

**MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 13, 2022
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

December 13, 2022

1. Opening Items

1.01 CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 2:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Central Administration Building, located at 425 East Ninth Street in Reno, Nevada.

1.02 ROLL CALL

Vice President Diane Nicolet and Board Members Adam Mayberry, Ellen Minetto, Joe Rodriguez, Beth Smith, and Alex Woodley were present. Board Member Jeff Church and Superintendent Susan Enfield were present via video conference. Deputy Superintendent Seng-Dao Yang Keo, Student Representative Ivy Batmale, and staff were also present.

1.03 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Trustee Alex Woodley led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Consent Agenda Items

Trustee Church requested Consent Agenda Item 2.10, Agreement for Professional Architectural Design Services for a new elementary school in the Stonebrook Development, and Consent Agenda Item 2.13, Approval of the 2022-23 Early Separation Incentive Programs (ESIP) recommendations, be pulled for additional questions and discussion.

It was moved by Trustee Minetto and seconded by Trustee Mayberry that **the Board of Trustees approves Consent Agenda Items 2.02 through 2.09 and 2.11 through 2.12.** The result of the vote was Unanimous: (Yea: Jeff Church, Adam Mayberry, Ellen Minetto, Diane Nicolet, Joe Rodriguez, Beth Smith, and Alex Woodley.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

- 2.02 The Board of Trustees approved the October 25, 2022 Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees.

- 2.03 The Board of Trustees approved the minutes of the November 8, 2022 Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees.
- 2.04 The Board of Trustees approved the drafts of the Balanced Calendar, Incline Village Schools Calendar, Gerlach School Calendar, and Truckee Meadows Community College (TMCC) High School Calendar for the 2024-25 School Year.
- 2.05 The Board of Trustees approved the Alternative Schedule Application for Lena Juniper Elementary School and authorization to submit "The Application to Operate on an Alternative Schedule" for Lena Juniper Elementary School to the Nevada Department of Education.
- 2.06 The Board of Trustees accepted the information collected from The Dorothy Lemelson Foundation related to Nevada Revised Statute 386.390.
- 2.07 The Board of Trustees awarded Bid #23-17-B-10-AA, Replacement of Water Heaters at Spanish Springs High School, to Smith Mechanical, Inc. in the amount of \$100,767.
- 2.08 The Board of Trustees approved the service agreement addendum for Request for Bid (RFB) #054-08-04-16, Elevator Maintenance and Repair Services, for an additional amount of \$18,120 for a revised contract total of \$112,560 for the current term of the contract ending November 30, 2023.
- 2.09 The Board of Trustees approved the purchase of 12 new school buses through the Joinder Utah State Contract #MA812 from Bryson Sales in the estimated amount of \$2,288,456.
- 2.11 The Board of Trustees approved the Tenth Amendment to the Commercial Lease Agreement for 535 East Plumb Lane with William W. Simons 1999 Trust, for the English Language Learners (ELL) and Title I Departments for an additional 12 months beginning on January 11, 2023 and expiring January 10, 2024 in the estimated amount of \$125,472.
- 2.12 The Board of Trustees approved the 1-year agreement for Swiss Re Corporate Solutions America Insurance Corporation for stop-loss coverage of \$425,000 with a rate guarantee of \$27.00 per employee/retiree per month, beginning January 1, 2023 and ending December 31, 2023.
- 2.10 **APPROVAL OF THE AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN SERVICES FOR A NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN THE**

STONEBROOK DEVELOPMENT AREA WITH H+K ARCHITECTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,622,400

Trustee Church requested additional information on the agenda item because the amount was greater the \$1 million. He specifically wondered if the District would be using the same design as previous elementary schools, if the item was put out to bid, and where the Stonebrook Development was. Tami Zimmerman, Deputy Chief Facilities Management Officer, explained the same elementary school prototype would be used, which was originally designed by H+K Architects. Because the design belonged to H+K Architects, no other architectural firm could be used. The Stonebrook Development was located in Spanish Springs, near the Andelin Family Farm.

