

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

Thursday, May 20, 2021

5:02 p.m.

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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

**Adoption of the Agenda**

*Adopt agenda, except note additional reference material provided for Item 5.02 and reference material provided for Item 5.03.*

*Motion: Brooks Second: Ford Vote: Unanimous*

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items**

In-person public comment:

Jeremy Bojorquez advocated for his daughter and said the District has denied accommodations for her condition for the last five years.

Scott Healey said mask mandates need to be removed. He talked about potential health concerns caused by wearing masks, and he said other states have removed their mask mandates.

Adan Rodriguez asked if there is any documentation that shows why elementary school children need to wear masks or the benefits of wearing masks. He raised concerns regarding potential health issues related to wearing masks.

Bonnie Taylor asked why the District cannot make a decision regarding dropping the mask mandate for students. She said the Board can vote tonight to drop the mandate and said if they do not, they can face legal action.

Winston Wagner spoke in opposition to proposed new grading criteria. He suggested instead students be placed appropriately and given the support they need.

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items (continued)**

Karlana Kulseth said this year has been particularly challenging for educators with distance learning. She stated that she was deemed minimally effective as were other educators after having dealt with chronic absenteeism and lack of work being submitted.

Jamie Tadrzynski said schools need to be included in the conversation regarding changes instead of decisions just being made for them. She said decisions being made are affecting students more than the Board may realize.

Claudia Nava expressed concern for the future of Global Community High School and said she and other parents would be present at every meeting and following closely regarding plans for Global and are asking other parents for their support.

Jamie Sullard expressed concern regarding mask and vaccine mandates. She spoke about harmful effects of masks and vaccinations. She implored the Board to review the data she provided.

Vicki Kreidel said CCSD has never focused on teacher retention. She said right now teachers are treated unfairly by administrators; teachers are unable to access health care because of problems with the Teachers Health Trust (THT); and teachers are overwhelmed with the amount of additional work expected of them in the upcoming school year.

Laura Marquardt read a story depicting a teacher forcing her students to wear masks, a student experiencing anxiety because of it, and a law enforcement officer telling the teacher what she was doing to her students was a violation of their constitutional rights and harmful to them physically and emotionally.

Michelle Neilson talked about the difficulties children have had to deal with during this past year and a half. She shared information related to Covid-19 in children pointing to reasons why children should not have to wear masks and how mask mandates have been lifted. She asked the Board to lift the mask mandate for students.

Joseline Cuevas said during the 2020 election voters expressed concerns regarding education and the lack of support from CCSD to Mi Familia Vota. She said the community needs transparency and wants to see a plan for how CCSD is going to spend American Rescue Plan (ARP) money and a report on how Coronavirus Aid, Relieve, and Economic Security (CARES) Act money was spent. She invited Dr. Jara, Trustee Garcia Morales, and Trustee Cepeda to join them for a community discussion on June 30, 2021, at 4:00 p.m. at the Mi Familia Vota office.

### **Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items (continued)**

Sylvia Lazos said CCSD was again unable to present a plan for the future of Global Community High School. She said children rely heavily on Global for their future. She commented that during the new school finance formula hearing, Dr. Brad Keating, Director, Government Relations Department, Office of the Superintendent, submitted an email from the District declaring that it would support Zoom and Victory and said the community should be made aware of the plan for the federal monies and stop hearing about "mysterious emails" and "mysterious side deals."

Sidney Wingate Sukhee spoke about how students benefit from attending Global Community High School. She said over the last three years and with the new facility opening soon, staff has received little information regarding the school's program. She said they should be offering more supports not less, and she asked Trustee Cepeda to support their community.

John Carlo asked how many students graduated, failed, dropped out and how many teen pregnancies there were for the last 10 years. He shared Scripture from the Bible.

Mariana Macias said in the past three years, as the new Global Community High School facility was being built, there has been very little communication regarding the school. She talked about how students benefit from attending the school and said she does not feel 400 seats are sufficient.

### **Approve Adoption of Consent Agenda**

Approval of consent agenda, as submitted, as recommended.

In-person public comment:

Sydney Wingate Sukhee spoke on Item 3.04 and said she thinks it is a great resource for teachers. She asked how teachers would be chosen to receive this training and how these strategies could be pushed out to all educators.

Diana Battista spoke in favor of Item 3.04. She spoke about inequities across the District and challenges and hardships it places on families, and she asked that the District also look at the additional barriers that continue to impact this community

Anna Binder spoke on Item 3.25 and said she hopes that resolves the issues Ms. Leonard has brought forward regarding facility conditions.

