

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

TELECONFERENCE ONLY

Thursday, October 22, 2020

5:01 p.m.

Roll Call:	<u>Members Present</u>	<u>Member Absent</u>
	Lola Brooks, President	Chris Garvey, Member
	Linda P. Cavazos, Vice President	
	Danielle Ford, Clerk	
	Irene Cepeda, 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 additional reference material provided for Item 5.02.

Motion: Wright Second: Young Vote: Unanimous

Public Comment on Agenda Items

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

Item 3.02

Several school psychologists submitted comments opposing Item 3.02. They would like the cost of the contract to be used to provide salaries that are competitive with other states. They asked the District to work on a plan to retain the current school psychologists and hire part-time assistants to help current psychologists.

A community member asked that the School Improvement Grant be used for the improvement of equity, diversity, inclusion, and access of all staff in the CCSD.

Item 5.02

Several hundred comments were received from staff, parents, and community in regards to opening schools.

Parents asked that CCSD administration work with rural principals in fully opening schools as safely and efficiently as possible and within state requirements.

Public Comment on Agenda Items (continued)

A large percentage of comments were from employees and parents asking that the District continue online learning until it is safe. Some cannot return because they or a family member are at high risk. Others said that online learning is working well for students. Some teachers said they are able to do their job far more effectively from home, and others said they should not return until there is a vaccine.

Several teachers said they have spent their own money to set up a classroom in their home and would like to continue to teach online rather than return to the school. Many said technology in their homes works far better than the equipment available at school.

A school counselor feels that he is able to spend more time addressing students' mental health while working from home, as well as ensure his personal wellbeing.

A teacher said her students are thriving online. She feels that older students could do hybrid and younger students should stay online until they are able to return five days a week.

Teachers asked why they have to go back to the school building when there will be no students.

Comments were received asking if the Board cannot meet in person, why is it okay for them to go to school.

There were teachers who asked if on-site childcare could be available at schools when they return.

A teacher said the Board voted on 90 days of virtual teaching and would not go back until COVID numbers dropped to 5 percent and could be maintained for 14 days.

An administrator is concerned with opening schools, stating that COVID numbers are rising, and staff cannot risk getting sick and asked where liability will fall if a staff member gets sick and it can be traced back to the school.

A teacher asked that the District go 100 percent virtual or 100 percent face to face, feeling that the hybrid option would not work.

Another teacher asked that there be no SBAC testing and that the time set aside for testing be used for teaching students the standards they need to know for next year.

A few asked that distance learning continue until the end of the school year.

A student wrote stating they do not mind learning online and that their grades have improved.

Public Comment on Agenda Items (continued)

A writer provided several links to news stories about schools opening and closing again due to COVID.

A teacher would like to know what happens if a student comes to school sick or if they are asymptomatic.

A person asked that the Board use data-driven, evidence-based practices.

A teacher was upset to hear about a proposed plan from social media rather than from the District directly.

Another was concerned that an employee was hospitalized with COVID and staff was not made aware.

A teacher asked what the half-day, two-session days would like in a hybrid model.

Several comments were received asking that students return to the classroom and that athletic fields reopen for sports, stating that it would provide interaction with other students, physical activity, and discipline to students.

A person who serves the special needs community asked that young children and at-risk students be given priority and return to school.

A teacher expressed concern that their classroom will not be large enough to social distance and asked what the District is going to do.

A parent sent names of people who signed a petition asking for a rural waiver to open Blue Diamond Elementary School.

A teacher said that all teachers should be required to be in the building during their contract hours.

An employee asked how often staff would be tested for COVID and if sick days would be covered for mandatory testing.

A parent said it should be the parents' decision to have their student return to school or continue with distance learning.

Public Comment on Agenda Items (continued)

Several comments were received asking that teachers and students return to school, questioning if private schools are open, why CCSD is not. A teacher said that they feel like their students are not making any growth. A parent said her children are desperate to see their friends and teachers in person. Some parents wrote that their children are having a difficult time, some are falling behind, and others are struggling with their mental health. A community member said in-class school and afterschool activities are crucial for the wellbeing of our youth.

If the school opens, staff and parents would like to see safety protocols put in place, have PPE available, plastic shields between desks, and social distancing. A parent asked that young children be given the option to wear masks, and another asked for plans on how breakfast and lunch would take place and asked who would supervise students during a teacher's lunchbreak.