Trustee Church wondered why the cost was so much if an existing design would be used. Ms. Zimmerman noted the design would need to be adapted to the particular site, which included geothermal testing, traffic studies, and seismic retrofitting to the area. The amount was similar to what was spent on site adaptations for other elementary schools. Since architectural services were considered professional services, the District did not need to bid the project out.

Trustee Church asked what would happen if the District did issue a bid. Ms. Zimmerman stated the amount would be much higher because a new architect would have to develop their own prototype first and then conduct the site adaptations.

It was moved by Trustee Rodriguez and seconded by Trustee Mayberry that **the Board of Trustees approves the Agreement for Professional Architectural Design Services for a new elementary school in the Stonebrook Development area with H+K Architects in the amount of \$1,622,400.** The result of the vote was Unanimous: (Yea: Jeff Church, Adam Mayberry, Ellen Minetto, Diane Nicolet, Joe Rodriguez, Beth Smith, and Alex Woodley.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

2.13 DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE 2022-23 EARLY SEPARATION INCENTIVE PROGRAMS (ESIP) RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CERTIFIED AND PROFESSIONAL-TECHNICAL EMPLOYEES WHO MEET THE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS PURSUANT TO THE RESPECTIVE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS

Trustee Church expressed frustration over the program because of the teacher shortage in the District. He did not believe it was appropriate for the District to pay people to "go away." Kate Shum, Human Resources Manager, and Mark Mathers, Chief Financial Officer, provided additional information on the Early Separation Incentive Program (ESIP), which was part of the agreements with the Washoe Education Association (WEA) and the Administrative Professional and Technical Association (APTA). The District was able to negotiate ESIP out of future APTA agreements, though there was

still a couple of years remaining on the current agreement; however, the provision remained in the WEA agreement.

It was moved by Trustee Woodley and seconded by Trustee Smith that **the Board of Trustees approves the 2022-23 Early Separation Incentive Program (ESIP) for certified staff and professional-technical administrators, as recommended.** The result of the vote was Unanimous: (Yea: Jeff Church, Adam Mayberry, Ellen Minetto, Diane Nicolet, Joe Rodriguez, Beth Smith, and Alex Woodley.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

3. Legislative Items

3.01 PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO ADOPT THE FINAL DRAFT OF 2023 WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM FOR THE UPCOMING 2023 NEVADA LEGISLATIVE SESSION TO INCLUDE THE AREAS OF FUNDING, ACADEMIC SUCCESS, STUDENT & STAFF HEALTH AND SAFETY, EDUCATOR SUPPORT, AND COMMUNITY CENTERED APPROACH TO PUBLIC EDUCATION

3.02 ADOPTION OF WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD RESOLUTION 22-037, A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF "iNVEST 2023," A NEVADA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS DOCUMENT SUPPORTING PUBLIC EDUCATION IN NEVADA

Vice President Nicolet opened Agenda Items 3.01 and 3.02 together to allow for discussion. The items would be voted on separately.

Dylan Shaver, Pinyon Public Affairs, presented the final draft of the 2023 Washoe County School District Legislative Platform. The Platform would be the guiding document for staff and others when advocating for the District during the 2023 Nevada Legislative Session. Pinyon had worked with staff to incorporate as much of the Trustee feedback as possible from the prior meeting. He reviewed the proposed changes related to staff raises, student safety, correcting funding flaws, preserving instructor professionalism, and limitations on property tax reform.

Deputy Superintendent Keo reviewed *iNVEST 2023*. The document was developed by the Nevada Association of School Superintendents (NASS) and aligned with many of the priorities included in the District's Legislative Platform. The document outlined what all Nevada Superintendents believed was required to improve student achievement in grades PreK – 12 throughout Nevada. The priorities included increases in per pupil funding, appropriate and equitable levels of support for all students, modernizing educational statutes, providing resources to enable schools to be technology rich,

investing in school safety measures, and implementing a funding mechanism for all school districts to construct or revitalize schools.