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

#### **Item 3.07**

The Las Vegas Alliance of Black School Educators would like to be part of the student expulsion process. They know Black students are disproportionately referred for discipline issues and feel the work must include the Las Vegas Alliance of Black School Educators and community leaders.

*Motion to approve the consent agenda.*

*Motion: Guzmán Second: Brooks Vote: Unanimous*

## **Approve Adoption of Consent Agenda (continued)**

### **3.01 Approval of the Minutes.**

Discussion and possible action on the approval of the minutes from the regular meeting of March 25, 2021, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** (Ref. 3.01)

### **3.02 Ed W. Clark HS Anatomage Table.**

Discussion and possible action on authorization to purchase the Anatomage Table to increase the rigor and hands-on experience for Ed W. Clark High School students to explore classes geared towards the medical and science field, for a total cost of \$64,750.00, to be paid from Ed W. Clark High School's Strategic Budget, Unit 0551, General Fund 1000000000, effective May 21, 2021, through June 30, 2021, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Melissa Gutierrez] (Ref. 3.02)

### **3.03 Explore Learning: Gizmos Science.**

Discussion and possible action on the request for the purchase of goods or services of Gizmos Science from Explore Learning to support the Nevada Academic Content Standards for Science, for an amount of approximately \$224,634.08, effective July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022, to be funded by middle school, junior high school, and high school Strategic Budgets and Title I, to be paid from the Curriculum and Instruction Division, Fund 0100, Cost Center 1010051110, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Karla Loria] (Ref. 3.03)

### **3.04 Professional Services: English Learners, Title III, Every Student Succeeds Act, United States Department of Education.**

Discussion and possible action on authorization to contract with WestEd to provide the Quality Teaching for English Learners e-Series for eight days of virtual professional learning, for an amount not to exceed \$196,128.00, effective June 1, 2021, through June 30, 2021, to be purchased from the Every Student Succeeds Act, Title III, Part A, Fund 0280, with no impact to the general fund, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Karla Loria] (Ref. 3.04)

### **3.05 Instructional-Related Out-Of-District Consultant, Opportunity Village.**

Discussion and possible action on authorization to continue a partnership with Opportunity Village to provide intensive vocational training in a natural work environment for students with disabilities and for the Job Discovery Program to continue to provide instruction for 115 students, at a cost not to exceed \$47.02 per day, with a maximum 224 billable days, for an amount not to exceed \$1,211,235.20 per year, effective August 1, 2021, through July 31, 2026, to be paid from Federal Projects, Fund 0280, Grant 6639021, with no impact to the general fund, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Karla Loria] (Ref. 3.05)

**Approve Adoption of Consent Agenda (continued)**

**3.06 Professional Services: Title I, Section 1003(a) School Improvement Grant Application, Nevada Department of Education.**

Discussion and possible action on the authorization to contract with the American Institutes for Research for evaluation services for up to 46 one-star elementary schools and middle schools in the approximate amount of \$414,340.00 to be paid through the Title I, Section 1003(a) School Improvement Grant, Fund 0280, Functional Area 10002213, effective May 21, 2021, through September 30, 2021, with no impact to the general fund, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Karla Loria] (Ref. 3.06)

**3.07 Student Expulsions.**

Discussion and possible action on approval of student expulsions according to NRS 392.467 (Board Policy 5114 and Regulations 5114 and 5141.1), as listed, is recommended. (CONFIDENTIAL) **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mike Barton] (Ref. 3.07)

**3.08 Instructional Materials: ShareSpace Education, Giant Mars Map.**

Discussion and possible action on the authorization to purchase Giant Mars Map instructional materials from ShareSpace Education, for an approximate cost of \$200,000.00, for 40 elementary schools, effective May 21, 2021, through June 30, 2022, to be paid from the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Allocation Grant under the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, Fund 0280, Grant 6612020, with no impact to the general fund, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Karla Loria] (Ref. 3.08)

**3.09 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. 3.09)

**3.10 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 April 1, 2021, through April 30, 2021, in the official Board minutes as required by Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 354.598005, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Jason Goudie] (Ref. 3.10)

**3.11 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. 3.11)

**3.12 Purchase Orders.**

Discussion and possible action on ratification of the purchase orders in the total amount of \$1,085,351.29 as listed, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mike Casey] (Ref. 3.12)

