

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

TELECONFERENCE ONLY

Thursday, January 28, 2021

5:01 p.m.

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

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

Announcements

A recorded message was played from Governor Steve Sisolak speaking about the need to return to face-to-face learning as safely as possible, as soon as possible, for the benefit of the children. He said he was glad to see the District's plan to begin to return to in-person learning for pre-kindergarten through third grade and encouraged everyone to continue working to develop future plans to return more grades to school. He said the state would assist in any way possible.

Adoption of the Agenda

Adopt agenda.

Motion: Guzmán Second: Ford Vote: Unanimous

Public Comment on Agenda Items

Voice-recorded public comments:

Teresa Crawford spoke on Item 5.04, expressing support of the resolution to keep kids safe. She said she hopes the Board votes yes on this item.

Paige Myers spoke in support of Items 5.06 and 5.07. She thanked the Trustees who encouraged staff to address the shortage of school psychologists. She asked the Board to vote in favor of Items 5.06 and 5.07. She expressed appreciation for the effort of focusing on both retention and recruitment.

Claire Hooper spoke in support of Item 5.04. She cited statistics regarding unintentional shootings, gun suicide, and school shootings, highlighting the need for safe and proper gun storage.

Public Comment on Agenda Items (continued)

Wendy Starkweather spoke in support of Item 5.04. She said as a concerned citizen and as a friend of mothers and teachers of school-age children, she urges the Board to support this resolution. She said the resolution addresses an unacceptable status quo and identifies a needed change to the status quo.

Sarah Palmer (phonetic) spoke on Item 7, Trustee Community Activity Report. She said Trustee Williams' activities include associating with known white supremacists, and she said this is unacceptable. She said nothing is being done by the District nor the Board to ensure that Trustee Williams is not pushing her racist ideals while she is engaging in community activities.

Marie Neisess spoke in favor of Items 5.06 and 5.07. She stated that students' mental health should have always been a priority and resources to help students in need have been underfunded for years. She said this Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) is a step in the right direction and begins to address the school psychologist shortage.

Sarah Comroe spoke on Item 3.13. She asked if this is being done to improve the ventilation system for safety reasons related to COVID-19 as children are return to the school. She asked if so, what would be the trajectory for improving the ventilation system in every school and what would be the cost for that.

Robert Cowles spoke on Item 5.04. He said it is gun owners' responsibility to ensure that their firearms are secure and that children do not have access to a firearm for their safety. He said additionally, properly securing firearms ensures they are not stolen and potentially land in the hands of criminals who may use them to do harm to others.

Sarah Comroe spoke on Item 3.01. She said the minutes should note that at the last Board meeting, the hybrid model was not approved. She said there are moments in the news media where Superintendent Jara is stating that the hybrid model was approved at the previous meeting.

Sarah Comroe spoke on Items 5.06 and 5.07. She said she likes this plan better than the plan to contract out and said she believes this MOA speaks directly to the mental health needs of the District. She stated that a mental health need of the District is for Superintendent Jara to stop using the deaths of students for his own agenda.

Jessica Barboza spoke on Items 5.06 and 5.07, and she thanked the Board for addressing the shortage of school psychologists. She said she entered this profession to help and support students, but unfortunately their current workload makes it difficult to provide all the support students need.

Public Comment on Agenda Items (continued)

Cindy Krohn, Director, Board Office, provided a summary of the written comments submitted, as follows:

Item 5.04

A writer said it is not the place of CCSD to determine how they should store their firearm and asked that the District educate their child and not drive an agenda.

A responsible gun owner feels that the resolution does not go far enough. They would like to encourage gun safety classes along with proper handling and storage of firearms.

A writer supports the resolution, saying it would allow all CCSD parents, gun owners and non-gun owners alike, to learn about the tragedy of preventable child gun deaths.

The Nevada School Counselor Association supports the Secure Storage Notification Resolution and said by working collaboratively we can hopefully reduce the number of students contemplating suicide and reduce the risk of future gun violence in CCSD Schools.

A writer strongly supports Item 5.04, stating that simple measures to store locked firearms separately from ammunition would save lives.

A comment was received urging the Board to follow the leadership of other school districts around the country and pass a resolution that requires a letter to be sent home to all parents and guardians regarding the importance of safe and secure gun storage.

A writer supports the education efforts regarding safe storage of firearms as noted in clause 8, however, they do not support the inclusion of the parental signature acknowledgement during the annual registration process.

The Nevada Association of School Psychologists supports measures that will reduce access to firearms by individuals who may harm themselves or others and are in line with existing public safety measures.

The Las Vegas Alliance of Black School Educators is in support of Item 5.04 and believes it is a necessity for safety for students, staff, families and the broader community.

The Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department is in support of Item 5.04. It was stated that their agency handled over 13 calls in 2020 involving juveniles who were injured or killed because they had access to firearms that were not properly secured and appreciates the Board's efforts to ensure the safety of our children.

Approve Adoption of Consent Agenda

Approval of consent agenda, as submitted, as recommended.

Motion to accept the consent agenda, pulling Item 3.16 for separate discussion and vote.

