

**MINUTES OF THE JULY 25, 2023
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

July 25, 2023

1. Opening Items

1.01 CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 2:05 p.m. in the Board Room of the Central Administration Building, located at 425 East Ninth Street in Reno, Nevada.

1.02 ROLL CALL

President Beth Smith and Board Members Adam Mayberry, Diane Nicolet, Joe Rodriguez, and Colleen Westlake were present. Board Member Jeff Church was present via video conference. Board Member Alex Woodley was not present at the time of roll call. Superintendent Susan Enfield, Student Representative Arabelle Deason, and staff were also present.

1.03 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Arabelle Deason, Student Representative, led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.04 LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

President Smith introduced a new agenda item to meetings of the Board of Trustees moving forward. The land acknowledgement was a way to recognize the rich culture and heritage of the indigenous communities on whose ancestral lands we now lived. Land acknowledgements originated with Native American communities and were many centuries old. The following special guests were introduced:

- Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Chairman – James Phoenix
- Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Elder – Reynalda James
- Washoe Tribal Chairman and Executive Board President of the Intertribal Council of Nevada – Serrell Smokey
- Reno-Sparks Indian Colony Tribal Chairman – Arlan Melendez
- Reno-Sparks Indian Colony Vice Tribal Chairwoman – Verna J. Nuño
- Reno-Sparks Indian Colony Council Woman – Robin Eagle
- Reno-Sparks Indian Colony Language and Culture Coordinator and members of the Washoe County School District Parent Advisory Committee for Native American Culture and Education – Stacey Burns

- Nevada Indian Commission Director – Stacey Montooth

A Paiute prayer was offered, and the Shoshone Flag Song performed prior to the reading of the following land acknowledgement:

Every community owes its existence and vitality to generations from around the world who contributed their hopes, dreams and energy to making the history that led to this moment. Some were brought here against their will, some were drawn to leave their distant homes in the hope of a better life and some have lived on this land for more generations than can be counted. Truth and acknowledgement are critical to building mutual respect and connection across all barriers of heritage and difference. We begin this effort to acknowledge what has been buried by honoring the truth.

We acknowledge that some of our educational structures are situated in the traditional homelands of the Wasiw (Washoe), Numu (Northern Paiute), Newe (Western Shoshone), Nuwu (Southern Paiute) peoples. We pay respect to their elders past and present. These lands continue to be a gathering place for Indigenous Peoples, and we recognize their deep connections to these places. We extend our appreciation for the opportunity to live and learn in their territory.

2. Consent Agenda Items

Trustee Church requested Consent Agenda Items 2.07, Possible Action to approve the Safe and Healthy Schools Commission (SHSC) appointment of Annie Aucker, and 2.19, Approval of the creation of two additional Administrative Investigator positions within the Office of the General Counsel, be pulled for additional discussion and consideration.

President Smith opened the meeting to public comment.

Calen Evans, President, Washoe Education Association, spoke to all items on the Consent Agenda. He noted many of the items with financial implications were centered on capital projects; however, there were some discretionary items. While he appreciated the desire to improve the education system through programming and new initiatives, he emphasized that it was equally important for the Board and District leadership to prioritize people over programming. He would like to see the agreements with all bargaining units approved before other discretionary spending items were brought forward to send a strong message that the employees of the District were the priority.

Colbee Rirden, President, Washoe Schools Principals Association, agreed with the comments from Mr. Evans. She mentioned employees had been hearing for months about the unprecedented increase to education funding by the state, but it was frustrating for many that the beginning of the new school year would start without negotiated

agreements in place. She was concerned over the continued struggle to hire people for key positions that directly impacted student learning. She was frustrated the Board would be considering close to \$1 million in discretionary spending that, while important, would not directly impact students. She urged the Board to put people over programs, which would improve the culture and climate in the District and only help to serve the students.

Valerie Fiannaca spoke to Consent Agenda Item 2.13, Approval of Amendment #1 to the agreement for Professional Consultant Services with Black Eagle Consulting for Special Inspections & Testing for JWood Raw (Rio Wrangler) Elementary School for \$48,333. She wondered if there were already problems with a brand-new school because the Board was being asked to approve additional inspections and testing.