Others spoke about the hybrid model, saying that they are in favor of a hybrid arrangement or returning full time. Others said they do not want a hybrid model, stating that will cause more work and that it is not safe and feel until a vaccine is available, distance learning needs to continue. A parent said that her kindergartener needs more than online and is in support of the hybrid or going full time.

A community member is concerned there are equity issues for students, parents, and families in District C. They ask that CCSD follow the science and numbers from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and SNHD and that all students, teachers, support staff, and administrators get tested before everyone is let into the buildings.

A person submitted 190 emails from parents asking that schools reopen.

A comment was received asking why there was a delay in voting to return to school. They said the original motion was to reevaluate returning when the COVID positivity rate was at 5 percent or lower. They asked that all employee groups be allowed the same rights and same guidelines.

Approve Adoption of Consent Agenda

Approval of consent agenda, as submitted, as recommended.

Motion to approve Items 3.01 through 3.20, pulling Item 3.02 for separate discussion.

Motion: Young Second: Wright Vote: Unanimous

3.01 Approval of the Minutes.

Discussion and possible action on the approval of the minutes of the special meetings of August 5, 2020, and September 2, 2020, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** (Ref. 3.01)

Approve Adoption of Consent Agenda (continued)

3.03 Instructional Software — Rethink Ed Special Education Solution.

Discussion and possible action on authorization for the Student Services Division to contract with Rethink Ed for the purchase of Rethink Ed Special Education Solution, a comprehensive, Web-based instructional package designed to address functional, behavioral, social, transitional, career readiness, and academic needs of individuals ages 3-21 with autism in the self-contained classroom through the use of Applied Behavior Analysis, for an amount not to exceed \$640,800.00, to be paid through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act: Local Plan, Public Law 108-446, Fund 0280, effective October 23, 2020, through June 30, 2021, with no impact to the general fund, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Dr. Karla Loria] (Ref. 3.03)

3.04 Grant Application: High-Quality Digital Instructional Materials, Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund, United States Department of Education.

Discussion and possible action to implement the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) grant funds under the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act to support students, educators, and families in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, to provide high-quality digital instructional materials and increase distance education resources, from October 23, 2020, through September 30, 2022, submitted in the amount of \$948,136.54, to be paid from ESSER Funds, Fund 0280, with no impact to the general fund, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Karla Loria] (Ref. 3.04)

3.05 Grant Application: High-Quality Professional Development, Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund, United States Department of Education.

Discussion and possible action on authorization to implement the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) High-Quality Professional Development grant funds under the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act to support students, educators, and families in response to the COVID-19 pandemic with professional learning for educators to support the delivery of educational services, from October 23, 2020, through September 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$872,654.37, to be paid from ESSER Funds, Fund 0280, with no impact to the general fund, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Karla Loria] (Ref. 3.05)

3.06 Flex Curriculum, The Art of Education.

Discussion and possible action on the request to purchase a one-year license subscription for 400 visual art teachers from FLEX Curriculum from The Art of Education, effective October 23, 2020, through October 23, 2021, for a total cost of \$179,600.00, to be paid from Fund 0100, Cost Center 1010000116, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Karla Loria] (Ref. 3.06)

3.07 Professional Services Agreement: Elevator Inspection and Permitting Services.

Discussion and possible action on approval to enter into a professional service agreement for elevator inspection and permitting services with National Elevator Inspection Services, Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$85,000.00, effective July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021, to be paid from Fund 7000000000, Cost Center 5070001765, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Jason Goudie] (Ref. 3.07)

Approve Adoption of Consent Agenda (continued)

3.08 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. 3.08)

3.09 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 September 1, 2020, through September 30, 2020, in the official Board minutes as required by Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 354.598005, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Jason Goudie] (Ref. 3.09)

3.10 Licensed Personnel Employment.

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

3.11 Purchasing Awards.

Discussion and possible action on approval to purchase goods or services in the estimated total amount of \$1,106,000.00 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 \$2,371,988.77 as listed, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Mike Casey] (Ref. 3.12)

3.13 Architectural Design Services: High School and Fields Phase III Replacement at Sandy Valley High School.

Discussion and possible action on approval to select the architectural firm of LGA Architecture, to provide architectural design services to prepare plans, specifications, and other construction documents for a design, bid, and build method of construction for the high school and fields phase III replacement at Sandy Valley High School in the amount of \$1,298,145.00, 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 to sign the granting documents, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Jeff Wagner] (Ref. 3.13)

Approve Adoption of Consent Agenda (continued)

3.14 Architectural Design Services: Replace Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning Controls and Roof at Fredric W. Watson Elementary School.