Trustee Minetto mentioned she struggled with the term “primarily” used in reference to raises for staff because her experience was that the additional funds did not always go to staff. She was concerned the funds would be used for other programs or projects. Mark Mathers, Chief Financial Officer, noted the Board of Trustees was ultimately responsible for employee compensation and how funds were allocated.

Trustee Church remarked he was uncomfortable including any kind of number in the Legislative Platform related to compensation because that was subject to collective bargaining. He would like to see language related to any tax increase include that the tax must be for a specific purpose, that the tax sunset, and that there be oversight of how the funds were spent.

Trustee Mayberry requested clarification on the dedicated funding for school construction, maintenance, and revitalization. He wanted to be sure the Washoe County School District was not asking for an additional funding stream. Dr. Keo indicated the construction funding mechanism was not a priority in the Washoe County School District because of the passage of WC-1; however, the District did recognize that other school districts did not have the same resources available to them and were willing to work to support their goals and objectives whenever possible.

Vice President Nicolet opened the meeting to public comment.

Calen Evans, Washoe Education Association (WEA), spoke in support of the District’s interest in addressing employee compensation. He appreciated the efforts made by the Board to increase teacher pay because it would help with the challenges of recruiting and retaining teachers. He stated it was critical for the cycle related to teacher shortages and burnout to be disrupted before improvements to student achievement could occur. He provided information on where Nevada and Washoe County ranked in terms of funding. He hoped the District would work with the WEA during the Legislative Session to advocate for additional funding.

It was moved by Trustee Smith and seconded by Trustee Rodriguez that **the Board of Trustees adopts the final draft of the 2023 Washoe County School District Legislative Platform.**

Vice President Nicolet opened the motion for discussion.

Trustee Church remarked that his constituents believed that Nevada was not the least funded per pupil amount in the country and there were various sources that showed data to support that claim.

The result of the vote was Unanimous: (Yea: Jeff Church, Adam Mayberry, Ellen Minetto, Diane Nicolet, Joe Rodriguez, Beth Smith, and Alex Woodley.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

It was moved by Trustee Woodley and seconded by Trustee Mayberry that **the Board of Trustees adopts Washoe County School District Board Resolution 22-037, A Resolution in Support of iNvest 2023, a Nevada Association of School Superintendents document supporting public education in Nevada.** The result of the vote was Unanimous: (Yea: Jeff Church, Adam Mayberry, Ellen Minetto, Diane Nicolet, Joe Rodriguez, Beth Smith, and Alex Woodley.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

4. Finance Items

4.01 DISCUSSION, PRESENTATION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO ADOPT WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD RESOLUTIONS 22-034 AND 22-035, RESOLUTIONS TO AUGMENT AND AMEND THE FISCAL YEAR 2022-23 BUDGET, AND APPROVAL OF AUGMENTATION AND TRANSFERS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2022-23 BUDGET

Mark Mathers, Chief Financial Officer, and Jeff Bozzo, Budget Director, provided a presentation on the requirements to amend school district budgets and the purposes of budget augmentations. Nevada law required the amended budget to be reflective of the average daily enrollment during the preceding quarter and allowed augmentation of the budget for unanticipated revenues. The District's enrollment was over 1,100 students less than previously budgeted, which resulted in a total revenue shortfall of over \$8.3 million. The augmentation process was reviewed and presented for each District fund, which included the cutting of vacant teacher positions to help balance the budget from the shortfall due to the drop in enrollment.

Trustee Church remarked he was not comfortable cutting the teacher positions because there was a decrease in enrollment. While the decision was in the purview of the superintendent, he would prefer the cuts to occur somewhere else. Superintendent Enfield noted schools and school districts were staffed based on enrollment, so if there were fewer students, there should be fewer teachers based on class sizes. She did not believe the District had to choose between only reducing the number of teachers or reducing expenditures elsewhere. Efficiencies in other areas were also being considered.

