

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

TELECONFERENCE ONLY

Thursday, October 8, 2020

5:02 p.m.

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

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

Adoption of the Agenda

Adopt agenda, except note reference material provided for Item 5.01.

Motion: Cepeda Second: Wright Vote: Unanimous

Public Comment on Agenda Items

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

Item 4.01

A writer supports Title IX of the Education Amendment of 1972 but is concerned that students who are biological boys must not compete in athletic programs specified for girls and vice versa for students who are biological girls at birth must not compete in boys programs unless it is opened for all mixed genders.

Item 5.01

A parent said that her child is having issues with teachers playing background music during class, and a teacher not showing up and said there needs to be an option for parents to send their student back to school.

A teacher asked that when everyone returns to school, students and staff need to have a mask mandate.

A person would like to see a survey for parents/caregivers of K-6 students asking if they would like opt-in or in-person classes.

A writer would like to see Plexiglass around desks when students return to school.

Public Comment on Agenda Items (continued)

A parent said that her son, who is benefiting from virtual learning, expressed concerns when the District moves into a hybrid model. He feels he will have less access to his teachers.

A teacher said distance learning creates more work and feels going to a hybrid model will create additional work for teachers.

A person asked what benchmarks are being used as far as reopening.

Another writer would like to see a plan based on current data and not a plan that was voted on in July.

A writer said that CCSD must test all students, teachers, support staff and administrators before anyone is admitted back in a school building and educational setting. They also would like everyone to be tested every two weeks, and those who test positive with COVID must self-quarantine.

A parent would like a survey with options to go back to school or continue online.

A comment was received stating that due to the current learning model, an educator's day has lengthened tremendously. They said to reopen the schools safely, the transmission rate of the virus within the community has to be below 5 percent. They also would like robust testing, screening, a contact tracing system in the schools with social distancing, ongoing cleaning, proper sanitation and the availability of personal protective equipment (PPE) for all.

Comments were received in regards to how the District will protect vulnerable staff, students with disabilities, students with emotional behavior struggles, and social distancing with children.

A writer asked to prioritize the health and safety of the District's students and staff over creating a temporary façade of the old normal.

A person referenced the recent survey and asked if parents and students have been offered an opportunity to be heard. They asked if the option of having teachers teach from home while kids are physically in school has been explored.

Others wrote asking that schools reopen, stating that their child is not learning in this format; another said their kids are falling behind more and more every day; a parent said their son is miserable and is in tears daily; a parent would like students back in school playing sports and interacting at all levels of human contact; another said distance learning is not good for their family, saying that their children had previously excelled in school but are now failing their classes; a teacher expressed concern with the high student suicide rates, saying that they need real life social interactions; another writer also expressed concern with the increase in suicides and asked that school reopen.

A parent said that they have five children in school with five different lunch periods and mentioned concerns with their assignments. They hoped they can return to school soon.

Public Comment on Agenda Items (continued)

Comments were received in regards to the recent teen suicides and asked that students return to school.

A parent and teacher would like to see schools reopened. He feels he is failing his students because of not being able to replicate the quality of education children receive in person.

Others sent comments asking to continue with distance learning: A teacher said they would like to continue with distance education citing concerns with safety and mentioned they would like all employees to test before returning to a hybrid or other model before entering the building; a person wrote stating that the main goal should be to keep our children, families and staff safe from COVID-19 by reducing chances of exposure to the virus and keeping students actively engaged in the learning process until numbers go down and there is a COVID-19 vaccine; before going back to school buildings, a person wrote that infection rates must go down, educators with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accommodations should be giving first preference for online positions, follow safety protocols, and HVAC systems should be checked; a writer would like CCSD to stay online for the full 90 days as agreed upon; a teacher said that distance learning is difficult but they would rather stay safe.

A person asked why children of staff are allowed on closed campuses.

Several comments were received from parents asking that rural schools be able to open full time and asked that the District work with the rural principals in doing this.

A writer asked that an item be place on the October 22, 2020, Board meeting agenda to address opening rural schools.

Approve Adoption of Consent Agenda

Approval of consent agenda, as submitted, as recommended.