Discussion and possible action on approval to select the architectural firm of Carpenter Sellers Del Gatto Architects, to provide architectural design services to prepare plans, specifications, and other construction documents for a design, bid, and build method of construction in support to replace the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning controls and roof at Fredric W. Watson Elementary School in the amount of \$288,700.00, to be paid from the 2015 Capital Improvement Program, Fund 3150000000, Project C0014444; 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. 3.14)

3.15 Contract Award: Replace Roof, Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning Components at Liliam Lujan Hickey Elementary School.

Discussion and possible action on approval of an award of contract to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder to replace the roof, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning components at Liliam Lujan Hickey Elementary School, to be paid from the 2015 Capital Improvement Program, Fund 3150000000, Project C0014437; 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. 3.15)

3.16 Contract Award: Football Turf Replacement and LED Lighting Unit Cost Contract Various School Facilities.

Discussion and possible action on approval of an award of contract to the responsive and responsible bidder for a one-year unit cost contract with options to extend up to five additional years for football turf replacement and LED lighting, to various Clark County School District schools in support of the 2015 Capital Improvement Program with a not-to-exceed amount of \$45,000,000.00 for one year, with five, 1-year renewal options, to be paid from the Capital Replacement Fund, Fund 3700000000 and the Governmental Services Tax Fund, Fund 3400000000; 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. 3.16)

3.17 Professional Services Agreement: Building Commissioning 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 building commissioning services with Engineering Economics, Inc., to provide third-party commissioning services 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 for all project documents, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Jeff Wagner] (Ref. 3.17)

Approve Adoption of Consent Agenda (continued)

3.18 Professional Services Agreement: Building Commissioning Services Phase II of Phased Replacement at Sandy Valley Elementary 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 services for the phase II replacement at Sandy Valley Elementary School in the amount of \$63,600.00, to be paid from the 2015 Capital Improvement Program, Fund 3150000000, Project C0013434; 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. 3.18)

3.19 Signature Designee.

Discussion and possible action on approval to authorize Jeff Wagner, Chief of Facilities, to act as the Clark County School District Board of School Trustees designee to sign all construction project related documents, including documents granting; rights-of-way, easements, agreements, applications, and leasing of building or property needed for the Clark County School District, and other documents, and correspondence pertinent to the development of lands under local, state, or federal jurisdiction for educational and related school facilities. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Jeff Wagner] (Ref. 3.19)

3.20 Amendment of Clark County School District Regulation 7111.

Discussion and possible action on approval of the amendment of Clark County School District Regulation 7111, District Attendance Zoning, is recommended. **(For Possible Action)** [Contact Person: Jeff Wagner] (Ref. 3.20)

Authorize Professional Services — Jackson Therapy Partners, LLC

Authorization for the Student Services Division to contract with Jackson Therapy Partners, LLC, for school psychology services due to a labor shortage in this field, for an amount not to exceed \$500,000.00 per year, and not to exceed \$2,500,000.00 for the entire five-year contracting agreement, effective October 23, 2020, through June 30, 2025, to be paid from Fund 0250, Account 5340000000, Cost Center 1025013130, as recommended in Reference 3.02.

Trustee Young expressed concerns related to the contract. She said despite recruitment and retention efforts, a significant shortage of school psychologists remains in CCSD. She asked if bringing in school psychologists under this contract through Jackson Therapy Partners would create a morale problem, comparing their salaries to CCSD psychologists' salaries. She questioned using those funds to pay CCSD school psychologists or to incentivize this group of mental health professionals.

Trustee Brooks stated that the Superintendent is looking into this, but this must be addressed through collective bargaining.

Authorize Professional Services — Jackson Therapy Partners, LLC (continued)

Trustee Young recommended postponing this item until some discussions can take place through collective bargaining and it could be brought back to discuss how the District's school psychologists can be supported and to review other options.