Motion: Ford Second: Cepeda Vote: Unanimous

3.01 Approval of the Minutes.

Discussion and possible action on the approval of the minutes from the special meeting of December 2, 2020, and the regular meeting of December 10, 2020, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** (Ref. 3.01)

3.02 Grant Application: Elementary Schools- Prevention, Advocacy, Choice, and Teamwork (PACT) Coalition.

Discussion and possible action on authorization to submit and implement the Prevention, Advocacy, Choices, and Teamwork (PACT) grant at Quannah McCall Elementary School and Claude and Stella Parson Elementary School, funded by the PACT Coalition and the Nevada Division of Mental Health and Developmental Services, to implement the Leader in Me drug prevention program, for an amount not to exceed \$120,000.00, to be paid from Federal Fund 0280, from January 29, 2021, through September 30, 2024, with no impact to the general fund, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Dustin Mancl] (Ref. 3.02)

3.03 Credit Toward Graduation from High School for Courses Completed Through the Nevada System of Higher Education.

Discussion and possible action to approve high school dual credit coursework, aligned to the Nevada System of Higher Education, for the purpose of articulation, with no impact to the general budget, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mike Barton] (Ref. 3.03)

3.04 Student Expulsions.

Discussion and possible action on approval of student expulsions according to NRS 392.467 (Board Policy 5114 and Regulations 5114.2 and 5141.1), as listed, is recommended. (CONFIDENTIAL) **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mike Barton] (Ref. 3.04)

3.05 Warrants.

Discussion and possible action on ratification of the warrants as listed in the Bills Payable Transmittal and the Board Memorandum to be presented at the Board meeting, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Jason Goudie] (Ref. 3.05)

3.06 Recap of Budget Appropriation Transfers.

Discussion and possible action on authorization to include the Recap of Budget Appropriation Transfers between governmental functions of all funds for the period beginning December 1, 2020, through December 31, 2020, in the official Board minutes as required by Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 354.598005, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Jason Goudie] (Ref. 3.06)

Approve Adoption of Consent Agenda (continued)

3.07 Unified Personnel Employment.

Discussion and possible action on approval to employ unified personnel, as listed, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Nadine Jones] (Ref. 3.07)

3.08 Licensed Personnel Employment.

Discussion and possible action on approval to employ licensed personnel, as listed, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Nadine Jones] (Ref. 3.08)

3.09 Licensed Personnel Dismissal Recommendation.

Discussion and resolution to approve the Superintendent's recommendation for dismissal of licensed personnel, as listed, is recommended. (CONFIDENTIAL) **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Nadine Jones] (Ref. 3.09)

3.10 Purchasing Awards.

Discussion and possible action on approval to purchase goods or services in the estimated total amount of \$5,123,379.00 in compliance with NRS 332, as listed, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mike Casey] (Ref. 3.10)

3.11 Purchase Orders.

Discussion and possible action on ratification of the purchase orders in the total amount of \$803,118.95 as listed, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mike Casey] (Ref. 3.11)

3.12 Contract Award: Portable Campus at East St. Louis and Atlantic Swing Campus.

Discussion and possible action on approval of an award of contract to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder to install portables for the portable campus at the East St. Louis and Atlantic Swing Campus, to be paid from the 2015 Capital Improvement Program, Fund 3150000000, Project C0014926; and for Jeff Wagner, Chief of Facilities, to act as the Board of School Trustees' designee to sign the granting documents, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Jeff Wagner] (Ref. 3.12)

3.13 Architectural Design Services: Replace Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning Components and Roof at Walter Johnson Junior High School Academy of International Studies.

Discussion and possible action on approval to select the architectural firm of Carpenter Sellers Del Gatto Architects, to provide architectural design services to prepare plans, specifications, and other construction documents for a design, bid, and build method of construction to replace the heating, ventilation, air conditioning components, and roof at Walter Johnson Junior High School Academy of International Studies, in the amount of \$497,463.00, to be paid from the 2015 Capital Improvement Program, Fund 3150000000, Project C0014449; and for Jeff Wagner, Chief of Facilities, to act as the Board of School Trustees' designee to sign the granting documents, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Jeff Wagner] (Ref. 3.13)

Approve Adoption of Consent Agenda (continued)

3.14 Grant of Easement to Las Vegas Valley Water District at Dean Petersen Elementary School.

Discussion and possible action on approval to grant and convey perpetual access easements to the Las Vegas Valley Water District at Dean Petersen Elementary School, for the construction, operation, use, maintenance, repair, replacement, reconstruction, and removal of pipelines, all underground and surface appurtenances for conducting water, and any facilities ancillary thereto, such as electric power, fiber optic, and the rights of ingress and egress, over, on, above, across, and under, and for Jeff Wagner, Chief of Facilities, to act as the Board of School Trustees' designee to sign the granting document, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Jeff Wagner] (Ref. 3.14)

3.15 Change in Services.

Discussion and possible action on ratification of total change in services to the architectural/engineering services agreement for a net increase of \$13,090.00 to the agreement for Southeast Career and Technical Academy (\$13,090.00) to be paid from the 2015 Capital Improvement Program, Fund 3150000000, Project C0013575, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Jeff Wagner] (Ref. 3.15)

3.17 Interlocal Agreement Between Clark County School District and Southern Nevada Water Authority for Water Efficient Technology Projects Cooling Towers.