**Approve Adoption of Consent Agenda (continued)**

**3.13 Purchasing Awards.**

Discussion and possible action on approval to purchase goods or services in the estimated total amount of \$115,824,293.80 in compliance with NRS 332, as listed, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mike Casey] (Ref. 3.13)

**3.14 Agreement between the Clark County School District and 100 Academy of Excellence.**

Discussion and possible action on approval of the Agreement between the Clark County School District Food Service Department and 100 Academy of Excellence to continue the delivery of and payment for breakfasts, lunches, suppers, snacks, and bulk sales during the 2021-2022 school year, and for David Wines, Director, Food Service Department, to sign the agreement, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mike Casey] (Ref. 3.14)

**3.15 Interlocal Cooperative Agreement between the Clark County School District and the City of Henderson – Safekey Programs.**

Discussion and possible action on approval of the Interlocal Cooperative Agreement between the Clark County School District Food Service Department and the City of Henderson to continue to provide snacks and/or milk and bulk sales for the participating Safekey programs during the 2021-2022 school year, and for David Wines, Director, Food Service Department, to sign the agreement, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mike Casey] (Ref. 3.15)

**3.16 Interlocal Cooperative Agreement between the Clark County School District and the City of Las Vegas – Safekey Programs.**

Discussion and possible action on approval of the Interlocal Cooperative Agreement between the Clark County School District Food Service Department and the City of Las Vegas to continue to provide snacks and/or milk and bulk sales for the participating Safekey programs during the 2021-2022 school year, and for David Wines, Director, Food Service Department, to sign the agreement, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mike Casey] (Ref. 3.16)

**3.17 Interlocal Cooperative Agreement between the Clark County School District and City of North Las Vegas – Safekey Programs.**

Discussion and possible action on approval of the Interlocal Cooperative Agreement between the Clark County School District Food Service Department and City of North Las Vegas to continue to provide snacks and/or milk and bulk sales for the participating Safekey programs during the 2021-2022 school year, and for David Wines, Director, Food Service Department, to sign the agreement, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mike Casey] (Ref. 3.17)

**Approve Adoption of Consent Agenda (continued)**

**3.18 Interlocal Cooperative Agreement between the Clark County School District and Clark County Parks and Recreation – Safekey Programs.**

Discussion and possible action on approval of the Interlocal Cooperative Agreement between the Clark County School District Food Service Department and Clark County Parks and Recreation to continue to provide snacks and/or milk and bulk sales for the participating Safekey programs during the 2021-2022 school year, and for David Wines, Director, Food Service Department, to sign the agreement, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mike Casey] (Ref. 3.18)

**3.19 Agreement between the Clark County School District and Delta Academy.**

Discussion and possible action on approval of the Agreement between the Clark County School District Food Service Department and Delta Academy to continue the delivery of and payment for breakfasts, lunches, and bulk sales during the 2021-2022 school year, and for David Wines, Director, Food Service Department, to sign the agreement, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mike Casey] (Ref. 3.19)

**3.20 Agreement between the Clark County School District and Democracy Prep Agassi Campus.**

Discussion and possible action on approval of the Agreement between the Clark County School District Food Service Department and Democracy Prep Agassi Campus to continue the delivery of and payment for breakfasts, lunches, and bulk sales during the 2021-2022 school year, and for David Wines, Director, Food Service Department, to sign the agreement, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mike Casey] (Ref. 3.20)

**3.21 Agreement between the Clark County School District and Futuro Academy Incorporated.**

Discussion and possible action on approval of the Agreement between the Clark County School District Food Service Department and Futuro Academy Incorporated to continue the delivery of and payment for breakfasts, lunches, snacks, and bulk sales during the 2021-2022 school year, and for David Wines, Director, Food Service Department, to sign the agreement, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mike Casey] (Ref. 3.21)

**3.22 Agreement between the Clark County School District and Innovations International Charter School of Nevada.**

Discussion and possible action on approval of the Agreement between the Clark County School District Food Service Department and Innovations International Charter School of Nevada to continue the delivery of and payment for breakfasts, lunches and bulk sales during the 2021-2022 school year, and for David Wines, Director, Food Service Department, to sign the agreement, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mike Casey] (Ref. 3.22)

**Approve Adoption of Consent Agenda (continued)**

**3.23 Agreement between the Clark County School District and Rainbow Dreams Academy.**

Discussion and possible action on approval of the Agreement between the Clark County School District Food Service Department and Rainbow Dreams Academy to continue the delivery of and payment for breakfasts, lunches, suppers, snacks and bulk sales during the 2021-2022 school year, and for David Wines, Director, Food Service Department, to sign the agreement, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mike Casey] (Ref. 3.23)

