

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, August 25, 2022

5:00 p.m.

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

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

**Flag Salute**

Trustee Cepeda led the Pledge of Allegiance with the flag salute led by the Eldorado High School ROTC.

**Adoption of the Agenda**

*Adopt agenda, except delete Item 5.03.*

*Motion: Cavazos Second: Guzmán Vote: Unanimous*

*Trustee Ford was not present for the vote.*

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items**

James Bayliss provided information related to his son's due process. He said he has submitted two Brady reports and several violations and said things need to be rectified, and he asked the Board to review the information he provided.

Steven Paine and Debera Barnes shared information regarding the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) scholarship programs they would like to be able to offer to students and a teacher's award they present to teachers annually.

Diana Battista asked the Board and Superintendent Jara to place an action item on the agenda to address making changes to CCSD school playgrounds so that every school is accessible to every student in every way. She stated the special education program is toxic, unethical, and harmful and needs a complete overhaul.

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

Vicki Kreidel spoke about the behavior of some administrators toward teachers that create a hostile work environment and said issues with site administrators is one of the main reasons why teachers transfer out of a school. She suggested there needs to be a review of schools that have a several transfers and educators leaving. She said the leadership at school sites sets the tone for a kind and safe culture at their school.

Kenneth Goodwin, with Unique Chappell, stated the graduation rate for African American students in CCSD is the lowest of any student subgroup and said they are here advocating for their son. He said they recognized that their son needed additional supports to be successful. He talked about their efforts to ensure that he had those supports and the difficulties they have had with getting their son enrolled in Desert Pines High School after he was accepted into the magnet program.

Todd Taylor spoke about the withdrawal of the early retirement incentive for teachers to help balance the new teacher pay. He said his wife is entering her 29<sup>th</sup> year as a teacher this year. He said the District is punishing 50 teachers per year to offset this cost, and he suggested other ways this could be accomplished.

Sheryl Dent-Juarez stated 30 students at William E. Orr Middle School were suspended yesterday because they were near a fight. She said the majority of those students are athletes who wait in a specific area for their coach. She shared that three of her grandchildren are students at Orr Middle School and were all among those suspended. She asked for the Board's assistance.

Alex Kleytman presented a petition signed by residents opposing the major connect from College Row Drive to Wagon Wheel Drive being built in the City of Henderson. He said this major connect is going to go between two schools, and he wanted the Board to be aware of the traffic that would be coming to the area. He stated this project would disturb the community's way of life and put students in danger.

Donna Witteman spoke about the City of Henderson's proposed plans and said there are five schools, including the community college, in the area that will be joined at a stop sign. She pointed out that there are families with multiple children that go to different schools in the area and that the traffic at and around Foothill High School is always busy. She stated they have also just learned there may be plans to build a university campus in the area.

Steven Brown commented on the City of Henderson's proposed plans to build a road from College to Wagon Wheel on the south side and said there would be an approximate loss of \$40 million in value. He stated there is another road that could be finished on the east side of the college which would provide access directly to the college. He asked for the Board's help with this matter.

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

Approval of consent agenda, as submitted, as recommended.

#### Public Hearing

James Bayliss signed up to speak on Items 3.01 through 3.14. He yielded his time because he was unable to speak on Information Item 13.05.

### **Board Member Arrives**

Trustee Ford arrived at the Board meeting at 5:32 p.m.

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

*Motion to approve.*

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

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

Discussion and possible action on the approval of the minutes from the regular meeting of June 23, 2022, and the work session meeting of July 6, 2022, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** (Ref. 3.01)

### **3.02 Grant Application: Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Leaders Academy, Lawrence and Heidi Canarelli Middle School, Nevada Governor's Office of Science, Innovation and Technology.**

Discussion and possible action on authorization to apply for and utilize funds made available through the Nevada Governor's Office of Science, Innovation and Technology with a Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Leaders Academy Grant to provide opportunities for Lawrence and Heidi Canarelli Middle School, a STEM Leaders Academy school, to implement a site-specific, STEM strategic plan, in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00, to be paid from the STEM Leaders Academy Grant, Fund 0279, from August 26, 2022, through June 30, 2023, with no impact to the general fund, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Melissa Gutierrez] (Ref. 3.02)

### **3.03 Memorandum of Agreement Between the Clark County School District and Boys Town Nevada Inc.**

Discussion and possible action on approval to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with the Clark County School District and Boys Town Nevada Inc. to provide programs and services to address the social, emotional, and behavioral needs of students through LIFT Together with Boys Town, from August 26, 2022, through June 30, 2024, in an amount of \$10,321,741.00, to be paid through the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund, Fund 0280, and/or another federal or state grant funding source, 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 Memorandum of Agreement, with no impact to the general fund, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mike Barton] (Ref. 3.03)