John Eppolito expressed concern the Board was going to approve over \$825,000 on software and \$175,000 on administrative positions but the teachers did not have a contract going into the new school year. He mentioned the Board regularly spent tens of millions of dollars on software, but no one was able to tell him the total amount the District spent on student software and programs. He stressed the Board should be more concerned about getting kids off screens and pay the teachers more.

Roger Edwards agreed with Mr. Eppolito. He believed the Board needed to get away from spending millions on software and administrators and focus on traditional education. He claimed Nevada was 49 out of 50 in the state rankings for education and the Board was not doing anything to change that. He felt there were at least 12 items on the Consent Agenda that should not be on the agenda because they did not focus on the quality of education.

The Board received an email from Freeman Holbrook related to the Consent Agenda.

It was moved by Trustee Rodriguez and seconded by Trustee Nicolet that **the Board of Trustees approves Consent Agenda Items 2.02 through 2.06 and 2.08 through 2.18.**

President Smith opened the motion for discussion.

Trustee Mayberry requested clarification on Consent Agenda Item 2.13, Approval of Amendment #1 to the Agreement for Professional Consultant Services with Black Eagle Consulting for special inspections & testing for JWood Raw (Rio Wrangler) Elementary School for \$48,333. Tami Zimmerman, Chief Facilities Management Officer, stated additional testing of construction materials was required because there were multiple concrete loads for the sidewalks. The testing allowed the District to ensure the different concrete loads met the appropriate criteria.

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

- 2.02 The Board of Trustees approved the minutes of the May 9, 2023 Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees.
- 2.03 The Board of Trustees approved the minutes of the May 23, 2023 Work Session of the Board of Trustees.
- 2.04 The Board of Trustees approved the minutes of the May 23, 2023 Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees.
- 2.05 The Board of Trustees approved the payment of the 2023-24 annual membership dues to the Nevada Association of School Boards in the amount of \$23,073.91.
- 2.06 The Board of Trustees approved the appointment of Nichole Loar to the Audit Committee for a 2-year term, ending June 30, 2025.
- 2.08 The Board of Trustees approved an increase to the contract by an estimated amount of \$61,773 for Request for Bid #054-19-11-20, Elevator Maintenance and Repair Service, to TK Elevator for the current term expiring on November 30, 2023 for a revised contract total of \$156,213.
- 2.09 The Board of Trustees awarded Bid #23-90-B-05-AA, Replacement of Air Handlers (Phase 2) at Edward C. Reed High School, to Mt Rose Heating and Air Conditioning, Inc. in the amount of \$7,200,000.
- 2.10 The Board of Trustees awarded Bid #23-93-B-06-AA, Track Surfacing at Damonte Ranch High School, to The Track Doctor, Inc. in the amount of \$215,700.
- 2.11 The Board of Trustees approved the award of Request for Bid (RFB) #165-B-05-23-GS, Health Services Vision Scanners to School Health Corporation, in the estimated amount of \$182,500 for a term of 1-year beginning July 26, 2023, and ending July 25, 2024 with an optional 1-year renewal.
- 2.12 The Board of Trustees approved the 3-year contract with Education Logistics Inc. school bus routing software in the amount of \$405,000.
- 2.13 The Board of Trustees approved the Amendment #1 to the Agreement to Provide Professional Consultant Services with Black Eagle Consulting for

Special Inspections and Testing for Rio Wrangler Elementary School for \$48,333.

2.14 The Board of Trustees approved the joinder contract for financial reporting software with Allovue, inc., in the estimated total amount of \$175,500.

2.15 The Board of Trustees approved the 4th quarter Fiscal Year 2022-23 average daily attendance and pupil-teacher ratios for grades K-3 report to be filed with the Nevada Department of Education.