**3.24 Appointment of Bond Oversight Committee Member.**

Discussion and possible action on approval to reappoint Eugene Lazaroff to the Bond Oversight Committee as at-large appointee of the Board of School Trustees for a period of two years, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Jeff Wagner] (Ref. 3.24)

**3.25 Professional Services Agreement: Building Commissioning Services High School and Fields Phase III Replacement at Sandy Valley High School.**

Discussion and possible action on approval to enter into a professional services agreement for building commissioning services with Henderson Building Solutions, LLC, to provide third-party commissioning for the high school and fields phase III replacement at Sandy Valley High School in the amount of \$74,900.00, to be paid from the 2015 Capital Improvement Program, Fund 3150000000, Project C0014875; and for Jeff Wagner, Chief of Facilities, to act as the Board of School Trustees' designee for all project documents, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Jeff Wagner] (Ref. 3.25)

**3.26 Contract Award: Preconstruction Services Northeast Career and Technical Academy.**

Discussion and possible action on approval of an award of contract to the best qualified construction manager at-risk (CMAR) for preconstruction services in support of the Northeast Career and Technical Academy, to be paid from the 2015 Capital Improvement Program, Fund 3150000000, Project C0001639; and for Jeff Wagner, Chief of Facilities, to act as the Board of School Trustees' designee for all project documents, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Jeff Wagner] (Ref. 3.26)

**3.27 Engineering Services Agreement: Geotechnical Services School Replacement at Harley Harmon Elementary School.**

Discussion and possible action on approval to enter into an engineering services agreement with Kleinfelder for the School Replacement at Harley Harmon Elementary School in the amount of \$308,919.50, to be paid from the 2015 Capital Improvement Program, Fund 3150000000, Project C0001633; and for Jeff Wagner, Chief of Facilities, to act as the Board of School Trustees' designee for all project documents, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Jeff Wagner] (Ref. 3.27)



**Approve Adoption of Consent Agenda (continued)**

**3.28 Grant of Easement to Las Vegas Valley Water District at Kirk Adams Elementary School.**

Discussion and possible action on approval to grant and convey perpetual access easement to the Las Vegas Valley Water District at Kirk Adams 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. 3.28)

**3.29 Grant of Easement to Las Vegas Valley Water District at Helen Jydstrup Elementary School.**

Discussion and possible action on approval to grant and convey perpetual access easement to the Las Vegas Valley Water District at Helen Jydstrup 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. 3.29)

**3.30 Grant of Easement to Las Vegas Valley Water District at John C. Fremont Professional Development Middle School.**

Discussion and possible action on approval to grant and convey perpetual access easement to the Las Vegas Valley Water District at John C. Fremont Professional Development Middle 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. 3.30)

**3.31 Right-of-Entry to Southwest Gas Corporation at Green Valley High School.**

Discussion and possible action on approval to allow Southwest Gas Corporation a right-of-entry at the Green Valley High School, to install and maintain a natural gas pipeline or pipelines and appurtenances for temporary work space for the duration of the construction activities, across, over, under and through the described property, 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. 3.31)

## **Approve Adoption of Consent Agenda (continued)**

### **3.32 Grant of Easement to Clark County at Mike O'Callaghan Middle School i3 Learn Academy.**

Discussion and possible action to grant and convey perpetual drainage easements at Mike O'Callaghan Middle School i3 Learn Academy to construct, add to, modify, reconstruct and maintain a detention basin together with underground flood control facilities consisting of a reinforced concrete pipe, inlets, manholes and related structures over, under and across the herein described parcels of land, together, with the right of ingress and egress to and from said parcels and the right to clear the flood control facilities of such brush, debris or obstructions as may be necessary for their proper operation, 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. 3.32)

**Subject**

### **3.33 Lease Agreement Between Mount Charleston Fire Protection District and the Clark County School District.**

Discussion and possible action on approval to enter into a Lease Agreement between Mount Charleston Fire Protection District and the Clark County School District for leasing a portion of the building at Earl B. Lundy Elementary School until January 31, 2031, and for Jeff Wagner, Chief of Facilities, to act as the Board of School Trustees' designee to sign the Lease Agreement, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Jeff Wagner] (Ref. 3.33)

