views moving the non-action item comments all to the end of the meeting as a fairer choice. She stated the new policy that the Board has adopted requires the Board to accept a monitoring report, so those would then become voting items, and the public would be able to comment on those items. She agreed that the Board should work on holding community engagement events outside of the Board meetings.

Trustee Ford agreed with the concept of why these changes are being proposed and that the changes being made to eliminate any confusion are valid. She expressed concern about people not being able to provide public comment on the monitoring reports at the time those items are being heard because they are not yet action items.

*Motion to approve.*

*Motion: Williams      Second: Garcia Morales*

Trustee Cavazos asked if this were to be approved as presented, could accommodations be made for students.

**Approve Notice of Intent – Clark County School District Board of Trustees Governance Policy, GP-11: Public Comment** (continued)

Ms. Malich stated the students would be treated as everyone else, that the Board cannot offer preference based on viewpoint.

Trustee Cavazos referred to Reference 3.01(B), page 4 of 6, number 6, and asked if all Board members would be notified in advance of changes.

Trustee Cepeda stated number 6 is reserved for emergencies that might happen in a meeting.

Trustee Cavazos referred to Reference 3.01(B), page 5 of 6, “Disorderly conduct from speakers and members of the public shall result in additional consequences for each infraction:” and asked who would determine the penalty.

Ms. Malich clarified that it would be 30 days for the first incident; 60 days for the second; and 180 days for the third.

Trustee Brooks noted there is some hesitancy with moving all non-action item comments to the end of the meeting and suggested the Board could consider moving the start time of the meeting to earlier in the day.

Trustee Cavazos said she was not in favor of moving all non-action item comments to the end of the meeting. She commented on the large number of consent agenda items and expressed concern with being able to hear from constituents. She said she would be open to moving the start time of the meeting to perhaps 4:00 p.m. She suggested considering keeping a non-action item public comment period at the beginning of the meeting but adhering to a strict 20 minutes.

Ms. Malich said one reason for moving the non-action item public comment period to the end of the meeting was to eliminate the confusion of whether individuals were able to speak at both periods.

Trustee Guzmán asked if there is a plan to revisit this policy once in place to assess how it is working.

Trustee Brooks stated the changes are being made to be more in alignment with OML.

Trustee Ford asked that the Board President and Vice President be more mindful during agenda review of which items should be discussed by the Board and not placed in the consent agenda, so they continue to give the public an opportunity to speak on those items. She said she would support an earlier start time for their Board meetings.

*Vote on Trustee Williams’s motion: Yeses – 6 (Brooks, Cepeda, Ford, Garcia Morales, Guzmán, Williams); No – 1 (Cavazos)  
The motion passed.*

**Upcoming Meeting of the Board of Trustees – Thursday, July 14, 2022, 5:00 p.m.**

Trustee Cepeda noted the next regular meeting of the Board was scheduled for Thursday, July 14, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. in the boardroom.

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items**

None.

**Adjourn:** 10:18 a.m.

*Motion: Brooks    Second: Garcia Morales    Vote: Unanimous*