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

**3.04 Memorandum of Agreement Between the Clark County School District and The Smith Center for the Performing Arts for the Compassionate Arts Remaking Education Program.**

Discussion and possible action on approval to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement between the Clark County School District and The Smith Center for the Performing Arts for the purpose of documenting services provided in relation to the Compassionate Arts Remaking Education Program, developed by the Cleveland Play House, from August 26, 2022, through June 27, 2025, 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 Memorandum of Agreement, with no impact to the general fund, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mike Barton] (Ref. 3.04)

**3.05 Grant Application: American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief III Career and Technical Education Paraprofessional Project Grant — Nevada Department of Education.**

Discussion and possible action on authorization to implement the American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief III Career and Technical Education Paraprofessional Project Grant to support career and technical education opportunities for students with disabilities, effective July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023, to be paid from Fund 0280, for an amount not to exceed \$421,442.66, with no impact to the general fund, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Monica Cortez] (Ref. 3.05)

**3.06 Grant Application: Raul P. Elizondo Elementary School — Leader in Me, Prevention, Advocacy, Choices, and Teamwork (PACT) Coalition**

Discussion and possible action on authorization to implement the Prevention, Advocacy, Choices, and Teamwork (PACT) grant at Raul P. Elizondo Elementary School, funded by the PACT Coalition and the Nevada Division of Mental Health and Developmental Services, to implement the Leader in Me program, for an amount not to exceed \$33,413.00, to be paid from Federal Fund 0280, from October 1, 2022, through September 30, 2023, with no impact to the general fund, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: RoAnn Triana] (Ref. 3.06)

**3.07 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. 3.07)

**3.08 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 July 1, 2022, through July 31, 2022, in the official Board minutes as required by Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 354.598005, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Jason Goudie] (Ref. 3.08)

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

**3.09 Unified Personnel Employment.**

Discussion and possible action on approval to employ unified personnel, as listed, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Carol Tolx] (Ref. 3.09)

**3.10 Licensed Personnel Employment.**

Discussion and possible action on approval to employ licensed personnel, as listed, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Carol Tolx] (Ref. 3.10)

**3.11 Purchasing Awards.**

Discussion and possible action on approval to purchase goods or services in the estimated total amount of \$22,159,122.33 in compliance with NRS 332, as listed, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mike Casey] ( Ref. 3.11)

**3.12 Purchase Orders.**

Discussion and possible action on ratification of the purchase orders in the total amount of \$3,279,643.96 as listed, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mike Casey] ( Ref. 3.12)

**3.13 Right-of-Entry to NV Energy at Canyon Springs High School.**

Discussion and possible action on approval for a right-of-entry to NV Energy at Canyon Springs High School, to construct, operate, add to, modify, maintain, and remove communication and electrical facilities as delineated by NV Energy, upon, over, under, and through the property, and provide unrestricted passage of employees, contractors and subcontractors, and their vehicles, and for Nathan Miller, Chief of Facilities, to act as the Board of School Trustees' designee to sign the granting document, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Nathan Miller] (Ref. 3.13)

**3.14 Change Order.**

Discussion and possible action on ratification of a change order for a net increase of \$23,730.80 to the construction contract for Southeast Career and Technical Academy (\$23,730.80) (Mountain Vista Development – Site Funded), is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Nathan Miller] (Ref. 3.14)

**Focus: 2024 Strategic Plan Update – Chronic Absenteeism**

Presentation and discussion on Focus: 2024 Indicators and Results pertaining to SS-4(B): Chronic Absenteeism.

Dr. Mike Barton, Chief College, Career, Equity and School Choice Officer, College, Career, Equity and School Choice Unit, and Yolanda Flores, Assistant Superintendent, Education Services Division, College, Career, Equity and School Choice Unit, presented Focus: 2024 Strategic Plan Update – Chronic Absenteeism, as shown in Reference 4.01.

**Focus: 2024 Strategic Plan Update – Chronic Absenteeism (continued)**

The Board discussed national trends in chronic absenteeism rates; how the state defines chronic absenteeism and conversations around how instructional time is being defined and how that impacts attendance and absenteeism; communications between the county and the District when students are released from the juvenile justice system and come back into the District; whether students who attend CCSD summer programs are more likely to remain in school; transition specialists assigned to help students coming back into the District; whether home visits would be incorporated in any way; how Las Vegas's transiency and mobility might impact Clark County's chronic absenteeism rates compared to other school districts and whether it affects CCSD's star ratings; and looking at what Denver Public Schools is doing and considering if there is anything that was beneficial that could be implemented in CCSD.