Vice President Nicolet opened the meeting for public comment.

Mike Croghan requested clarification on the math used to determine the number of teacher positions that were eliminated because he was having difficulty understanding. Mr. Mathers provided information on the allocation process and how the calculations were determined.

Trustee Smith mentioned the District was in the middle of a “boom” of students at the high school level. The District had watched the students move through lower grades for a number of years and there would be fewer students in all the schools once that group of students had graduated. Additionally, the District was required to implement the new age requirement for kindergarten students, which decreased the enrollment there as well.

It was moved by Trustee Rodriguez and seconded by Trustee Woodley that **the Board of Trustees adopts Washoe County School District Board Resolutions 22-034, and 22-035, Resolutions to Augment and Amend the Fiscal Year 2022-23 Budget and approves budget transfers as proposed.** The result of the vote was Unanimous: (Yea: Jeff Church, Adam Mayberry, Ellen Minetto, Diane Nicolet, Joe Rodriguez, Beth Smith, and Alex Woodley.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

4.02 DISCUSSION AND ADOPTION OF WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD RESOLUTION 22-036, A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR: (1) THE ISSUANCE OF A GENERAL OBLIGATION (LIMITED TAX) MEDIUM-TERM BOND, SERIES 2022 IN AN AGGREGATE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$3,400,000, FOR ACQUIRING SCHOOL BUSES AND OTHER SUPPORT VEHICLES FOR THE DISTRICT; (2) PROVIDING THE FORM, TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE BOND; AND (3) AUTHORIZING THE SUPERINTENDENT OR CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER OF THE DISTRICT TO ACCEPT A BINDING BID FOR THE BOND

Mark Mathers, Chief Financial Officer, reviewed Washoe County School District Board Resolution 22-036, A Resolution providing for the issuance of medium-term bonds.

It was moved by Trustee Mayberry and seconded by Trustee Woodley that **the Board of Trustees adopts Washoe County School District Board Resolution 22-036, A Resolution providing for: (1) the issuance of a General Obligation (Limited Tax) Medium-Term Bond, Series 2022, for acquiring school buses and other support vehicles for the district; (2) providing the form, terms and conditions of the bond; and (3) authorizing the Superintendent or Chief Financial Officer of the District to accept a binding bid for the bond.** The result of the vote was Unanimous: (Yea: Jeff Church, Adam Mayberry, Ellen Minetto, Diane Nicolet, Joe Rodriguez, Beth Smith, and Alex Woodley.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

5. Items for Presentation, Discussion, Information and/or Action

5.03 PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ON THE PROGRESS AND SCHEDULE FOR THE DISTRICT-WIDE FACILITY MODERNIZATION PLAN

Adam Searcy, Chief Operating Officer, mentioned the information to be provided by CannonDesign during the presentation would explain the recommended action for Agenda Item 5.02.

Paul Mills, CannonDesign, explained the presentation would provide an update on the status of the District-wide Facility Modernization Plan, including preliminary assessment findings and an initial recommendation related to the Plan. Activities conducted by CannonDesign and the District since the last update were reviewed. An additional focus on the education adequacy assessment was presented, which looked at how well the buildings were designed and if they were appropriate for modern educational instruction. The assessment allowed CannonDesign to determine if/what improvements could be made to older buildings to inform a capital improvement program moving forward. Some of the areas analyzed included energy usage, educational programming, and technology compatibility. The results of the assessment were reviewed for each school level.

Vice President Nicolet wondered why the facility condition for William O'Brien Middle School was listed as poor when the new building had just opened. Mr. Mills indicated some of the data they received on the school was likely based on outdated information.