Discussion and possible action on approval to an Agreement between the Southern Nevada Water Authority and the Clark County School District for the implementation of water efficient technology projects on various Clark County School District sites, such to install high efficiency drift elimination packing and the procedures for distributing incentive rebate payments from the Water Efficient Technology Program, and for Jeff Wagner, Chief of Facilities, to act as the Board of School Trustees' designee to sign the Agreement, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Jeff Wagner] (Ref. 3.17)

3.18 Interlocal Agreement Between Clark County School District and Southern Nevada Water Authority for Water Efficient Technology Projects Turf Conversion.

Discussion and possible action on approval to an Agreement between the Southern Nevada Water Authority and the Clark County School District for the implementation of water efficient technology projects on various Clark County School District sites, such as converting live grass turf to artificial turf or other approved technologies and the procedures for distributing incentive rebate payments from the Water Efficient Technology Program, and for Jeff Wagner, Chief of Facilities, to act as the Board of School Trustees' designee to sign the Agreement, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Jeff Wagner] (Ref. 3.18)

Approve Adoption of Consent Agenda (continued)

3.19 Approval of Settlement.

Discussion and possible action on settlement of United States District Court Case No. 2:19-cv-01480-JCM-NJK, B.S.R. v. *CCSD, Karen Bennett, and Randy Cheung* in the total amount of \$205,000.00, and for the Superintendent of Schools, Clark County School District, and the President and Clerk, Clark County School District Board of Trustees, to sign the settlement agreement, and to authorize Luke Puschnig, General Counsel, to execute the appropriate settlement agreement, is recommended. (CONFIDENTIAL) **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Luke Puschnig] (Ref. 3.19)

Approve Memorandum of Agreement Between Campus 2020, LLC, and the Clark County School District

Approval to enter into an Agreement between Campus 2020, LLC, and the Clark County School District for the purpose of creating a framework through which the Parties will negotiate a business relationship, a Public/Private Partnership, to construct an elementary school with private funds and enter into a lease back arrangement with the District on a vacant Bureau of Land Management property, and for Jeff Wagner, Chief of Facilities, to act as the Board of School Trustees' designee to sign the Agreement, as recommended in Reference 3.16.

Trustee Ford asked some clarifying questions regarding this agreement. She asked what staff's expectations are around the lease.

Superintendent Jara stated that the District does not own federal land, and he said once the agreed upon lease comes back to the Board, they will file execution.

Jeff Wagner, Chief of Facilities, Facilities Services Unit, explained that the District does not own the land but, in the agreement, holds the right to build a public school on the land under the current plan of development. He said this MOA holds several safeguards for the District.

Trustee Ford asked what fund would be used to pay for the lease.

Mr. Wagner said it would be a general fund operating expense.

Superintendent Jara said it would be similar operating costs allocated to operate the District's mobile buildings.

Trustee Ford said she feels that this could potentially take funds away from the District's bond program. She asked if Terry Manley is any relation to Edward Manley or Jana Wilcox Lavin. She said the Board has no assurance that this would be used to build a school. She suggested that the Board not vote on this item at this time so it could be brought before the Bond Oversight Committee (BOC) for discussion and recommendation to the Board.

Superintendent Jara stated the BOC's responsibility is to oversee bond dollars, and this is not an expense of bond dollars.

Approve Memorandum of Agreement Between Campus 2020, LLC, and the Clark County School District (continued)

Motion that the Board postpone voting on Item 3.16 at this time, and that the item go before the BOC for discussion and recommendation and then back to the Board.

Motion: Ford

Trustee Cepeda stated she did not feel comfortable moving forward without having more information and said she was in support of postponing it.

Trustee Williams said she believed that over time having these public/private partnerships would actually save the District money.

Mr. Wagner spoke to the immediate and long-term advantages of public/private partnerships.

Trustee Brooks said she does not agree with this item being brought before the BOC since this would not be a use of bond dollars and would not be within the boundaries of the Committee.

Trustee Cavazos asked if this the first time the District has utilized this type of partnership agreement.

Mr. Wagner said to his knowledge the District has not used this public/private partnership means of the development in the past.

Trustee Cavazos stated then there is no precedent or structure for the District since it has not been utilized here previously.

Mr. Wagner said although the District would not have an existing framework, this is a very typical delivery model, so there is a precedent for school districts to use this delivery method.

Trustee Cavazos asked about the relationships between Terry Manley and those named by Trustee Ford.

Mr. Wagner stated that he was not familiar with any relationships between and the individuals Trustee Ford mentioned.

Trustee Brooks said she was not in favor of tabling the item but recognized that the Trustees might not have had an appropriate amount of time to review the information before their briefing. She said she would be amenable to postponing this item until the very next Board meeting so Trustees could receive an additional briefing.