**Public Hearing**

Anna Binder shared that all the students that returned into her truancy program from last year are doing well, and only one or two of them have missed a day of school, and they are turning in their work. She commented that some students' issues stem from a change in their home environment because of circumstances due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and many students were absent because of COVID-19 quarantines.

Diana Battista asked if District staff has ever investigated how many students have been unenrolled by CCSD but could have been in school and said her son would be part of that group.

**Approve 2022 Annual Application Cycle for Proposed Charter Schools**

Approval regarding the proposed State Public Charter School Authority sponsored public charter schools for the 2022 Annual Application Cycle.

Dan Tafoya, Director, Office of Charter Schools, College, Career, Equity and School Choice Unit, provided an update on the 2022 Annual Application Cycle for Proposed Charter Schools, as shown in Reference 5.01.

Trustee Williams asked for confirmation that the approval of charter schools is not dictated by the Board.

Mr. Tafoya said that is correct.

Trustee Cavazos asked if not meeting the standard in one category results in the application being denied.

Mr. Tafoya said it does not, that the District's rubric is information for the charter school's board to consider.

Trustee Cavazos stated constituents have voiced their concerns many times about the location of charter schools and how that is determined.

### **Approve 2022 Annual Application Cycle for Proposed Charter Schools (continued)**

Trustee Ford said she supports the concept of charter schools and innovative practices but said everyone should acknowledge there are differences between charter schools and CCSD schools. She said they need to be realistic about the affect charter schools have on CCSD schools and communities. She stated people have also expressed that they want magnet schools in their community, not charter schools. She stated magnet schools needs to be part of the conversation in looking at innovative approaches and more school choice.

*Motion to approve.*

*Motion: Williams      Second: Cavazos      Vote: Unanimous*

### **Approve Legislative Bill Drafts**

Approval regarding possible bill drafts to be submitted by the Clark County School District to the Nevada Legislature for the 2023 Nevada Legislative Session, as requested in Reference 5.02.

Tod Story, Chief Communications Officer, Communications Unit, presented the legislative bill drats for the Board's consideration, as shown in Reference 5.02.

Trustees discussed their views and reasons why they support particular bill drafts.

### **Public Hearing**

Deborah Earl urged the Board not to support Number 4 under Mental Health, Health, and School Safety as a legislative bill, given the challenges the District is already facing. She stated a 2015 examination of returned permission slips showed that parents are opting their children into sex education 95 percent of the time. She said two of the bill drafts parents support are Number 4 under Licensed Professionals/Teacher and Number 1 under Oversight Board Standards.

Jeri Burton spoke in favor of Number 4 under Mental Health, Health, and School Safety and asked the Board to make it a legislative priority. She spoke about why it is important for students to receive important, accurate information that they may not receive at home. She stated 34 states and Washington, DC, use the opt-out process.

Macy Haverda stated if the District had made comprehensive sex education something that students were automatically enrolled in with parents having to opt them out, it would not be necessary to have to address this now. She said her organization will be supportive of people when they have to find someone to help them.

Jasmin Tobon spoke in support of Number 4 under Mental Health, Health, and School Safety. She pointed out that some students may not have an adult to opt them in and that there is a need for quality sex education. She said parents need to be able to trust CCSD to prepare their children for the future, and everyone should know scientific facts and information and about themselves.

**Approve Legislative Bill Drafts (continued)**

Sarah Slavenas spoke in support of Number 4 under Mental Health, Health, and School Safety. She stated there is a strong connection between comprehensive sex education and sexual violence prevention. She said the opt-out option allows every parent to choose to have their children not attend sex education but makes it easier for at-risk students or those with less available parents to receive the education.

Monica Roberts stated that she guest speaks throughout Southern Nevada on the topics of domestic violence and sexual violence and said she hopes the Board does the same. She said the difference in sex education from years ago and currently is tremendous. She stated most of the children in her classroom are being raised by foster parents, guardians, or relatives other than their parents. She asked that the Board help these students.

Ed Gonzalez expressed appreciation for the Board's focus on the teacher shortage. He suggested with the teacher shortage, they should be asking the state if the District has the option to provide half-day kindergarten so those teachers could be moved to other grade levels. He suggested looking at utilizing Read by Grade 3 strategists to help with the teacher shortage as well.