Mr. Mills continued with the presentation. Additional information on the conditions of the facilities was provided. He noted there was a lot of parity with the high schools and elementary schools in terms of educational adequacy; however, the middle schools showed a larger discrepancy in terms of opportunities and parity. Additionally, there was a larger than anticipated discrepancy in facility conditions for schools with higher percentages of students with Free and Reduced Lunch (FRL) status; though there were areas to celebrate since some of the newer secondary schools were constructed in higher poverty areas of Washoe County to help anchor the community and provide hope to students. The initial recommendations from the Facility Modernization Plan were provided, which included an early action project opportunity for E. Otis Vaughn Middle School that could be completed for the 2025-26 School Year. The considerations leading to the recommendation for Vaughn Middle School were explained.

Trustee Rodriguez inquired as to why revitalization efforts to high schools would require more time. Mr. Mills mentioned that coming up with long-term solutions for areas as complex as high schools did take a longer period of time. It was important to consider all the programming provided in high schools and then look at where the District's Career and Technical Education (CTE) programming was located. CannonDesigns was

looking at opportunities to expand access to programming as well which would also require additional time.

Trustee Rodriguez expressed concern over the safety and security ratings of many schools. He wondered if there was a plan to address those concerns sooner. Mr. Mills reviewed some of the factors that contributed to the safety and security ratings, which the District did not always have control over, such as distance to the closest fire and/or police station and if the school was located in a flood plain.

Trustee Smith expressed her support for the recommendation related to E. Otis Vaughn Middle School.

Trustee Church requested clarification on the presentation and then the associated action item because they were separate agenda items. Mr. Searcy explained the process was the same as the one the District used for the Capital Funding Protection Committee, which was to provide in-depth presentations on items and then have a separate agenda item for the action to recommend approval of the funding and projects to the Board. The content of the presentation and discussion for the current agenda item was intended to inform the decision for Agenda Item 5.02.

Trustee Church asked if the rebuild project for E. Otis Vaughn Middle School would increase the base capacity of the school. Mr. Searcy noted should the school be rebuilt, there would be a larger capacity and ability to provide educational services.

Trustee Mayberry wondered if there were any unique layouts or facilities that provided a more positive behavioral environment for students to learn. Mr. Mills remarked the newer schools incorporated a number of designs that were more conducive to positive behavior, such as classrooms that were more open to interior corridors and flexible spaces.

Trustee Woodley thanked staff for the information. He was impressed with the thorough analysis and recommendation for a shovel-ready project that could be ready by 2025.

Trustee Church asked what the recommendations were for Earl Wooster High School. Mr. Mills noted CannonDesign was still looking at options and recommendations for all high schools. He believed the recommendations for Earl Wooster High School would be similar to what was planned for the Debbie Smith CTE Academy because they were sister campuses.

5.02 PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE 2022/23 'B' MAJOR PROJECTS PROGRAM THAT INCLUDES PROJECTS THROUGHOUT THE WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

PURSUANT TO THE ATTACHED LIST OF PROGRAM PROJECTS AND ASSOCIATED COSTS FOR EACH PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,500,000 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE CAPITAL FUNDING PROTECTION COMMITTEE

Adam Searcy, Chief Operating Officer, reviewed the recommendation of the Capital Funding Protection Committee. The only recommendation was to initiate the design phase funding of the E. Otis Vaughn Middle School rebuild project in the amount of \$3.5 million. He highlighted the projects included on the improvement program list had largely come directly from the WC-1 ballot question. Since many of those initial projects had been completed, the District was now moving more into the category of "core school investment."

Trustee Mayberry expressed his support for the project. He mentioned that E. Otis Vaughn Middle School was where many students with hearing impairments attended school and that if there were to be an emergency at the school, there was no way to notify the students quickly and easily at the facility.

Trustee Church asked how the rebuild project would work if the intent was to keep the current building open. Mr. Searcy explained the process would be the same as was used for the William O'Brien Middle School rebuild. The design phase would determine how the footprint of the new building would fit on the property.

Trustee Church wondered how the enrollment projection study from 2015 related to the projects for the core schools. Mr. Searcy indicated the District contracted with The Cuningham Group to analyze current school capacity numbers and projected demands, then provide large scale recommendations on how the District could optimally use facilities. The report was used to help the Public Schools Overcrowding and Repair Needs Committee determine the needs of the District and develop the WC-1 ballot question.