### **3.34 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 \$33,996.00 to the agreements for Dean Lamar Allen Elementary School (\$33,996.00) to be paid from the 2015 Capital Improvement Program, Fund 3150000000, Project C0014413, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Jeff Wagner] (Ref. 3.34)

### **3.35 Grant of Temporary Construction Easement to Clark County at Mike O'Callaghan Middle School i3 Learn Academy.**

Discussion and possible action to grant and convey temporary construction easements at Mike O'Callaghan Middle School i3 Learn Academy to permit entrance in and around a future detention basin together with surrounding underground flood control facilities in order to facilitate construction and grading work for the project, 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. 3.35)

## **Legislative Updates**

Discussion and update regarding state legislation that could affect education, including, but not limited to: reports of current legislative issues and events; the establishment of the District's position on proposed legislation; and guidance to the superintendent and legislative staff.

Dr. Keating provided an update on the current legislative session via teleconference.

## **Board Counsel Candidate Review**

Review, discussion, and possible action of the three Board Counsel Candidate applications.

In-public comment:

Jamie Tadrzynski stated that after reading the reference material, in her opinion the best law firm was Holley Driggs because of their reasonable rates, experience and background, and the diversity of their organization.

Sylvia Lazos said what is most important is that the Board get new counsel as soon as possible and that the Board have a lawyer they can trust.

Anna Binder spoke in favor of Holley Driggs for their monthly retainer amount. She commented that Spencer Fane did not submit their response on a proper letterhead but is asking for \$26,000 monthly for a retainer. She reiterated her concerns regarding hiring a firm that employees a former District employee.

Voice-recorded comments:

Tracey Lewis said the Las Vegas Alliance of Black School Educators supports the Board needing their own attorney and said special attention should be made to ensure the selected counsel is free of biases or special interests that would interfere with sound decision-making according to law.

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

The Las Vegas Alliance of Black School Educators is in support of the Board counsel candidate review. They said special attention should be made to ensure the selected counsel is free from bias and/or any special interest that would interfere with sound decision-making according to the law as well as being fair and consistent.

Trustees discussed possible selection and interview processes.

Trustee Ford shared information found in Reference 5.02 (H) on Holley Driggs, stating they do not have any employees who works for or has previously worked for CCSD; their team of attorneys is 40 percent female with four of 14 shareholders being women; its non-attorney employees are 45 percent Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC); "[They] strive to promote diversity, equity and inclusion at [their] firm and encourage all of [their] employees to support organizations that have the same core values; [they] volunteer with affinity bar associations and client organizations; Throughout its 25-year history, Holley Driggs has taken great pride in its efforts and abilities to reflect the complete mosaic of the population; and [they] have represented [and] advised the Nevada Department of Transportation, the Southern Nevada Water Authority, the Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association, and the City of North Las Vegas." She noted the amounts in the monthly retainer chart submitted by the firm in Reference 5.02 (H), page 3 of 3, and that it states the firm is willing to discuss its billing proposal and is open to working with the Board on suitable terms.

### **Board Counsel Candidate Review (continued)**

Trustee Ford stated that Weinberg Wheeler Hudgins Gunn and Dial (WWHGD), found in Reference 5.02 (J), represented private educational institutions accused of malpractice; that they indicate that they have a lot of experience with First Amendment violations; and that they do have an attorney who previously represented CCSD in a 2015-2016 case successfully but do not have any attorneys or employees who were previously employed by the District. She noted their billing proposal shown on page 3 of 3, which also states WWHGD is unable to offer a flat monthly retainer for litigation matters, and she pointed out that the Board was clear that was something they were looking for.

Trustee Ford read the description given by Spencer Fane outlining their experience in education law, as shown in reference 5.02 (I), as follows: "Our attorneys help schools successfully resolve the wide variety of issues that confront them, including teacher tenure and termination, student discipline, students' rights, special education, athletics eligibility, contract negotiation, policy development, administrative compliance, complaint investigations and personnel matters. [They] also provide training and in-service assistance to staff members at any level and routinely advise on administrative complaints, board policies, constitutional issues, in-service training, open meetings (Sunshine Law), special education, student and staff handbooks, student discipline, student records, teacher discipline/termination, and vendor contracts."

Trustee Ford highlighted other areas of Spencer Fane's experience such as they "frequently defend school districts before the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission; developed special procedures under Title IX to govern a disciplinary hearing for a student alleged of on-campus sexual assault, and then guided administration and Board of Education through process for investigating allegations;" and much more as noted in Reference 5.02 (I). She noted that Spencer Fane does not have any employees who have previously worked with or been employed by the District.