Motion to approve.

Motion: Wright Second: Garvey Vote: Unanimous

3.01 Approval of the Minutes.

Discussion and possible action on the approval of the minutes of the regular meetings of August 13, 2020, and August 27, 2020, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** (Ref. 3.01)

Approve Adoption of Consent Agenda (continued)

3.02 Amendment of the Interlocal Contract Between the Clark County School District and the State of Nevada, Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy for Medicaid School Based Child Health Services.

Discussion and possible action to approve the amended Interlocal Contract between the Clark County School District and the State of Nevada, Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy for Medicaid School Based Child Health Services program, to change the current School Based Child Health Services program to School Health Services program, which will allow the Clark County School District to bill for the maximum amount of services allowed in the newly expanded School Health Services program, effective October 9, 2020, through June 30, 2022, with no impact to the general fund, 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 amended Interlocal Contract, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Karla Loria] (Ref. 3.02)

3.03 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. 3.03)

3.04 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. 3.04)

3.05 Purchasing Awards.

Discussion and possible action on approval to purchase goods or services in the estimated total amount of \$2,994,160.00 in compliance with NRS 332, as listed, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mike Casey] (Ref. 3.05)

3.06 Purchase Orders.

Discussion and possible action on ratification of the purchase orders in the total amount of \$1,444,422.13 as listed, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mike Casey] (Ref. 3.06)

Approve Adoption of Consent Agenda (continued)

3.07 Professional Services Agreement: Test and Balance Services Unnamed Elementary School at Chapata Drive and Casady Hollow Avenue.

Discussion and possible action on approval to enter into a professional services agreement for test and balance services with Tabitt, LLC, to provide testing and balance of the air and water balance systems of the mechanical equipment and assist in the commissioning process in support of the unnamed elementary school located near Chapata Drive and Casady Hollow Avenue in the amount of \$68,500.00, to be paid from the 2015 Capital Improvement Program, Fund 3150000000, Project C0001612; 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. 3.07)

3.08 Amendment of Clark County School District Regulation 3310.

Discussion and possible action on approval of the amendment of Clark County School District Regulation 3310, Purchasing Guides, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mike Casey] (Ref. 3.08)

3.09 Amendment of Clark County School District Regulation 3315.

Discussion and possible action on approval of the amendment of Clark County School District Regulation 3315, Sole Source and Proprietary Purchases, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mike Casey] (Ref. 3.09)

3.10 Amendment of Clark County School District Regulation 3530.

Discussion and possible action on approval of the amendment of Clark County School District Regulation 3530, Student Transportation, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mike Casey] (Ref. 3.10)

3.11 Amendment of Clark County School District Regulation 3531.

Discussion and possible action on approval of the amendment of Clark County School District Regulation 3531, Student Transportation Guidelines, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mike Casey] (Ref. 3.11)

3.12 Amendment of Clark County School District Regulation 3532.

Discussion and possible action on approval of the amendment of Clark County School District Regulation 3532, Accident Involving District Transportation Vehicles, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mike Casey] (Ref. 3.12)

3.13 Amendment of Clark County School District Regulation 3533.

Discussion and possible action on approval of the amendment of Clark County School District Regulation 3533, Safety of Students: Transportation Vehicles, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mike Casey] (Ref. 3.13)

Approve Adoption of Consent Agenda (continued)

3.14 Amendment of Clark County School District Regulation 3535.

Discussion and possible action on approval of the amendment of Clark County School District Regulation 3535, Student Transportation – Payment in Lieu, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mike Casey] (Ref. 3.14)

3.15 Amendment of Clark County School District Regulation 3536.

Discussion and possible action on approval of the amendment of Clark County School District Regulation 3536, Employee Transportation, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mike Casey] (Ref. 3.15)

3.16 Amendment of Clark County School District Regulation 3537.

Discussion and possible action on approval of the amendment of Clark County School District Regulation 3537, District-Owned Vehicles, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mike Casey] (Ref. 3.16)

3.17 Amendment of Clark County School District Regulation 3538.

Discussion and possible action on approval of the amendment of Clark County School District Regulation 3538, School Bus Replacement, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mike Casey] (Ref. 3.17)

3.18 Amendment of Clark County School District Policy 3538.

Discussion and possible action on approval of the amendment of Clark County School District Policy 3538, School Bus Replacement, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mike Casey] (Ref. 3.18)

Approve Resolution for Title IX Amendments

Approval of a resolution to implement provisions of the amended Title IX regulations, as recommended in Reference 4.01.