Trustee Church inquired if the final report would recommend the closing of certain schools and then options in terms of the property. Mr. Mills stated CannonDesign was looking at all schools in the District as a system and the opportunities available if all options were considered. Some opportunities could involve consolidation to enhance facilities but he was not prepared to make any recommendations at the present time.

It was moved by Trustee Smith and seconded by Trustee Woodley that **the Board of Trustees approves the Washoe County School District Capital Improvement Program, to include the 2022/23 'B' Major Projects Program in the amount of \$3,500,000 to provide for projects throughout the District.** The result of the vote was Unanimous: (Yea: Jeff Church, Adam Mayberry, Ellen Minetto, Diane Nicolet, Joe Rodriguez, Beth Smith, and Alex Woodley.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

Superintendent Enfield thanked the Trustees for their support of the recommendations. E. Otis Vaugh Middle School was one of the first schools she visited in the District and it was obvious the building was in need of large-scale revitalization. She knew the school administration, teachers, students, and families were appreciative of the investment in their community.

5.01 PRESENTATION AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE TWELFTH ANNUAL HOLIDAY CARD CONTEST WINNERS

Michele Anderson, Chief Communications and Community Engagement Officer, and Melissa Gillis, Graphic Communications Specialist, presented the winners of the District's 12th Annual Holiday Card Contest.

Grades K-2 Winner: Arya Lumley, Grade 2, Rollan Melton Elementary School
Grades 3-5 Winner: Ayla Naima Hicks, Grade 5, Roy Gomm Elementary School
Grades 6-8 Winner: Sophia Sowle, Grade 8, Darrel Swope Middle School
Grades 9-12 Winner: Alex Garcia-Tapungot, Grade 11, Damonte Ranch High School

Vice President Nicolet recessed the meeting for 20 minutes.

5.04 QUALITY OF EDUCATION - SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT PRESENTATION TO HIGHLIGHT THE SUCCESS OF THE STUDENTS ATTENDING YVONNE SHAW MIDDLE SCHOOL

The Board received a Quality of Education – School Spotlight presentation on Yvonne Shaw Middle School. Payton Klein was named the Student Superstar. Payton was an 8th grade student. She was not only an exemplary student, but also the first one to greet new students and represented what it meant to be a leader to both students and staff. Staff members provided information on what made Yvonne Shaw Middle School a special place to learn and work. They spoke of the strength of the relationships with students and their families and a supportive culture that had former students return to teach and staff members enrolling their own children. Data on student demographics and performance from 2018 – 2022 was reviewed and showed the school was one of the few middle schools in the District to reach pre-pandemic Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA) scores in English Language Arts and exceed pre-pandemic scores in math. Information on strategies used by educators to increase scores was provided.

5.05 PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ON THE ENTRY PLAN SUMMARY REPORT FOR DR. SUSAN ENFIELD, SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS FOR THE WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Dr. Susan Enfield, Superintendent, conducted a presentation on the summary report for her entry plan. She reminded the Board that her three priorities upon entering the District were to get back to basics, build trust, and create a healthy, supportive, and resilient school system. Highlights and opportunities were presented related to staff engagement, engaging with families and students, working with community leaders and organizations, and analyzing information and collaborating with staff. The next steps in the process would include a comprehensive update during the State of Education address and the development of a new strategic plan.

The Trustees thanked Superintendent Enfield for all her work and willingness to take the time to listen to both the highlights and opportunities in the District. They looked forward to hearing more throughout the remainder of the school year. They expressed their appreciation for the different family and community groups being created, open-mindedness, town halls, and her willingness to be active in the community.

6. Reports

6.01 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

This item was not heard.

6.02 BOARD REPORTS

Members of the Board of Trustees reported on their activities, meetings, and events.