Approve Memorandum of Agreement Between Campus 2020, LLC, and the Clark County School District (continued)

Trustee Ford restated her motion to postpone Item 3.16 until more information is provided to the Board and then for the item to be brought back to the Board at a time determined by the Board President.

Motion: Ford Second: Guzmán Vote: Yeses – 3 (Cavazos, Ford, Guzmán); Noes – 4 (Brooks, Cepeda, Garcia Morales, Williams)

The motion failed.

Motion to postpone Item 3.16 until the next regular Board meeting of February 11, 2021.

Motion: Cepeda Second: Brooks Vote: Unanimous

Information Technology Organizational Study

Presentation on the restructuring and consolidation of Clark County School District's Information Technology (IT) organizational structure as a way to redirect costs and improve utilization of IT services, programs, and resources as in alignment with Focus 2024.

Mr. Mike Casey, Chief Operating Officer, Operational Services Unit, and Dr. John Phillip, Center for Educational Leadership and Technology, CELT, presented the Information Technology Organizational Study, as shown in Reference 4.01.

Trustee Brooks asked if Superintendent Jara wanted to add anything in terms of next steps.

Superintendent Jara talked about some of the work that has already begun and said more information would come to the Board.

Approve Debt Management Commission and Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition Representative

Approval to appoint a member of the Board as representative to the Debt Management Commission and the Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition, whose term will be coterminous with his or her elected term, in accordance NRS 350.0115 and the Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition Act, Chapter 489, Statutes of Nevada 1999, as recommended in Reference 5.01.

Trustee Brooks stated that she was not interested in retaining the position as the Board representative to the Debt Management Commission and the Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition (SNRPC). She offered information related to the committees and her experience while serving in these assignments.

Trustee Williams expressed interest in serving on the committees.

Motion to appoint Trustee Williams to the Debt Management Commission and the Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition.

Motion: Ford Second: Brooks Vote: Unanimous

Approve Appointment of a Board Member to Fill an Unexpired Term on the Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association Board of Control

Approval to appoint a member of the Board to fill the unexpired term of Dr. Linda E. Young on the Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association Board of Control, effective January 28, 2021, through June 30, 2023, as recommended in Reference 5.02.

Trustee Cavazos stated that she was serving on the Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association (NIAA) Board of Control before Dr. Linda Young began her term for the remainder of the time she was to serve on the CCSD Board of School Trustees.

Motion to appoint Trustee Cavazos to the NIAA Board of Control.

Motion: Cepeda Second: Ford Vote: Unanimous

Approve Trustee Involvement and Advocacy – Legislative Session

Approval on plans for Trustee participation during the 81st (2021) Session of the Nevada Legislature.

Dr. Christopher Bernier, Chief of Staff, Office of the Superintendent; Dr. Brad Keating, Director, Government Relations Department, Office of the Superintendent; and Leonardo Benavides, Coordinator, Government Relations Department, Office of the Superintendent, presented information and plans for Trustee participation during the Legislative Session, as shown in Reference 5.03.

Trustee Ford encouraged everyone to watch and learn from the information regarding the legislative session that is provided at these Board meetings.

Motion to approve the committee assignments for Trustees.

Motion: Cepeda Second: Guzmán Vote: Unanimous

Approve Resolution Regarding Safe Storage of Firearms

Approval of a resolution of the Board of School Trustees in support of safe storage of firearms, and for the Board President and Board Clerk to sign the necessary document; to be submitted to the Nevada Association of School Boards, as recommended in Reference 5.04.

Trustee Cavazos offered information regarding school districts that have passed a resolution regarding safe storage of firearms and reasons for doing so. She talked about gun violence and suicide data. She said this is asking parents to be informed and to acknowledge that they have been.

Trustee Williams stated that although she is not opposed to sending informational letters home to families, she is opposed to requiring it through registration. She stated that Trustee Cavazos violated Governance Policies GP-10: Construction of the Agenda and GP-4.2: Board Members' Principles of Operation in bringing this forward.

Approve Resolution Regarding Safe Storage of Firearms (continued)

Trustee Williams said it is typically not responsible gun owners that children are gaining access to these weapons through, and she said the CDC states there are typically more hangings and prescription drug overdoses.

Trustee Guzmán asked if refusal to sign this document would prevent a parent from registering their child for school.

Trustee Cavazos said no, it would not.

Trustee Guzmán asked if the acknowledgement would follow students from school to school or if parents would have to sign it again.

Trustee Cavazos said that would be operational, but she would have to check District policy to be certain.

Trustee Guzmán asked then if this could be an informational item for parents.

Trustee Cavazos discussed what she found other school districts were asking for when crafting this resolution. She said this one is very short and simply asks parents to acknowledge that they have read the information regarding safe storage of firearms.

Trustee Ford said she was wondering if the Board would have any further liability in not taking action on this. She said she saw the data Trustee Cavazos was referring to and said the majority of student suicides this year were caused by a firearm. She said now that they are talking about students returning to school, that is another conversation to be had.

Mary-Anne Miller, Board Counsel, District Attorney's Office, stated the Board should not be concerned with any liability in relation to whether or not they adopt this resolution.

