

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, September 8, 2022

5:01 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

**Announcements**

Trustee Cepeda acknowledged that the land on which they are gathered is the territorial homelands of the Nuwu-the Moapa Band of Paiutes and the Las Vegas Band of Paiutes.

**Flag Salute**

Trustee Williams led the Pledge of Allegiance with the flag salute led by the Centennial High School ROTC.

**Adoption of the Agenda**

*Adopt agenda.*

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

*Adopt agenda, except delete Item 2.05.*

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

**Approve Adoption of Consent Agenda**

Approval of consent agenda, as submitted, as recommended.

**Public Hearing**

James Bayliss stated after he addressed the Board on August 25, 2022, his son was removed from Infinite Campus that night. He said his son is not in school and his son's Individualized Education Program (IEP) is still not in compliance.

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

Anna Binder thanked the District for submitting grant applications for Afghan refugee students. She commented on Item 2.14 that the new Assistant General Counsel is being taken from Legal Aid and that he was an asset for parents and will no longer be a resource for special education students. She commented on Item 2.20 and said the District has some very serious transportation issues at a particular high school and said she is worried about those students.

*Motion to approve the consent agenda, noting Item 2.05 was deleted.*

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

### **2.01 Approval of the Minutes.**

Discussion and possible action on the approval of the minutes from the regular meetings of July 14, 2022, and August 11, 2022, and the work session meeting of August 3, 2022, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** (Ref. 2.01)

### **2.02 Grant Application: Afghan Refugee School Impact Grant, Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada, Subgrant Award.**

Discussion and possible action on authorization to implement the Afghan Refugee School Impact Grant, funded by the United States Department of Health and Human Services Office of Refugee Resettlement through Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada, to provide academic and enrichment services for eligible elementary and secondary Afghan refugee students, in the amount of \$46,214.00, from October 1, 2022, through September 30, 2023, to be paid from the Afghan Refugee School Impact Grant, Fund 0280, Grant 6721023, with no impact to the general fund, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Dustin Mancl] (Ref. 2.02)

### **2.03 Grant Application: Refugee School Impact Grant, Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada, Subgrant Award.**

Discussion and possible action on authorization to continue the implementation of the Refugee School Impact Grant, funded by the United States Department of Health and Human Services Office of Refugee Resettlement through Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada, to provide academic and enrichment services for eligible elementary and secondary refugee students, in the amount of \$180,000.00, from October 1, 2022, through September 30, 2023, to be paid from the Refugee School Impact Grant, Fund 0280, Grant 6722023, with no impact to the general fund, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Dustin Mancl] (Ref. 2.03)

### **2.04 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. 2.04)

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

**2.06 Grant Application: Workforce Connections Vocational Training Programs.**

Discussion and possible action on authorization to provide vocational training to improve educational opportunities for students at Cowan Academic Center, Peterson Academic Center, South Academic Center, and Desert Rose High School from the federally funded Nevada Department of Employment, Training, and Rehabilitation through Workforce Connections, from September 9, 2022, through June 30, 2023, in an amount of \$230,000.00, to be paid from Fund 0280, Unit 0137, FY23, with no impact to the general fund, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mike Barton] (Ref. 2.06)

**2.07 Amended Professional Services — Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund, United States Department of Education.**

Discussion and possible action to implement the United States Department of Education, Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER II) Fund to provide embedded supports to facilitate school leadership professional growth and positively impact student achievement utilizing the Insight Education Group, effective September 9, 2022, through September 30, 2023, for an approximate total cost of \$210,000.00, to be paid from the ESSER II Fund, Fund 0280, Grant 66180021, with no impact to the general fund, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Dustin Mancl] (Ref. 2.07)

**2.08 Grant Application: Southern Nevada Regional STEM Network Grant IV, Glen C. Taylor Elementary School, Nevada Governor's Office of Science, Innovation and Technology.**