Superintendent Jara asked Dr. Monica Cortez, Assistant Superintendent, Student Services Division, Academic Unit, to speak to the potential impact of not moving forward at this time.

Dr. Cortez explained that this item is to hire three individuals to fill current vacancies that the District has been unable to fill. She said not filling those positions would leave approximately six to nine schools without the proper services and would impact students' eligibility.

Trustee Cavazos disagreed with always spending money on contracted services. She said she is also concerned that Jackson Therapy Partners is listing on their website that they would be filling CCSD's vacant positions, and the Board has yet to vote on this item. She said she is not in favor of going down this road and feels that it is a slap in the face to CCSD school psychologists.

Trustee Ford asked if anyone has had a conversation with the school psychologists regarding increasing pay and attracting school psychologists to the District. She asked if they discussed this contract and perhaps alternative short-term solutions.

Superintendent Jara said that must be collectively bargained with the bargaining agent and cannot be done directly with employees.

Trustee Ford asked whether conversations with CCSD psychologists indicate that this contract would not have any negative repercussions.

Robert Weires, Director, Psychological Services, Academic Unit, stated he believes the impact would be minor as this includes a small number of positions in relation to the total number of staff. He said he did not seek out input from staff but understands their involvement in contracting has always been on a limited, short-term basis.

Trustee Ford said she would be in support of postponing this item and said she would like to be assured that they do not expect to lose as many school psychologists by filling these positions in this manner.

Trustee Cepeda asked if the item were postponed until issues could be addressed through the collective bargaining unit, how long this significant number of students would be without psychological services.

Mr. Weires explained that recruitment comes in cycles and said they do not expect to pick up more than one to two school psychologists under CCSD contract over the next period of time. He stated that in the meantime they have a responsibility to ensure psychological services are offered in all CCSD schools, so he is hesitant to say they are not getting services, but this would aid in taking some of the pressure of current staff who are already stretched very, very thin.

Authorize Professional Services — Jackson Therapy Partners, LLC (continued)

Trustee Brooks said she would be willing to have a discussion in a closed session during collective bargaining but at this time she cannot support something that would be to the detriment of students. She said she also thinks that by not providing staff additional support, it puts more stress on them.

Trustee Young clarified that she was suggesting tabling this item so a discussion could be had with CCSD school psychologists, giving them the opportunity to provide input. She said perhaps that discussion could include looking at collective bargaining, recruitment methods, and alternative solutions.

Trustee Cavazos noted that of all the written public comments submitted, she did not see one in favor of this contract. She asked if it was possible to enlist the help of interns from the university.

Motion to table this item for the shortest amount of time possible and to see what can be done in the meantime, including brining in the president of the psychologists' association.

Motion: Cavazos

Mary-Anne Miller, Board Counsel, District Attorney's Office, stated that the District cannot negotiate with the president of the psychologists' association, that they have to negotiate with the bargaining unit.

Superintendent Jara said while this is a new contract, it is very similar to other contracted services the District uses for psychological services.

Trustee Cavazos asked if any other therapy services at different costs with more clarified parameters for what is being offered here were consulted or reviewed.

Mr. Weires explained that each of those would have to be negotiated separately directly through the Purchasing Department. He said the District has engaged in a limited number of contracted services for psychological services and have explored other types of contracting companies. He said they have in the past and continue to explore options for building the staff and increasing the pay.

Motion to hold this item.

Motion: Cavazos Second: Young

Call for the Question

Trustee Cavazos called for the question.

Vote on call for the question: Yeses – 2 (Cavazos, Ford); Noes – 4 (Brooks, Cepeda, Wright, Young)

The call for the question failed.

Authorize Professional Services — Jackson Therapy Partners, LLC (continued)

Trustee Cepeda asked how the contracted company would go about filling these positions.

Mr. Weires stated it is an incremental process, progressively filling as many positions as possible.

Trustee Wright stated that when contractors are hired, they typically are paid at a higher rate because CCSD is not responsible for other expenses such as health insurance. She pointed out that the District uses contractors for other services as well. She suggested the Board ask the Superintendent to reach out to the bargaining unit to discuss the school psychologists' salary and bring a report back to the Board in 60 days.