Trustee Ford spoke in favor of the resolution, stating it would reassure people who wonder if families know they are supposed to be doing it and whether families have been informed of what that would look like.

Trustee Brooks said she does not feel this would bring about any meaningful change and that responsible gun owners are probably already taking the necessary precautions. She said she feels there are more effective ways to raise public awareness. She stated that bringing this non-time sensitive issue forward against Board policy during this time of uncertainty is problematic because parents want the Board focused on educating their children during this time.

Motion to lay the item on the table.

Motion: Garcia Morales Second: Williams Vote: Yeses – 3 (Brooks, Garcia Morales, Williams); Noes – 4 (Cavazos, Cepeda, Ford, Guzmán)

Approve Resolution Regarding Safe Storage of Firearms (continued)

The motion failed.

Trustee Williams stated Nevada does not have a safe gun storage law.

Trustee Cavazos disagreed and said the law she was referring to was passed in 2018 and included safe storage.

Trustee Williams said she would rescind her statement until she could gather more information. She asked Superintendent Jara to speak to this item, as it was part of his safety committee's discussion and was taken off the list of items to come before the Board at that time.

Superintendent Jara clarified that numerous recommendations were brought forward by the safety committee, which was comprised of administrators, members of the public, parents, and legislators. He said this particular item was discussed but did not make it on the list of the top 10 recommendations due to operational aspects.

As asked by Superintendent Jara and Trustee Cavazos, Ms. Miller clarified that Nevada Revised Statute (NRS), Chapter 202, makes it a criminal offense to negligently store firearms when there is a possibility that a child might gain access to it, and that Senator Roberson's legislation limited the ability of local governments to regulate firearms. She said she does not believe this resolution is a regulation of firearms.

Motion to approve Item 5.04, Resolution Regarding Safe Storage of Firearms.

Motion: Ford Second: Guzmán Vote: Yeses – 2 (Cavazos, Ford); Noes – 2 (Brooks, Cepeda)

Trustee Cepeda suggested postponing this item and bringing it back to ensure that Board policy is followed.

Trustee Ford said she would be willing to consider something more specific but was not willing to amend her motion just to push the item back.

The vote continued: Yes – 1 (Guzmán); Noes – 2 (Garcia Morales, Williams)

The motion failed.

Trustee Cavazos stated that while she believes policy is important, she does not believe policy is more important than one child losing their life. She offered further data related to child suicides and accidental deaths caused by firearms over the last five years.

Motion to postpone Item 5.04 definitely until a later time after the item has been properly vetted and discussed.

Motion: Garcia Morales

Approve Resolution Regarding Safe Storage of Firearms (continued)

Ms. Miller advised that to postpone definitely would require a specific time.

Trustee Garcia Morales said her initial thought is to postpone this until after the pandemic has been contained and they have prioritized bringing students back to the buildings.

Ms. Miller stated that to postpone indefinitely would be the proper motion in this case, with guidance from the maker of the motion of what would be an appropriate time for the item to come back.

Trustee Garcia Morales amended her motion to postpone this item indefinitely.

Second: Brooks

Trustee Cepeda expressed concern with postponing the item indefinitely with no date for it to come back before the Board.

Trustee Cavazos said Ms. Miller suggested the Board could choose to include a “not later than” date for the item to come back.

Trustee Brooks offered a friendly amendment to the motion to add a “not later than” date of June 1, 2021, and said she wants the Superintendent’s staff is involved in this process, perhaps including the safety committee that was previously convened.

Trustee Garcia Morales accepted the friendly amendment to add a “not later than” date of June 1, 2021, and to involve the Superintendent’s safety committee in reviewing this document.

Trustee Garcia Morales amended her motion to return Item 5.04 to the Board no later than June 1, 2021, with consideration, review, and assessment of the document from the Superintendent’s safety committee before coming back to the Board for a vote.

Trustee Ford expressed concern that they have begun conversations around student suicides and school shootings and then have rejected the proposed resolution before them while also focusing on reopening schools. She said knowing that the Board is trying to do more to protect students would reassure the community. She suggested an agreement that this would be finalized before students are back in the building.

Trustee Ford offered a friendly amendment to the motion that this would be paired with schools reopening.

Trustee Garcia Morales declined Trustee Ford’s friendly amendment.

Vote on Trustee Garcia Morales’ motion was unanimous.

Approve Resolution Regarding Safe Storage of Firearms (continued)

Trustee Cavazos noted that the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, the Nevada Association of School Psychologists, and the Nevada Association of School Counselors and numerous other entities voiced their support of this resolution.

Trustee Cepeda expressed concern with following the correct procedure and ensuring this is done correctly.

Trustee Ford expressed concern that oftentimes, committees' recommendations are ignored. She said her understanding is that the intent of the Board is to have the safety committee involved and be involved in the item that comes before the Board in June.

Budget Update

Presentation and discussion on the current budget forecast related to the most recent actual financial information available.

Superintendent Jara announced that the Local Government Finance Committee would be recommending CCSD be removed from the Nevada Department of Taxation fiscal watch.