Trustee Minetto was honored and thanked for her service on the Board of Trustees.

6.03 SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Susan Enfield reported on her activities including meetings with staff, community leaders, and the media.

7. Closing Items

7.01 PUBLIC COMMENT

Calen Evans, Washoe Education Association (WEA), thanked Superintendent Enfield for her work with the WEA and the additional stipends and bonus she and the District had been able to provide educators since July. He reviewed some of the ways the District had been able to address challenges, such as additional prep time opportunities on early release Wednesdays and using savings from unfilled allocations to support staff in different ways. He looked forward to continued collaboration between the District and the WEA because changes were starting to happen.

Shannon Coley talked about Administrative Regulation 5161, Gender Identity and Gender Non-Conformity Students. She was specifically concerned about language in the Regulation that stated staff would not discuss a student's transgender or gender non-conforming status to others, to include parents or guardians, unless there was a specific need to know or the student authorized such disclosure. She felt it was important for parents to know that the District believed it was important to keep such vital information from parents. She requested Superintendent Enfield review the Regulation and explain why the District should keep it or why the District should continue to uphold an egregious practice of not providing information to the parents, which she believed to be illegal.

Valerie Fiannaca agreed with Ms. Coley's remarks related to Administrative Regulation 5161. She found it abhorrent the District would have such a Regulation that violated the rights of parents. She was also concerned about a recent political event conducted at a school and how quickly the paperwork was completed and approved. She did not believe the same paperwork would be completed with the same urgency if the group represented a conservative organization.

Colleen Westlake, Trustee-elect, thanked Trustee Minetto for her service to the District. She looked forward to working with all the Trustees as a member of the Board soon. She appreciated the attention being given to special needs students and the focus on helping provide relief to the teachers. She felt it was important to listen to the concerns raised by Ms. Coley because the families were trusting the District with the children.

Mike Croghan remarked that it was important for the District to be transparent and trustful with parents and families; however, the District also needed to be transparent and trustful with the students. He asked the Board to consider allowing the association presidents to sit on the board because they would be voices worth hearing from on a regular basis. He wondered if some of the money earmarked for E. Otis Vaugh Middle School would be better spent on programs and activities for those working inside the building as well as outside.

The Board received an email from Amy Chatowsky.

7.02 NEXT MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

The next Regular Meeting would take place on Tuesday, January 10, 2023.

7.03 ADJOURN MEETING

There being no further business to come before the members of the Board, President Taylor declared the meeting adjourned at 6:08 p.m.

Diane Nicolet, Vice President

Ellen Minetto, Clerk

From: Chatowsky, Amy
Sent: Tuesday, December 13, 2022 3:18 PM
To: BoardMembers
Cc: Evans, Calen
Subject: public comment 7.01

Dear Board Members,

My name is Amy Chatowsky, I teach 5th grade at Rollan Melton ES. I am writing to give you insight to the gross over assessment of my students- all 34 of them. Yes, you read that correctly- I am a general ed teacher servicing 34 students in my classroom. Here is a snapshot of my assessment requirements in December- please keep in mind my students are 10 and 11 years old:

12/2 End of U3W2 Benchmark unit test

12/6 School City Common Assessment 3 ELA

12/7: End of Topic 6 unit test Envision Math

12/8 School City Common Assessment 2 Math

12/15 MAP test Math

12/16 MAP test ELA

(I am also supposed to give the Benchmark U4W1 test, but will probably shelf this)

12/20 School City Common Assessment 4 ELA

Why are there so many assessments? I teach Elementary School and it is the last 2 weeks before the Holidays- so we would usually be making gifts, wrapping up projects, and attending music performances. General SEL activities that grow our culture.

I have been teaching in WCSD for 20 years and every year, more and more assessments are required of our children. We are FATIGUED.

I wish I could be there to speak in person but have a prior commitment. Please reach out with any questions.

Thank you for your time.

Amy Chatowsky, NBCT, M. Ed.

5th grade, Rollan Melton