Eleissa Lavelle, General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, reviewed changes to the Resolution for Title IX Amendments, as shown in Reference 4.01.

Motion to approve the resolution with the additional statement, "I do have some concerns about the revisions, and these concerns briefly stated have to do with the increased mental health issues for survivors of sexual assault, rises in unreported sexual harassment, especially having to do with off-campus allegations and the overall affects; however, I am not willing to risk the loss of federal funding to our District."

Motion: Cavazos Second: Young Vote: Unanimous

Update on COVID-19 and the Clark County School District's Response

Update on COVID-19 and the Clark County School District's response.

Superintendent Jara stated this is an update to the Board and not an action item.

Dr. Brenda Larsen-Mitchell, Deputy Superintendent, Office of the Deputy Superintendent;
Dr. Fermin Leguen, Acting District Health Officer, Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD);
Dr. Monica Cortez, Interim Assistant Superintendent, Student Services Division, Academic Unit;
Dr. Mike Barton, Chief College, Career, Equity and School Choice Officer, College, Career, Equity and School Choice Unit; Mike Casey, Chief Operating Officer, Operational Services Unit; and
Dr. Christopher Bernier, Chief of Staff, Office of the Superintendent, presentation an update on COVID-19 and the District's response, as outlined in Reference 5.01.

During the presentation, Trustees discussed concerns and asked questions related to the status of COVID-19 cases in the rural areas and schools; criteria needed and considerations to take into account when evaluating schools for approval to open in a hybrid or face-to-face model; a possible correlation between academic achievement and COVID-19 positivity rates in specific areas; possibly allowing schools to have the autonomy to reopen; the mental health of students; outbreaks in childcare facilities or community centers; sharing and protection of the data in the emocha Health® monitoring system as part of the Task Force Initiative for Educator's Safety and Screening (T.I.E.S.); ensuring that the T.I.E.S. information is first shared with all employees involved before it is presented to the Trustees for approval; the particulars of how the grant funding is distributed for the COVID-19 testing program and the District's involvement; mental health issues for students and the immediate need to ramp up services and supports; wellness checks and mental health referrals; suicide risk assessments and crisis response; the frequency of Multidisciplinary Leadership Team (MLT) meetings and including school associate superintendents in those meetings and emails; sufficient capacity to handle the number of visits that should be taking place; best practices for interventions; the need for in-person contact for students; what can be done now; tailoring services and supports to the community's needs and desires; using the data to identify commonalities among students who have attempted suicide and sharing that information; looking at how employees who are not performing their normal duties can be repurposed; holding virtual support groups for students; creating a hotline to support parents; reallocating resources toward mental health; the need for training on how to operate in this environment and how to recognize signs of suicide in this environment and to have a system to address it; mental health professionals going into the virtual classrooms and observing students; finding solutions to address the shortage of counselors and mental health professionals in the schools; and crisis response protocols, including parent notification and protocols for children under a certain age.

Trustee Wright asked for data that shows COVID-19 positivity rates for rural areas broken down by age ranges and information that shows the percentage of students and staff that live outside of the rural communities that commute to those schools.

Update on COVID-19 and the Clark County School District's Response (continued)

Trustee Ford said she would like to see information related to how schools that are open are functioning, what is working for them, what has been learned from their challenges, safety policies around school staff's behavior and how they address it when the adults violate those policies. She said at the next presentation she would like to see video or photographs of the classrooms in the rural schools and information about the procedures there to compare to other entities, such as private schools.

Trustee Brooks asked for information related to T.I.E.S. and contact tracing and turnaround time.

Trustee Wright asked that Trustees receive mental health referrals and other mental health data broken down by Trustee district.