2.16 The Board of Trustees approved the contract with the University of Nevada, Reno, Behavioral Health and Consulting Services for applied behavior analytic supports and training for 1 year in the amount of \$240,503.

2.17 The Board of Trustees approved the grant application to the Dave and Cheryl Duffield Foundation for the Personalized Learning Program at Incline High School for \$1,287,722.

2.18 The Board of Trustees approved the extension of the Savvas enVision Mathematics Program for the approximate cost of \$416,300 for 2023-24 School Year.

2.07 POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE SAFE AND HEALTHY SCHOOLS COMMISSION (SHSC) APPOINTMENT OF ANNIE ZUCKER, AT-LARGE MEMBER, FOR THE TERM ENDING JUNE 30, 2025

Trustee Church mentioned he was told there were four applicants for the open seat. He had requested to view the other three applications but had never received them and he wondered why. He indicated he was not comfortable selecting the individual recommended without seeing all applications.

President Smith asked if the Board's process outlined in board policy was followed in terms of selecting the recommended candidate. Dr. Paul LaMarca, Chief Strategies Officer, responded in the affirmative. The District received four applications and all four candidates were interviewed. Ms. Zucker was unanimously selected by the interview committee.

President Smith added the board policy required a vote of the Board to review all applications for committee appointments.

Trustee Church expressed frustration over the process and believed, as an elected official, if he wanted to see all the applications, he should only need to request them.

President Smith opened the meeting for public comment.

Valerie Fiannaca agreed that if Trustee Church wanted to see all the applicants, then he should be able to. She noted the Washoe County Commission included all applicants for positions on their agendas so she was unclear why the District could not include all the names. She did not believe the District was being transparent and there were many in the community concerned about how the District vetted applicants for committees.

Trustee Westlake mentioned the resume of the applicant was very impressive; however, she agreed that if a Trustee wanted to see all the applications, then they should be able to. She would have to vote no on the agenda item, not because she did not believe the person was qualified, but because she wanted to honor the request of another Trustee.

Neil Rombardo, Chief General Counsel, stated Board Policy 9100, Public Bodies, was written in such a way to allow the Board to conduct the general business of the District without too many complications. He emphasized when people's names were included on agenda, a chilling effect was created and fewer people would apply for volunteer positions on committees. The Board at the time deferred the application review and interview process to staff in order to create more efficient meetings since they did not want to conduct interviews for committee members at every meeting.

President Smith noted the Board had recently revisited Board Policy 9100 and numerous revisions were made. The process of staff interviewing applicants and making recommendations to the Board for approval was not something that had changed.

It was moved by Trustee Rodriguez and seconded by Trustee Mayberry that **the Board of Trustees approves the appointment of Annie Zucker, At-Large Member, to the Safe and Healthy Schools Commission for a 2-year term ending June 30, 2025.** The result of the vote was 4-2: (Yea: Adam Mayberry, Diane Nicolet, Joe Rodriguez, and Beth Smith. Nay: Jeff Church and Colleen Westlake.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

2.19 APPROVAL OF THE CREATION OF TWO ADDITIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE INVESTIGATOR POSITIONS WITHIN THE OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL TO ASSIST WITH WORKPLACE INVESTIGATIONS, AS WELL AS SAFE AND RESPECTFUL LEARNING ENVIRONMENT INVESTIGATIONS, TO BE FUNDED BY THE GENERAL FUND AT A TOTAL ESTIMATED RECURRING ANNUAL COST OF \$175,000

Superintendent Enfield explained it was important in an organization of close to 8,000 employees that allegations of misbehavior or misconduct in schools were appropriately investigated. The prior process was to have the associate chiefs lead the investigations; however, she did not believe that was appropriate for numerous reasons, such as conflict

of interest having the principals' supervisors lead investigations and that associate chiefs were not trained investigators but instructional leaders. She understood the concerns of adding positions in the central office, but felt it was more important to ensure staff were treated fairly during investigations and the District was not being placed in a position of liability.