Jason Goudie, Chief Financial Officer, Business and Finance Unit, provided the budget update for fiscal year 2021, as shown in Reference 5.05.

Trustee Brooks asked if Mr. Goudie was sharing this financial information with the bargaining units.

Mr. Goudie said he has had budget discussion meetings with the bargaining units and will continue to do so on a regular basis.

Trustee Guzmán asked if the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act dollars are contingent upon the District being able to reopen schools or is it to assist with reopening schools.

Mr. Goudie explained that there was some original language referring to reopening schools requirements, but the final bills do not contain those requirements. He said the District does not have to have in-person reopening of schools, and much of it is geared toward distance learning.

Corrected Item: Public Hearing for the Approval of the New Memorandum of Agreement Regarding the Negotiated Agreement Between the Clark County School District and the Clark County Education Association

This is the time and place to conduct a public hearing for the approval of the new Memorandum of Agreement Regarding the Negotiated Agreement Between the Clark County School District and the Clark County Education Association. Please submit comments in writing by email to BoardMtgComments@nv.ccsd.net or by calling 702-799-1166 to voice record comments by 2:00 p.m., Thursday, January 28, 2021.

Corrected Item: Public Hearing for the Approval of the New Memorandum of Agreement Regarding the Negotiated Agreement Between the Clark County School District and the Clark County Education Association (continued)

Trustee Cavazos read the public hearing statement.

Trustee Guzmán stated that she would be abstaining from Items 5.06 and 5.07.

Voice-recorded public comments:

Paige Myers spoke in support of Items 5.06 and 5.07. She thanked the Trustees who encouraged staff to address the shortage of school psychologists. She asked the Board to vote in favor of Items 5.06 and 5.07. She expressed appreciation for the effort of focusing on both retention and recruitment.

Marie Neissess spoke in favor of Items 5.06 and 5.07. She stated that students' mental health should have always been a priority and resources to help students in need have been underfunded for years. She said this MOA is a step in the right direction and begins to address the school psychologist shortage.

Sarah Comroe spoke on Items 5.06 and 5.07. She said she likes this plan better than the plan to contract out and said she believes this MOA speaks directly to the mental health needs of the District. She stated that a mental health need of the District is for Superintendent Jara to stop using the deaths of students for his own agenda.

Jessica Barboza spoke on Items 5.06 and 5.07, and she thanked the Board for addressing the shortage of school psychologists. She said she entered this profession to help and support students, but unfortunately their current workload makes it difficult to provide all the support students need.

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

A person said they are glad to see the increase in pay for school psychologists and mentioned they are currently interning in Utah. They said they earn \$9,000.00 more per year than a first-year school psychologist at CCSD and once they earn their degree, they will make approximately \$15,000.00 more.

Several comments were received asking the Board to ratify the agreement so recruitment and retention can be addressed. Many feel that school psychologists are not fairly compensated for the level of education most have. Another said that CCSD has become more competitive with surrounding states and districts. One added that the District has lost seasoned, veteran psychologists to local charter schools and nearby Nye County by offering higher pay and lower caseloads.

Corrected Item: Public Hearing for the Approval of the New Memorandum of Agreement Regarding the Negotiated Agreement Between the Clark County School District and the Clark County Education Association (continued)

Many cited the National Association of School Psychologists, stating the recommended ratio of school psychologists to students is 1 to 500 and CCSD is averaging 1 to 2,084. It was stated that several school psychologists have two to three schools they are responsible for. Many feel overworked and frustrated.

A writer said the MOA is a step in the right direction and they are excited to see the starting salary of new school psychologists. Many writers feel their unique training and skillset to evaluate and inform school-based teams is critically underutilized due to the shortage of school psychologists in the District, which directly effects the students. School psychologists would like to do more but are unable to when there are over 40 open positions.

The Ministers Alliance Association of Southern Nevada feels that CCSD should work toward school psychologists having their own pay scale and not be lumped with teachers under the Clark County Education Association (CCEA). They said school psychologists are not teachers and have the equivalent of a double masters with many doctorates.

The CCEA is in support the MOA and expressed appreciation for CCSD working with the school psychologists and CCEA to find solutions for recruitment and retention.

A person who supervised four interns hoped that they would have stayed on with CCSD but said they did not due to the low salary offered by the District.

Approval of the New Memorandum of Agreement Regarding the Negotiated Agreement Between the Clark County School District and the Clark County Education Association

Approval of the new Memorandum of Agreement Regarding the Negotiated Agreement Between the Clark County School District and the Clark County Education Association.

Superintendent Jara presented the new Memorandum of Agreement Regarding the Negotiated Agreement Between the Clark County School District and the Clark County Education Association, shown in Reference 5.07, and said it is a first step in the right direction.

Trustee Ford acknowledged CCSD school psychologists' frustrations and the fact that CCSD has been losing psychologists to other school districts. She thanked school psychologists for expressing their concerns.

Motion to approve the new Memorandum of Agreement Regarding the Negotiated Agreement Between the Clark County School District and the Clark County Education Association.