Trustee Ford shared some of the things she highlighted were that Mary Bacon, one of their attorneys, published an article recommending actions attorneys can take to interrupt implicit bias and donated hundreds of hours to work on social justice legislation in the Nevada Legislature; that the firm has a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee working in collaboration with the Executive Committee and other firm leadership; that many of the firm's core values reflect the Board's core values; that they are very thorough; and that they are willing to consider a monthly retainer. She noted their proposed rates, as found on page 7 of 7. She expressed her preference for Spencer Fane and said she would like to look further into this firm and consider investing in the Board.

### **Board Counsel Candidate Review (continued)**

The Board had further discussion regarding how to proceed with selecting candidates and the interview process with respect to the rubric and interview questions. They modified the rubric, deleting "Local presence of attorneys" and adding "Flexibility of schedule and availability on short notice" and "Interview" and decided they would rank the firms in each of the categories and forward those to Ms. Miller, and they would weigh the firms after the interviews, and they would send interview questions to Ms. Miller. They agreed with Ms. Miller's suggestion that she, Mrs. Krohn, and the firms' representatives would set up the interviews in groups of two or three Trustees at a time, and she and Mrs. Krohn would compile the information for the Board to analyze in an open meeting.

No action was taken on this item.

### **Anti-Racism Development Policy Work**

Update on the anti-racism development policy work.

In-person public comment:

Jamie Tadrzynski said what is needed is a policy written with equity and diversity in mind. She said she is glad to see work being done to increase staffing in the Equity and Diversity Education Department. She asked why Trustee Williams thinks equity is bad. She asked why a Power2Parent representative claimed the process for writing a policy has already begun and that a member of their board would be on the taskforce to assist with the writing the policy

Vicki Kreidel said it is vital that stakeholders are involved in writing this policy. She said the people this will affect the most should be at the table as well as those who will be implementing the policy. She said educators need clear guidelines on this policy and they need more than just a video for training.

Anna Binder said the Power2Parent email was very concerning to her because that organization has been called out by No Racism in Schools #1865 for their stance on certain issues. She said she created a post explaining the purpose of the anti-racism policy because it appears people are unsure and it is creating negativity. She stated the application to be on the taskforce does not open until May 27, 2021.

Sylvia Lazos, representing the Nevada Immigrant Coalition (NIC), said she would like to see more Trustee leadership. She said this work has to be done right. She stated that this work has been done before with the Superintendent's Equal Opportunity Advisory Committee, so she suggested looking at that work and how it was done successfully. She disagreed with what is on page 3 in Reference 5.03 and said the taskforce is going to be predominately white and headed by someone who is not from the community.

### **Anti-Racism Development Policy Work (continued)**

Angela Salazar said she does not want critical race theory (CRT) or anti-racism infiltrating the school system, classrooms, or children's lives. She said teaching children such philosophies is damaging. She shared that her husband, an immigrant from Guatemala, was not taught that he was at a disadvantage because of his skin color, and he has been successful.

Michelle Neilson spoke in opposition to CRT being taught in the schools. She said she loves all people and teaches her children to do the same. She asked that the Board shut this down and said or else her children will never be part of this corrupt school district. She said because of the Board's actions, they will see a more divided nation.

Brooke DeVoge talked about Power2Parent's purpose to keep parents informed and said they make parents aware of new policies being created and they teach parents how to advocate for their children. She said it is critical that parent voice is represented in the development of this policy and ask that when CCSD invites outside groups for input, a member of Power2Parent be included.

Voice-recorded public comment:

Autumn Tampa said this is very critical work for the school district and for the country. She said with her experience in working in over 150 schools in CCSD, she can attest that there is systemic racism in CCSD across all areas. She said this has to be addressed.

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

The Las Vegas Alliance of Black School Educators is in support of anti-racism work. They asked that the Board utilize the expertise of their community in this work and said Dr. Greta Peay is fully capable of leading the work. They feel using outside experts is a slap in the face to the community who are just as qualified, capable, and who know the community. They asked that the Board not allow the rhetoric and concern of CRT to overshadow the work that must be done. In addition, they said all students deserve to be represented, to learn without fear of being who they are and without fear of being ostracized for the color of their skin, traditions and/or culture.

