

Minutes
Clark County School District
Meeting of the Board of School Trustees

TELECONFERENCE ONLY

Work Session

Wednesday, December 2, 2020

8:07 a.m.

Roll Call: Members Present
Lola Brooks, President
Linda P. Cavazos, Vice President
Danielle Ford, Clerk
Irene Cepeda, Member
Chris Garvey, Member
Deanna L. Wright, Member
Linda E. Young, Member

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

Also present were: Mary-Anne Miller, Board Counsel, District Attorney's Office; Joe Caruso, Executive Director, Community Services Department, Office of the Superintendent; Cindy Krohn, Director, Board Office; and Dr. Thomas Alsbury, Balanced Governance Solutions™.

Adoption of the Agenda

Adopt agenda, except note reference material provided for Items 3.01, 3.02, and 3.03.

Motion: Wright Second: Cavazos Vote: Unanimous

Public Comment on Agenda Items

None.

Board Member Request for Information Process

Discussion and possible action regarding the process for how the Board of School Trustees request information or assistance from the Superintendent of Schools and/or staff.

Dr. Alsbury provided a review of the Board's previous training sessions. He reviewed and discussed with the Board policies and procedures for requesting information or assistance that are in line with Balanced Governance™, as shown in Reference 3.01.

Trustee Wright suggested adding language that allows all Trustees to receive the response to a Trustee's request for information so they are not duplicating the same request.

Board Member Request for Information Process (continued)

Dr. Alsbury suggested adding “iv. Official board agenda item” under number 1.e., Reference 3.01 (C), page 2 of 5. He recommended adding language suggested by Trustee Wright to number 3 on page 2 of 5.

Trustee Wright suggested adding a step under the Progress Response Protocols on page 3 of 5, that states that a Trustee must ask the Superintendent to reconsider fulfilling their request via email to the Superintendent and include the Board liaison and Board president.

Trustee Ford suggested utilizing a spreadsheet or template to respond to the Superintendent when a request is denied. She referenced number 4 on page 2 of 5 and questioned the process when the request is urgent and how “urgent” is defined and what “urgent” mean as it relates to the District’s liability. She asked for clarification of who should be copied on emails and when. She questioned where Comcate would fit into this process. She suggested that under Progress Response Protocols, number 2, page 3 of 5, including more specific guidelines, such as how that request will be made and what the timeframe would be, for instance. She suggested the same specifications be made for number 3. She suggested utilizing scripted templates to guide parents. She also questioned where Smart Sheet would fit into this process.

Trustee Cavazos suggested changing the language under Requests for Information Made Directly to the Staff in number 2, page 3 of 5, to “Inform the Board liaison of the request.”

Trustee Brooks reminded the Trustees that these items would come back to the Board during their policy review.

No action was taken on this item.

Board Member Request for Presentation and Report Template

Discussion and possible action regarding the Board of School Trustees template for presentations and reports submitted from the Superintendent of Schools and/or staff and the report vetting process.

Dr. Alsbury reviewed and discussed with the Board Member Request for Presentation and Report Template and his recommendations, as shown in Reference 3.02.

Recess: 10:28 a.m.

Reconvene: 10:45 a.m.

Board Member Request for Presentation and Report Template (continued)

Dr. Alsbury continued reviewing the Board Member Request for Presentation and Report Template and gathering the Trustees’ input about what they would like to see in the Template.

No action was taken on this item.

Board of School Trustees Meeting Agenda

Discussion and possible action regarding the Board of School Trustees meeting agenda and aligning the agenda to the Balanced Governance™ model.

Dr. Alsbury reviewed board meeting processes and procedures, as shown in Reference 3.03. He discussed his recommendations for aligning the agenda to Balanced Governance™.

Trustee Brooks said the Board would be using the new agenda format for the next Board meeting, and she asked Trustees to forward any questions or feedback to Mr. Caruso.

No action was taken on this item.

Superintendent Communication

None.

Trustee Requests for Agenda Items or Information

None.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

Mrs. Krohn provided a summary of the written comments submitted, as follows:

A writer stated that students are doing their best to learn during this time but that some are struggling. They asked if modifications could be made to the way students receive grades, and they provided information in regards to the way the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) is currently grading their students.

A writer asked if the High School Improv League could get assistance from the Clark County School District.

A writer feels that students are overwhelmed and given too much homework. They ask that there be concessions in allowing the students the ability to turn in late work.

Adjourn: 12:37 p.m.

Motion: Wright Second: Cavazos Vote: Unanimous