Trustee Ford said she thinks it would be a bad idea to move forward with this contract without at least consulting the CCSD school psychologists, talking to the bargaining unit, and then bringing the contract back to the Board for approval.

Superintendent Jara said he would have CCSD's Chief Negotiator contact Clark County Education Association's (CCEA's) Chief Negotiator to have discussions within the next week or so around school psychologists' wages if that is the direction he is hearing from the Board.

Trustee Brooks stated that is not on the agenda and asked Superintendent Jara to hold that conversation until they are in a closed session where collective bargaining takes place.

Vote on Trustee Cavazos' motion: Yeses – 3 (Cavazos, Ford, Young); Noes – 3 (Brooks, Cepeda, Wright)

The motion failed.

Motion to not take any action on this agenda item.

Motion: Ford Second: Young Vote: Yeses – 3 (Cavazos, Ford, Young); Noes – 3 (Brooks, Cepeda, Wright)

The motion failed.

Motion to bring this item back at the next regular Board meeting in two weeks with more information guided by the discussion here from the Superintendent and his team.

Motion: Wright Second: Young

Trustee Brooks asked that Trustees send what information they would like included with this item to Joe Caruso, Executive Director, Community Services Department, Office of the Superintendent.

Vote on Trustee Wright's motion was unanimous.

Approve Susan Brager Occupational Education Scholarship

Approval of the amount of \$1,000 for the Board's annual Susan Brager Occupational Education Scholarship G/L 5610000000, Internal Order 500504, FY 21, Fund 1700000000, Function Area F01001000, as requested in Reference 4.01.

Motion to approve.

Motion: Young Second: Wright Vote: Unanimous

Authorize Professional Services Agreement: Applied Analysis

Authorization to contract with Applied Analysis for the development of materials for upcoming 2021 Nevada Legislative Session related to extending the District's bonding authority for at least 10 more years, for a total cost not to exceed \$150,000.00, from October 23, 2020, through June 30, 2021, to be paid from Fund 1000000000, Cost Center 1010000138, as recommended in Reference 5.01.

Dr. Christopher Bernier, Chief of Staff, Office of the Superintendent, and Dr. Brad Keating, Director, Government Relations Department, Office of the Superintendent, reviewed the professional services agreement with Applied Analysis as shown in Reference 5.01.

Trustee Cavazos asked if it would be feasible for the Board to receive status updates from Jeremy Aguero, Principal Analyst, Applied Analysis, possibly every eight weeks.

Superintendent Jara suggested that updates could be brought to the Board as a report from the Government Relations Committee, or it could be included in any communication that is sent to the Board.

Trustee Brooks suggested that is something the Board could discuss on November 4, 2020, at their retreat.

Motion to approve the Professional Services Agreement with Applied Analysis.

Motion: Wright Second: Young

Trustee Ford asked if Dr. Keating would continue to represent the District during the legislative session in Carson City.

Superintendent Jara stated this item before the Board is for a contract with Applied Analysis to work on the bond, and Dr. Keating, as well as other staff, would be working directly with Applied Analysis to discuss the bond. He said other personnel decisions have not been finalized.

Trustee Ford asked what the plan is at this moment.

Superintendent Jara said Dr. Keating would be working with Jeremy Aguero to ensure that this moves through the legislative process.

Authorize Professional Services Agreement: Applied Analysis (continued)

Vote on Trustee Wright's motion was unanimous.

COVID-19 Update

Dr. Fermin Leguen, Acting District Health Officer, Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD); Dr. Cortez; and Yvette Wintermute, Director/Chief Nurse, Health Services, Academic Unit, provided a COVID-19 update as shown in Reference 5.02.

Trustees discussed the recommended timelines for reopening schools; how the virus presents in children of different age groups; staff health and safety concerns; giving school staff the choice of working from home or a safe environment of their choosing; the SNHD procedure when a person in a school setting tests positive for COVID-19; transmission factors to consider; ventilation systems in the schools and safety; and infection and mortality rates among different populations.

Trustee Ford said she would like to see real examples of schools, and she suggested having another presentation with Dr. Leguen, a mental health professional, and a building inspector to discuss whether there is a consensus among the experts regarding reopening of schools.

Trustee Young shared the feedback that she has received from principles regarding their concerns with reopening schools.