Discussion and possible action on authorization to utilize funds made available through the Nevada Governor's Office of Science, Innovation and Technology with a Southern Nevada Regional Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Network Grant IV to engage students with robotics and coding in the science classroom for Glen C. Taylor Elementary School, in an amount not to exceed \$7,041.00, to be paid from the Southern Nevada Regional STEM Network Grant IV, Fund 0279, from September 9, 2022, through June 30, 2023, with no impact to the general fund, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Deanna Jaskolski] (Ref. 2.08)

**2.09 Grant Application: Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Leaders Academy, Frank Lamping Elementary 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 Frank Lamping Elementary School, a STEM Leaders Academy school, to implement a site-specific, STEM strategic plan, in an amount not to exceed \$19,980.00, to be paid from the STEM Leaders Academy Grant, Fund 0279, from September 9, 2022, through June 30, 2023, with no impact to the general fund, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Deanna Jaskolski] (Ref. 2.09)

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

**2.10 Grant Application: Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Leaders Academy, Ruben P. Diaz Elementary 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 Ruben P. Diaz Elementary School, a STEM Leaders Academy school, to implement a site-specific, STEM strategic plan, in an amount not to exceed \$16,725.00, to be paid from the STEM Leaders Academy Grant, Fund 0279, from September 9, 2022, through June 30, 2023, with no impact to the general fund, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Deanna Jaskolski] (Ref. 2.10)

**2.11 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. 2.11)

**2.12 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. 2.12)

**2.13 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. 2.13)

**2.14 Employment Agreement - Assistant General Counsel.**

Discussion and possible action on approval of an employment agreement for Nicholas Petsas, assigned as Assistant General Counsel. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Carol Tolx] (Ref. 2.14)

**2.15 Purchase Orders.**

Discussion and possible action on ratification of the purchase orders in the total amount of \$4,254,940.79 as listed, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mike Casey] (Ref. 2.15)

**2.16 Purchasing Awards.**

Discussion and possible action on approval to purchase goods or services in the estimated total amount of \$7,540,422.01 in compliance with NRS 332, as listed, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mike Casey] (Ref. 2.16)

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

**2.17 Contract Award: Preconstruction Services Phase I of Phased Replacement at Las Vegas Academy of the Arts.**

Discussion and possible action on approval of an award of contract to the best qualified construction manager at-risk for preconstruction services for phase I of phased replacement at Las Vegas Academy of the Arts, to be paid from the 2015 Capital Improvement Program, Fund 3150000000, Project C0015904; and for Nathan Miller, Chief of Facilities, to act as the Board of School Trustees' designee for all project documents, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Nathan Miller] (Ref. 2.17)

**2.18 Change in Service.**

Discussion and possible action on ratification of a change in service to the architectural/engineering services agreement for a net increase of \$4,995.00 to the agreements for Hannah Brown Elementary School (\$86,398.00) to be paid from the 2015 Capital Improvement Program, Fund 3150000000, Project C0001612, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Nathan Miller] (Ref. 2.18)

**2.19 Grant Application Amendment: Safe Routes to School - Bike Fleet Program, Nevada Department of Transportation.**

Discussion and possible action on the authorization to submit and continue the Safe Routes to School Bike Fleet program, through the Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) funded by the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) focusing on educating students and parents on pedestrian safety, in an amount of \$64,203.15 from October 1, 2022, through September 30, 2023, to be paid from the Safe Routes to School Bike Fleet grant, Fund 0280, Federal Projects Fund 0280, with no impact to the general fund, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Shana Rafalski] (Ref. 2.19)

**2.20 Grant Application Amendment: Nevada Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), Nevada Department of Transportation.**

Discussion and possible action on the authorization to submit and continue the Safe Routes to School program to improve safety, reduce traffic and air pollution near schools, and promote healthy behaviors in students and their families, in an amount of \$340,640.00 from October 1, 2022, through September 30, 2023, to be paid from the Safe Routes to School TAP Grant, Fund 0280, with no impact to the general fund, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Shana Rafalski] (Ref. 2.20)

**Focus: 2024 Strategic Plan Update — Student Discipline**

Presentation and discussion on Focus: 2024 Indicators and Results pertaining to SS-4(C): Student discipline.

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 an update regarding student discipline, as shown in Referenced 3.01.