Trustee Ford asked for information related to the number of non-mandatory assessments that are conducted and how much funding and staff time would be saved if those were discontinued.

Trustee Wright asked that Trustees be kept apprised as the District moves forward regarding the expectation of mental health professionals visiting classrooms in every school and having information reported to be able to then support students where there is the greatest need.

Trustee Ford asked that the Board be presented with different options for reopening for consideration to move forward with in January or earlier.

Trustee Brooks recognized that the District is not able to address the mental health issues alone, and she asked that a discussion regarding this be held publicly in a community setting to begin to address the need together and have the conversation with other people who provide these types of services.

Trustee Cavazos requested if successful programs, such as Hope Squad at Bob Miller Middle School, could be examined and brought back to the Board.

Trustee Ford shared data related to reasons why students have left the District broken down by Trustee district. She requested information regarding plans and models from large urban school districts other than the districts presented in Reference 5.01.

Superintendent Jara said he could provide the plans of the 76 large urban school districts that are members of the Council of the Great City Schools if that is the pleasure of the Board.

Trustee Ford said she would provide a list of school districts for Superintendent Jara to pull from.

Trustee Brooks asked that Superintendent Jara let the Board know how long it would take to compile that information, and the Board could weigh in on whether they agree that time should be dedicated to the task.

Update on COVID-19 and the Clark County School District's Response (continued)

Trustee Wright said with regards to Trustee Ford's request, she would like to see information from Districts that are comparable to CCSD. She suggested that the school survey should include a comment box for clarification, and there should be a qualifier for the "no" option on whether a staff member would return to the school. She requested that the next presentation include information related to attendance, engagement, and teacher return broken down by Trustee district.

Trustee Young suggested it would be helpful to gather information from a variety of different types of school districts. She requested a standing item to share information with the Trustees and with the community on the status of how many students have Chromebooks and connectivity.

Trustee Cepeda requested that the next presentation include the data be broken down by Free and Reduced Lunch (FRL) and Hispanic English learners. She asked that those breakdowns be included from this point forward if possible or a note to say when it is not possible.

Superintendent Communication

Superintendent Jara said he would be providing a calendar to the Trustees that outlines virtual meetings he would be holding to gather input from the community.

Superintendent Jara shared the following appointments and transfers: Duane Bickmore, Principal, Justice Myron E. Leavitt Middle School; Lindsay Packer, Principal, Keith C. and Karen W. Hayes Elementary School; Marbella Alfonso, Principal, Frank F. Garside Junior High School; Tiffany Burlacu, Principal, C.P. Squires Elementary School; Laura Willis, Principal, Northwest Career and Technical Academy; and Darlin Delgado, Principal, Rancho High School. He also shared that Dr. Monica Cortez is now Assistant Superintendent for the Student Services Division, Academic Unit.

Trustee Requests for Agenda Items or Information

Trustee Cepeda requested information related to changing the school psychologist classification.

Trustee Cavazos requested information regarding the surplus process.

Trustee Young requested an agenda item related to the role of guest teachers during the pandemic, including whether they are receiving training.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

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

A teacher felt the survey released last week was not clear.

A staff professional wrote the CCSD survey to employees has misleading and inaccurate data. The desired result was to find out if employees feel safe doing hybrid, distance or full-time, in-person learning. The data received was bad and inaccurate because of the way it was asked, and it did not go to all employees in licensed or non-licensed position and asked for another survey.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items (continued)

A person feels that the T.I.E.S. program is not enough. They said an app to help a person self-monitor and trace the virus is good, and they had hoped for a program to administer testing for all CCSD employees before their return to work at the time of reopening CCSD schools. They stated this would help keep those children and employees at high risk for contracting COVID-19 or suffering server systems safer.

A writer is concerned that Balanced Governance™ that was introduced to the CCSD Board of Trustees had little effective results and things were not achieved with the Superintendent, Trustees, schools, or communities. They said that communities are unwelcomed and are shut down with no voice in partnering in the education of students.

Adjourn: 9:27 p.m.

Motion: Young Second: Ford Vote: Unanimous

Trustee Wright was not present for the vote.