A parent wrote that they are a firm believer that tough conversations and educating our youth, in any subject matter, starts at home. They said they will not allow their children, at any point in their lives, to feel that they are oppressors just because they were born white, and they feel that anti-racist policies will further divide us as a people because it is dealing with a topic and not the issues.

A mother said that if you are tackling racism and other judgment and hate issues, then you need to be offering classes and training in self-worth, self-love and self-value which will also help with depression and anxiety. She provided different techniques and influencers who teach self-love and said teaching kids to see their own value and strengths will help them become empowered and learn better, retain and recall information, and do better in all areas of life.

### **Anti-Racism Development Policy Work (continued)**

A writer expressed concerned that board meetings send a wrong message to kids when someone speaks to impugn or excludes students on skin color and no one corrects the record as racism. In addition, they said if there were to be a discrimination or anti-racism policy, it would make sense to support the students that are discriminated on from affirmative action.

In-person public comment:

Valerie Wright said anti-racism needs to be defined. She said it has a lot to do with hate and does not have to be specifically tied to anyone's skin color. She said there are also administrators who mistreat staff, students, and parents and said that needs to be addressed.

Moriya Olsen said she pulled her children and her nieces out of CCSD this year because of what was happening. She said she hoped to come back as long as the District does not mandate masks or vaccines or allow CRT. She suggested they teach love and tolerance, not hate.

Jim Friedel said he is a father and he is concerned about CRT being taught in school. He said he was always taught not to look at a person's skin color but it feels as though right now when his kids come home from school, race and gender are at the forefront of conversations. He said he believes this is wrong, that this is teaching kids to look at someone's outward appearance rather than their heart.

Dr. Jara said he has been educated on CRT and that is not what they are doing here, but what they are discussing is how everyone lives together in the District. He said everyone comes from diverse backgrounds and that is the beauty of this community and of this school district. He said they have heard the expressed sensitivity of the process and said everyone's voice matters.

Dr. Samuel Scavella, School Associate Superintendent, Region 2, and Chair of the Internal Anti-racism, Equity, and Inclusion Taskforce, presented the anti-racism policy development work update, as shown in Reference 5.03.

The Trustees discussed and asked questions related to the work of the Taskforce, the need and ability to address systemic racism, the criteria for the facilitator and for being on the Taskforce, the timeline for identifying the facilitator and Taskforce co-chairs, the makeup of the external group, and defining "advocates" as stated on the Public Interest Anti-racism Policy Form.

Trustee Ford said she would love for Dr. Greta Peay to be considered as a third-party facilitator. She said many people have spoken positively about Dr. Peay. She said Dr. Peay has a deep understanding of the District and is talented at engaging the community and has great relationships with community groups and organizations.

### **Anti-Racism Development Policy Work (continued)**

In-person public comment:

Jamie Sullard stated that although Superintendent Jara said CRT is not being introduced into the District, two Board members are supporting CRT, and she has not heard any Trustee speak in opposition to CRT.

Angela Salazar agreed with the previous speaker, and she talked about the definition of anti-racism and said she does not know how, with that definition, you teach that a white child is not inherently racist. She said she hopes that is not part of the curriculum. She said she does not want her children being taught that they are racists.

### **Trustee Discussion Items**

None.

### **Trustee Community Activity Reports**

None.

### **Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items**

Anna Binder suggested that if people who spoke here about CRT focused that energy on testifying in front of the legislature, that would be a more appropriate forum. She said she was denied Individualized Education Plan (IEP) accommodations for her non-verbal autistic son, and she said her son has not been receiving his speech minutes for the past two years. She talked about other issues related to special education services.

### **Board Self-Assessment Assignment**

None.

### **Upcoming Meeting of the Board of Trustees – Wednesday, June 9, 2021, 8:00 a.m.**

Trustee Cavazos stated the June 9, 2021, meeting would be held in the board room.

### **Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items (continued)**

Voice-recorded public comment:

Sherome Pullum spoke in support of higher wages and unemployment benefits for substitute teachers. She said increasing wages and providing benefits to substitutes and acknowledging what they do would go a long way.

Jesus Mendoza shared that he has been homebound for more than 10 years due to electromagnetic hypersensitivity caused by exposure to wireless microwave radiation, which children and staff are exposed to at school. He said exposure to this causes severe harm and disabilities.



**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items (continued)**

Susy Ruiz spoke about the need for mental health services at the new Global Community High School. She asked that Global have more than one mental health professional to serve and support its students.

A high school teacher expressed concerns regarding proposed changes to the grading policy, stating classroom teachers had no input on this proposed policy and that this policy would be for K-12. They said this policy would not be preparing students for the realities of college or career when they leave high school.