**Focus: 2024 Strategic Plan Update — Student Discipline (continued)**

Trustees discussed with staff the Elementary School Support Model; challenges specific to Black and brown students with relation to suspensions and expulsions as far as making comparisons to other school districts; town hall meetings; parent engagement outreach for students reengaging after the disciplinary action; the role of the culturally inclusive champion teacher-leader position; hearing from police officers, teachers, and administrators in addition to the student-focused town halls; how the District is measuring student behavior improvement after students have received services and support; and looking at determining how many students struggling with behavior are unidentified neurodivergent and providing appropriate supports.

**Public Hearing**

Anna Binder shared that her son was a student at an elementary school that did not have the resources or supports he needed as a neurodivergent person and just placed him in a “fun room” for years and said she eventually had to change schools. She stated that her son is now in the eighth grade and the middle school he was zoned for did not have the room for him for a year even though it was built into his IEP. She stated that every year she encounters parents whose children are just put into the “fun rooms.” She said there are community resources that the District could pursue at no cost that could put people on campuses to help students.

Dr. Kyle Rogers congratulated the District, acknowledging that progress is being made overall in reducing exclusionary discipline. He pointed out areas of the presentation that he says were not honest and information that should be monitored and included in the information presented to the Board, specifically, data on in-house suspensions and required parent conferences (RPCs).

**Approve Sex Education Advisory Committee — Request for Approval of Appointment**

Approval of the recommendations made from the Sex Education Advisory Committee Recommending Committee to appoint members to the Sex Education Advisory Committee, as listed, to a two-year term commencing October 1, 2022, through May 31, 2024, as recommended in Reference 4.01.

Trustee Cavazos asked about the selection process for Sex Education Advisory Committee members

Sheryl Colgan, Director, Science, Health, Physical Education, and Driver Education, Academic Unit, explained that the Sex Education Advisory Committee Recommending Committee reviews the candidates' applications, nominates, and votes and those applicants come forward as recommendations for the Board for final approval.

*Motion to approve.*

*Motion: Ford    Second: Cavazos    Vote: Unanimous*

### **Approve Notice of Intent - Clark County School District Regulation 2130**

Approval of the Notice of Intent to Adopt, Repeal, or Amend Clark County School District Regulation 2130, District Organization, prior to submission to the Board of School Trustees for approval on October 13, 2022, as recommended in Reference 4.02.

Kellie Kowal-Paul, Chief Strategy Officer, Office of the Superintendent, reviewed CCSD Regulation 2130, as shown in Reference 4.02.

Trustee Cavazos referred to page 7 of 29, Item VIII. B, and asked that language be added to clarify that school organizational teams (SOTs) are included in this process.

Trustee Brooks said she received feedback that sending out SOT meeting agendas might be beneficial. She said she was not sure that needed to be in the policy and could perhaps be an internal process.

Trustee Garcia Morales asked how they could ensure that schools are spending their carryforward funds on students immediately and not being held over from year to year.

Superintendent Jara suggested language could be added to say the Superintendent and staff would monitor through the monitoring process to ensure that is happening.

Trustee Garcia Morales asked how they could ensure that school staff have a way to request resources directly from their administrators or SOTs for their classrooms.

Mrs. Kowal-Paul offered that they could add more specificity around the use of carryforward dollars in consideration of the purchases or contributions parents are being asked to make.

#### **Public Hearing**

Ed Gonzalez expressed appreciation for the work that has been done on this document. He pointed out areas in the document that may have been an oversight or that he found concerning.

Anna Binder expressed appreciation for the work being done on this regulation. She said as she listened to the discussion, she thought about what happened to the Desert Oasis High School principal last year and a town hall meeting that took place there that she said was disrespectful to the community. She commented that she was unable to find SOT agendas or minutes pertaining to the newly hired principal at Frank Lamping Elementary School and suggested perhaps SOTs need training in developing agendas and minutes.

Jan Giles addressed Section IX, which she said is language utilized by the Nevada State Board of Education and is directly from Nevada Revised Statutes and affects employees represented by the Education Support Employees Association (ESEA). She said ESEA is challenging the regulation because it ignores the word "direct" before "supervision." She said the legislature states "direct supervision." She stated there is still litigation pending a Supreme Court ruling.