Trustee Wright asked that more specific details be provided related to the procedures and processes that would be in place when schools reopen.

Trustee Brooks stated things to consider should include prioritizing smaller groups and prioritizing students with the highest needs, who are most vulnerable, and who are least successful in the current environment. She said she would like to see a plan to leverage partnerships to maximize the number of people receiving flu shots. She suggested limiting interactions between groups of students, as well as between adults and groups of students. She said there should be a process in place to audit the status of ventilation systems in school buildings.

Trustee Brooks stated that in order to be successful, the distance education issues and problems need to be resolved, and she suggested doing that using feedback from students and parents. She suggested asking for a universal implementation of Canvas and having that done and ready for next semester. She said the current Cohort C model is not sustainable for teachers. She said there should be an effort to include choice for staff, and there must be a process to ensure the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is adhered to. Lastly, she said there must be a comprehensive communication plan, which should include a way to share mitigation strategies, reporting of compliance, messaging around the plans for pivoting, and feedback loops to address issues as they occur.

COVID-19 Update (continued)

Trustee Ford asked Superintendent Jara if there was an option for principals to attend a recent meeting with him virtually or if employees are being made to attend in person, and if so, would they continue to have to meet in person. She asked what the plan is for staff until schools reopen.

Superintendent Jara said the principal meeting was an in-person meeting, but staff was not required to attend, but there was no virtual option.

Trustee Ford expressed concerns that without a virtual option to attend, the Superintendent is not hearing from all principals. She requested that all meetings include a virtual option to attend.

Trustee Ford said she would feel comfortable opening schools for in-person learning if they opened with a predetermined maximum number of students as a tier 1 test pilot option. She suggested there would be pod models with eight students and one adult in each pod, having up to five pods, and everyone in these groups would participate in distance learning. She said the principals would have the option of doing this after they determine how many students they could safely have at school with a minimum of two pods. She added the ventilation system would also need to be checked, and a decision would be made based on the ventilation system and the space provided. She said the principals would then determine which students would have the opportunity to participate in the distance learning sites.

Trustee Cavazos agreed with what Trustee Brooks asked for. She stated that if the District moves to a hybrid model, teachers should not be held responsible for delivering in-person and distance education simultaneously. She asked for information related to what support professionals are going to be asked to do with relation to COVID-19 protocols. She asked if there would be a survey available to parents of prekindergarten through 2nd-grade special needs students to determine how many are wanting to return to school to ensure there would be enough teachers available.

Superintendent Jara said there would have to conduct another survey once direction from the Board is given.

Trustee Cavazos asked if all personal protective equipment (PPE) would be provided by the District and whether special needs teachers would be provided with additional PPE because they are unable to practice social distancing with their students.

Superintendent Jara said yes, they would.

Trustee Cavazos asked if another testing program would be available if the Taskforce Initiative for Educator Safety and Screening (T.I.E.S.) was not successful. She asked for feedback at the November 12, 2020, Board meeting related to the change in recommendations brought forth this evening by Dr. Leguen regarding reopening schools.

COVID-19 Update (continued)

Trustee Cepeda said it would be helpful for the District's website to have a dashboard with consistently updated information to keep the community up to date.

Trustee Cavazos asked for specific information regarding quarantine protocols.

Trustee Young said employees who feel they may be at increased risk for contracting COVID-19 should be given an option to telecommute or work from a safe location of their choice.

Trustee Ford requested that the next presentation also include what it would look like if the District continued with the distance learning model. She asked for information on community-based options to support children with social isolation and keeping them connected.

Trustee Brooks said there should be options for families and some staff to continue in distance learning for the entire year.

Trustee Cavazos requested that there be a plan to confer with the District's mental health professionals to be able to address the stress that could be caused by changing back and forth between learning models as necessary during this pandemic. She asked that the Trustees be briefed on that plan.

Superintendent Communication

None.

Trustee Request for Agenda Items or Information

None.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

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

A teacher is concerned about why the District is placing such a huge emphasis on MAP testing this year. They feel that parents are assisting students with their answers, and they should not be. They found that their first-grade students are all testing at the third-grade level.

Adjourn: 9:23 p.m.

Motion: Ford Second: Young Vote: Unanimous

Trustee Wright was not present for the vote.