Motion: Ford Second: Cepeda Vote: Yeses – 6 (Brooks, Cavazos, Cepeda, Ford, Garcia Morales, Williams); Abstain – 1 (Guzmán)

The motion passed.

Trustee Discussion Items

Trustee Brooks stated that the Board's work session scheduled to finalize Board policies was to include Dr. Thomas Alsbury, Balanced Governance Solutions™, as the facilitator to present those policies. She said Dr. Alsbury had a scheduling conflict and asked that the meeting be moved to 3:30 p.m., and the Board opted not to do that.

Trustee Cavazos said she, Dr. Alsbury, and Joe Caruso, Executive Director, Community Services Department, Office of the Superintendent, would be meeting next week to go over the extensive review of the policies conducted by the Board Officers.

Trustee Ford requested an agenda item for discussion and presentation of data regarding how many students are working and how many hours they are working and how that impacts different Trustee districts and different demographics.

Superintendent Jara asked for clarification on whether this is a priority of the majority of the Board to focus staff efforts on this request. He asked the Board to vote on this request.

Trustee Ford said she would like to pair her request to the Strategic Plan under student success and equity.

Ms. Miller suggested that the Board President could bring the request back at a future meeting under an agenda item for a formal vote.

Trustee Community Activity Reports

None.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

Voice-recorded public comments:

Hannah Comroe said many questions regarding the hybrid learning model were not answered in July, such as what the consequences would be for students who do not follow safety guidelines, and how special education would be approached with regards to teaching students the importance of social distancing and wearing masks.

Vicki Kreidel said CCSD believes educators are expendable. She talked about the lack of training and support for educators during the changes brought about by the pandemic and said now they are being told to return to the classroom before most have been vaccinated. She said delaying returns until vaccinations are complete is a small ask to save lives.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items (continued)

Autumn Tampa spoke about the difficulties surrounding the COVID-19 vaccination rollout. She said there is a push to get students and staff back into the classroom which might be motivated by concern for students or political agendas or just a desire for life to return to normal. She asked that students and staff not be made to return to schools until all CCSD employees have had an opportunity to get both doses of their vaccine and time to build immunity and that all students' family members who wish to do so have had the opportunity to do the same.

Sarah Comroe commented that the Board is bringing teachers back into the classroom before they have had a change to be fully vaccinated and protected. She said the plan to bring back students in small groups is a good plan, but she does not know of any school that has executed the plan. She said having to bring students and staff back into the schools in the hopes that no one dies of COVID-19 puts immense pressure on the principals.

Ryan Fromoltz said the District does not care about educators anymore. He talked about the efforts put forth by educators to make distance learning work and said people expressed concern for students' mental health over the years before distance learning, and nothing was done to help them. He asked when it became okay to use student suicide as political leverage.

Jeff Warnick said he would love to see the students return to school in person. He said he appreciates the progress that has been made but more needs to be done.

Jenna Robertson commented that the many surveys that are going out to families are not asking the right questions. She said they are not asking how to make distance learning better for kids; how to make it work for families who need some flexibility; how to better support kids with Individual Education Plans (IEPs) and executive functioning issues. She said the latest survey asked if parents wanted to have their child return to school two days per week or remain in full-time distance learning, but what she prefers over all else is to have her child stay with her current teacher.

Jeff Warnick expressed support of the Board's efforts to get students back to in-person learning as soon as possible.

Maria Tawresey said she does not want her child to return to school with this plan and said she does not think her child would be happy at school with a mask on all day and unable to play with friends. She asked that the Board not reopen the schools without a plan that is good for the students and to keep everyone safe.

Robert Cowles said the ACT is scheduled for February 23, 2021. He said given that the COVID-19 positivity rate is over 5 percent and the vast majority of employees have not even had a chance to schedule their first vaccine dose, he would ask that the ACT be delayed until both doses are administered to all employees who chose to get vaccinated.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items (continued)

Annette Carrillo said she has many years of experience working with young students, and she does not see them sitting still with a mask on for six hours per day. She said she works at an old school building with small classrooms and a poor ventilation system and she does not think it is safe for students to return. She asked that the Board consider letting students remain at home for the rest of the school year.

Gayla Thornton said if students are sent back to school now, they will have spring break off and then spend the remaining weeks of the school year being reacquainted to being back in the classroom. She asked what the point of that would be. She said teachers need to be allowed to bring their children into the classroom if they are going to be forced to go back.

Jennifer Warnick said schools have been closed for almost a year. She asked why CCSD cannot figure out how to open schools if all other school districts in Nevada and private schools in Las Vegas have been open since August. She asked if CCSD has looked into obtaining the same waiver given to Faith Lutheran School. She said she would like all of her kids to be back in school.

Sarah Comroe said the District is giving information regarding student suicides in Clark County to the media and using that to scare parents into pushing to get children and teachers back into schools but said the District does not actually care about the mental health of students. She said they are forcing prekindergarten through third-grade students back to school with very little school left, and most likely a large number of students will have to switch teachers, which will be traumatic.

Darlene Anderson said it is unfortunate that she is unable to find student achievement data that had been disaggregated in terms of support to all students. She said it is also unfortunate that CCSD fails to respond to the public.