**Approve Notice of Intent - Clark County School District Regulation 2130 (continued)**

Mrs. Kowal-Paul commented that her recommendations to the Board were to base recommendations on currently adopted Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). She said there is activity going on at the state level, so they should expect some changes being recommended for this regulation.

*Motion to approve Item 4.02, noting that it may come back at a future time for approval by the Board and noting that the Board must approve a regulation before a deadline.*

*Motion: Brooks Second: Williams Vote: Unanimous*

**Public Comment on Items Not Listed as Action Items on the Agenda**

John Lujan shared his professional and educational experience and said he wrote to the Superintendent regarding this matter but has not received a response. He said a couple of months ago he resubmitted his paperwork to be a substitute teacher in CCSD, which he has done in the past. He said he was found to be unqualified to sub for the District. He stated that he feels he is being denied because of his age, and that is illegal.

Sharon Jenise Hall said she has written an antibullying program and said she used this program throughout her 25 years of teaching. She stated they implemented the program in Metro Atlanta, Georgia, for six months and collected data and had great results. She said she has shared this program with the principal at Wendell P. Williams Elementary School but said they need the Board's approval to implement the program.

Diana Battista commended the Board for their work during this meeting. She said Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapists are wait-listed now, so children with autism are not receiving the supports and services they need. She said it is also concerning that most of the ABA therapists are not licensed. She said there are resources that would not cost the District anything that could be utilized to help ensure these students get an education.

Stephanie Smeltzer spoke about Green Valley High School's dress code and said she did not like the way the girls are being sexualized and are treated differently than the boys. She said District staff opened a case for her regarding this matter. She stated her daughter has been targeted and singled out.

David Gomez spoke favorably about Dr. Barton and talked about the impact Dr. Barton has had on his family and on the community and what he has done for students. He said he wants the Board to understand what type of man Dr. Barton is when people blame him or his team for issues related to suspensions or expulsions.

Anna Binder recommended that any language that is added to Regulation 2130 regarding carryforward funds is done so with the support of the state. She said she hopes that as the District tries to diligently spend the carryforward money, it avoids the events that took place in 2020.



**Public Comment on Items Not Listed as Action Items on the Agenda** (continued)

Jim Frazee said last year was the most challenging year of his career as a high school teacher and perhaps in the history of the District. He stated as vice president of the Clark County Education Association (CCEA), it is his role to listen to educators and bring to the Board their concerns and to work together to solve those issues. He disagreed with what has been said about public education over the last two years being a disaster and a failure and said that simply is not true. He thanked the Board for their leadership in addressing school violence and school safety, and Superintendent Jara and Dr. Brenda Larsen-Mitchell, Deputy Superintendent, Office of the Deputy Superintendent, for their action.

Brandon Summers stated at this time more than 1,300 licensed teacher positions remain unfilled. He said he has been a substitute teacher for five years. He addressed the fact that the critical staffing shortage exists disproportionately at schools with Black and Latino populations. He said pay and working conditions need to be improved for employees who work directly with students, and it is time for substitute teachers to have access to health insurance and benefits. He stated the changes to public comment are problematic.

Ed Gonzalez expressed appreciation for the Board of School Trustees Subcommittee for AB469 and for the work Trustee Brooks put into it and said there is now a process in place for people to get their issues addressed. He commented that he believes there is an opportunity for schools with a high vacancy rate to increase substitute teacher pay where their attrition dollar will be less. Regarding spending carryforward money, he said his school has trouble spending the money because the process is slow and said the biggest problem with carryforward funds is that they do not have licensed educators, so that money grows. He suggested they should focus on principal accountability.

**Upcoming Meeting of the Board of Trustees - Thursday, September 22, 2022, 5:00 p.m.**

Trustee Cepeda stated the upcoming Board meeting was scheduled for Thursday, September 22, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. in the boardroom.

**Adjourn:** 7:25 p.m.

*Motion: Williams    Second: Ford    Vote: Unanimous*