Autumn Tampa disagreed with the District making the playground at Ruby Thomas Elementary School inaccessible. She said this should not happen, especially since we have been able to open up more since the pandemic

Eric Dixon spoke in opposition to the new grading policy, stating he thinks this is setting students up for failure in the workforce and that it will have a negative impact on our society in the future.

A caller said as an educator she was against this grading policy. She said she would love to have a discussion with the Board and District regarding the purpose of grades, but that the discussion needs to be led by teachers.

Kamilah Bywaters said the previous Board meeting was appalling with District C hearing no representation from Trustee Garcia Morales, Trustee Williams setting horrible examples for students, and not being able to understand Trustee Cepeda's point.

Samual Wong spoke in opposition to the new grading policy, stating these changes will not improve the education of students nor their mastery of concepts. He said it will also fail to teach students accountability.

Chris Wong spoke in opposition to the new grading policy, stating this will be setting students up for failure in the real world and asked that the Board consider students' and teachers' opinions before making a decision.

Brittney Peterson asked the Board to add "masking our children" to an agenda and vote asking masking children next fall. She said the children have suffered during the pandemic. She also suggested that the Board vote to open the playgrounds. She asked that the Board actually listen to parents.

Ashley Tewey demanded that the mask mandate be removed for all CCSD schools. She said the District is not following the science and said if this continues she will remove both of her children from the District. She spoke about the harmful effects of masks on children.

### Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items (continued)

A caller said there are people attending sporting events and in casinos in close proximity to one another without masks, yet students cannot attend school without a mask on. She said this needs to end and she asked that the District allow students to take their masks off.

Abby McCoy expressed disappointment that despite the many case studies showing children attending school with no masks or social distance, CCSD parents are not given the choice to send their children to school without a mask. She said she did not understand what this decision is based on. She said a highly-respected, peer-reviewed journal of scientific research notes the ability for children's immune systems to respond well to Covid-19.

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

A writer asked why graduating students cannot decorate their caps. They said since school will be out and the ceremony is not located on school grounds, why students are under such a strict dress code.

A teacher asked that the District not replace the history curriculum. They said it is of paramount importance that students learn history and that they have the chance to learn from the victories and the mistakes of the past. They said they have watched students come alive with the history of our country and world, as they see the good and the bad. They asked not to choose what the loudest voices are demanding, which is not what is best for the children of Nevada.

A substitute teacher believes that substitutes who work in excess of 30 hours per week should have sponsored health insurance. They are concerned with the amount of teachers leaving and said that the District needs to do all they can do to entice the subs to work.

A substitute is concerned with collecting accurate and timely pay for their work hours. They said many devote hours per pay period to making phone calls, writing emails, and double-checking what is approved and what is not, what the pay rate is, and what is and is not submitted as they work their daily assignments. They said they should not have to wonder when or whether they will be paid accurately and on time.

A writer said masks need to be optional for students next year as vaccines are available and positive rate is low. In addition, they said if you can walk in a casino, Target and Walmart mask-free, then children need to be able to breathe and be given the choice.

The Las Vegas Association of Black School Educators are concerned with Trustee Evelyn Garcia Morales' lack of retaining family community engagement and dialogue with relevant stakeholders. They said making informed decisions and hearing from the community are important to the work of elected officials and their opinions were not gathered, heard, or considered. In addition, they said Trustee Williams set a poor example to children about following rules in that her disrespect of Trustee Cavazos encouraged others to do the same in their buildings and throughout the District, saying that students, professionals and the community have to abide by District rules.

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items (continued)**

A teacher is concerned there are no plans for next school year. In addition, they are concerned with the new grading system. They asked how many CCSD educators were involved. They said using data from last year, doubling third quarter grades and comparing it to this year, while switching to hybrid, makes no sense. In addition, they said if you want to provide a more level playing field for special education students, work with general education teachers on how to better incorporate IEP goals and accommodations into their classes.

A writer asked that the mask mandates be removed for the 2021-2022 school year and said that masks are not beneficial to students and are not necessary, scientifically.

A parent asked that the District be transparent with any changes that will be made to curriculum. They also said they pulled two of their five children out of CCSD and would like to know where the funding went for them. In addition, they wrote about their concerns with masks and potential issues with wearing them.

**Adjourn:** 9:37 p.m.

*Motion: Ford    Second: Williams    Vote: Unanimous*