A teacher asked when CCSD forces teachers to return to campus in the hybrid model, whether she would be expected to teach her in-person students as well as her distance education students. She asked if she would be expected to teach Cohort-A, Cohort-B, and Cohort-C at the same time.

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

Numerous comments were received asking that sports resume. Some said their children are upset, and many are concerned with their children's mental health. Writers said students have been playing club sports for months with safety measures in place and it is working. Others asked that the District allow non-contact sports, such as tennis and golf.

Several writers ask for consideration to allow students to return to extracurricular activities, as it keeps them motivated and connected with others.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items (continued)

A writer said as of January 19, 2021, the National Federation of State High School Associations reported that all but eight states, including Nevada and Washington, D.C., are not playing this year.

A person asked how the administration from NIAA members' schools in Clark County came up with the edict that students must be back on campuses for some athletic competitions to be played.

Because there are no athletics, a person is concerned that students do not have videos to send to recruiters and that many students who were on the path to financial assistance for their higher education through sports scholarships, now have been potentially halted.

Comments were received from students stating they are upset that sports have been taken away and hopes the District reconsiders. One said they would like to step on the court and compete for a state title and state reward as a senior; another asked why they cannot have graduation; one said football keeps them motivated to get good grades so they can play on Friday nights; another asked if there would be a chance that spring sports could be played this year; and one is concerned they are unable to earn a letter in a varsity sport.

A comment was received saying that not allowing athletes to play during this time is one of the most considerate decisions the CCSD Board can make, as it is not worth the risk of endangering the lives of people just to have fun on a field.

A letter was submitted asking that the Open Schools-Open Doors pilot program resume to allow local civic and community groups to use school facilities.

Comments were received asking that schools be opened for students to return to school. They said their child lost their entire senior year. One feels that their student's learning has been stunted and has taken a toll both mentally and emotionally.

A person asked to slow the spread of mental and emotional illness that is increasing rampantly through the children in our community from the never-ending cycle of distance learning and asked that kids get back into the classroom.

A person asked that principals receive training to be better leaders, especially when it comes to suicide.

Several writers forwarded letters that were sent to Governor Sisolak, Superintendent Jara, and others in regards to suicides and the cancellation of 2020 fall sports.

A person said that the mental health of teachers needs to be taken into consideration.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items (continued)

A writer asked why the ability to participate in athletics is contingent upon in-person learning and asked why people think Nevada is ill equipped to provide the same platform for safe play as being done by the majority of the rest of the country.

A student wrote about having to move to a different school on the Friday before schools were closed. He said he had to leave his friends and extracurricular activities behind. He asked that fall sports take place and classrooms be open, as he is eager to make connections with new people.

A writer asked that the coaches, parents, and players be allowed to make the decision of whether or not to participate in athletics.

Writers submitted questions that included whether the Trustees support the Superintendent's position of having no extracurricular activities until schools resume face-to-face instruction; whether there is a play plan for high school athletics in managing COVID-19 risks; and whether there is a budget to facilitate the proper testing to return.

The Ministers Alliance Association of Southern Nevada feel that their Black voice is being shut down more so now through some of the Trustees and the Superintendent and feel that the current Board Officers' leadership will bring them to a good place where differences can be worked out and where everyone can work together.

A writer said that even if all staff members were vaccinated, teachers can still carry the virus back home to their unvaccinated families. They also mentioned that teachers are returning to buildings while Board meetings are still held virtually.

Comments were received stating they would like to have schools opened because their children are hurting mentally and physically.

Writers feel that it is not safe for pre-kindergarten through third-grade classes to return to in-school instruction until all employees who wish to be vaccinated are vaccinated.

A person would like teachers to receive both doses of the vaccine before returning to schools in person.

Another asked that CCSD prepare a video for employees to show them what has been done behind the scenes to help them feel safe.

A person is concerned that staff has not had the opportunity to get vaccinated while teachers and students are being asked to return to class two days a week. They would like distance learning to continue until all educators are vaccinated.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items (continued)

The Las Vegas Alliance of Black School Educators stated that as schools reopen it is imperative that issues of inequality are addressed. They said the plan must be well thought out and include input from teachers, staff, and students who will occupy the buildings.

A teacher is concerned that when they return to school, they will not have their planning period, cannot leave the students to eat their lunches, or will not have any coverage throughout the day.

Mrs. Krohn said all comments received on non-agenda items are available in BoardDocs® and can be read in their entirety.

Approval of the New Memorandum of Agreement Regarding the Negotiated Agreement Between the Clark County School District and the Clark County Education Association
(continued)

Trustee Cavazos asked Fikisha Miller, Chief Negotiator and Assistant General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, to read the fiscal impact of the MOA.

Ms. Fikisha Miller read the financial impact statement for the MOA.

Board Self-Assessment Assignment

None.

Upcoming Meeting of the Board of Trustees – Wednesday, February 3, 2021, 8:00 a.m.

Adjourn: 9:44 p.m.

Motion: Ford Second: Guzmán Vote: Unanimous