Amy Merrell stated she has worked with sex workers and sex trafficking survivors for 16 years and with The Cupcake Girls for 10 and a half years and shared that she is a sexual assault survivor and a domestic violence survivor. She stated the majority of sex trafficking is generational trafficking, so those parents do not want their children to be educated on sex. She said children cannot stop something that they do not know about, and she asked the Board to take that into consideration.

David Mendoza recalled that the topic of opting out of sex education was brought forward in 2015 and how big the issue was with large amounts of people attending the meetings and voicing their opposition and spending hours upon hours on the topic. He asked the Board not to bring it back and make it a big issue. He suggested they spend those hours on core curriculum subjects instead.

Anna Binder said the District needs to prioritize student achievement. She spoke in support of Number 1 under Licensed Professionals/Teaching and said it should be a statewide effort. She suggested sex education for teenage girls related to safe and healthy relationships would be beneficial.

Diana Battista said she supports comments made by Ms. Binder and Mr. Gonzalez and the recommendations related to bullying. She stated her son is the victim of a substantiated bullying claim and said sometimes it is not only a bullying issue, but a school site issue. She recommended allowing the bullying victim to have a choice between remaining at the school or transferring to a different school.



**Approve Legislative Bill Drafts** (continued)

Jonas Rand spoke in support of Number 4 under Mental Health, Health, and School Safety. He said there is no reason people should not learn from an early age about sex. He suggested people could send their children to private, religious schools if they want to ensure they do not learn about sex. He said sex education is just as relevant as math, science, or English. He also supported Number 3 under the same category.

The Trustees continued discussing their top choices for the bill draft options before them.

*Motion to select Number 1 under the Licensed Professionals/Teaching category and Number 1 under the Mental Health, Health, and School Safety category.*

*Motion: Williams Second: Ford*

*Trustee Ford offered a friendly amendment to the motion to approve only Number 1 under the Licensed Professionals/Teaching category.*

*Trustee Williams accepted the friendly amendment and withdrew her motion.*

*Motion to approve Number 1 under the Licensed Professionals/Teaching category.*

*Motion: Williams Second: Ford Vote: unanimous*

*Motion to select Number 1 under the Mental Health, Health, and School Safety category.*

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

*The motion failed.*

*Motion to select Number 4 under the Mental Health, Health, and School Safety category.*

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

*The motion failed.*

*Motion to select Number 1 under the Oversight Board Standards category.*

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

*The motion passed.*

**Public Hearing and Approval of the 2022 Medium-Term Bond Authorization Resolution**

This is the time and place that was published on August 12, 2022, to conduct a public hearing on, discussion of, and possible action on approval of the 2022 Medium-Term Bond Authorization Resolution, authorizing the sale and issuance of medium-term obligations in an amount not to exceed \$35,000,000.00, in order to finance all or a portion of the cost of acquiring, improving, and equipping school facilities, including transportation vehicles and facilities, and technology equipment and facilities; authorization for the Superintendent or the Chief Financial Officer to specify the terms of the bonds; and for the President and Clerk of the Board of School Trustees to sign the necessary documents, is recommended.

**Public Hearing and Approval of the 2022 Medium-Term Bond Authorization Resolution**  
(continued)

Trustee Cepeda read the public hearing statement.

There was no one wishing to speak on this item.

Trustee Cepeda declared the public hearing closed.

Jason Goudie, Chief Financial Officer, Business and Finance Unit, stated this is the annual meeting in which the bond issuance for \$35 million is addressed, which is used for busses, technology equipment, and white fleet.

*Motion to approve Item 5.04, 2022 Medium-Term Bond Authorization Resolution.*

*Motion: Williams    Second: Brooks    Vote: Unanimous*

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items**

Anna Binder commented that with the new public comment policy, there will not be any public comment on nonaction items such as presentations. She said she found it disheartening that one of the presentations for tonight's meeting was buried in the agenda and is a presentation on increasing achievement and recognition. She asked how parents and community members are supposed to be aware of this.

Jessica Jones said her school has been participating in the Professional Learning Community (PLC) all week, and she said they now have a pacing guide which has been very helpful, and she thanked the Board for that.

**Upcoming Meeting of the Board of Trustees – Wednesday, September 7, 2022, 9:00 a.m.**

Trustee Cepeda stated the upcoming meeting of the Board was scheduled for Wednesday, September 7, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. in the boardroom.

**Adjourn:** 7:54 p.m.

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