Trustee Church agreed with the intent of the request, but disagreed with where the positions would be located. He felt having the investigators under the office responsible for defending the District was not appropriate. Neil Rombardo, Chief General Counsel, mentioned the administrative investigators were currently housed under the Office of the General Counsel. He noted the intent of any investigation was to get to the truth, whatever that truth was related to the safety of students or ensuring due process for staff. Housing the positions in the Office also allowed greater assurances of confidentiality.

President Smith opened the meeting to public comment.

Valerie Fiannaca agreed with Trustee Church that the positions should not be under the Office of the General Counsel. She believed having the positions there was akin to "the wolf watching the hen house." She felt the District could show the community they could be trust if the investigators were under a more independent authority or even conducted by an external investigator.

John Eppolito mentioned the District used to have one investigator and now wanted to increase that number to three. He questioned the need for additional investigators all of a sudden and wondered if they would actually investigate all instances of safe and respectful learning environments, including when teachers were disrespectful to Christian students or when a student quit school because they disagreed with the teacher wanting to focus on LGBTQ+ topics.

Trustee Rodriguez remarked, as someone who worked in public safety, that it was entirely appropriate to have investigators under a legal office. He noted public attorneys had their own investigators, district attorneys had their own investigators, and public defenders had their own investigators.

It was moved by Trustee Rodriguez and seconded by Trustee Nicolet that **the Board of Trustees approves the creation of two additional Administrative Investigator positions within the Office of the General Counsel to promote a Safe and Respectful Learning Environment by conducting staff on student bullying investigations, workplace investigations and investigations related to public complaints, to be funded from the General Fund at a total estimated recurring annual cost of \$175,000.** The result of the vote was 5-1: (Yea: Adam

Mayberry, Diane Nicolet, Joe Rodriguez, Beth Smith, and Colleen Westlake. Nay: Jeff Church.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

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

3.01 PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ON COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED BY THE WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT DURING THE 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR

The individual Trustees, Superintendent Enfield, and Chief Communications and Community Engagement Officer Michele Anderson reviewed the various student, staff, family, and community engagement activities conducted during the 2022-23 School Year. Information was presented on the number of school visits individual Trustees conducted, newsletters issued, ribbon cuttings conducted, and opportunities for families, staff, and students to meet with Superintendent Enfield.

3.02 APPROVAL OF THE GUARANTEED MAXIMUM PRICE 2 (GMP 2) FROM Q&D CONSTRUCTION AS THE CONSTRUCTION MANAGER AT RISK (CMAR) FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF CONSTRUCTION FOR THE REPURPOSING OF PRIOR PROCTER R. HUG HIGH SCHOOL INTO A CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE) HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMY (ALSO KNOWN AS DEBBIE SMITH CAREER AND TECHNICAL ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL), CMAR #20-100-C-05-MS, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$97,606,379 AND APPROVAL OF OWNERS CONTINGENCY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,987,402 FOR A TOTAL OF \$103,593,781

Trustee Westlake disclosed she had a commitment in a private capacity to the owners of Q and D Construction, as such would recuse herself from the discussion and abstain from voting.

Tami Zimmerman, Chief Facilities Management Officer, provided background information on the Debbie Smith Career and Technical Education Academy High School. The agenda item represented the third phase of the project and included construction of the new anchor building and renovations to existing buildings. The District was able to remove a lot of risk for contractors and subcontracts by bidding and awarding the project in phases. All scopes of work related to the project were competitively bid and 91% of awards would go to local contractors. The owner's contingency was larger than other recent projects because of the inclusion of the renovation to existing structures and the subsequent unknowns due to the age of the buildings.

Trustee Nicolet asked how the phased approach reduced the risk for contractors and subcontractors. Ms. Zimmerman explained there was a shorter duration from start to

completion on the phase contracts so there were fewer unknowns about the status of the economy and any market escalation.

It was moved by Trustee Mayberry and seconded by Trustee Rodriguez that **the Board of Trustees approves the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) 2 from Q&D Construction as the Construction Manager at Risk for the Management of Construction for the Repurposing of the prior Procter R. Hug High School into a High School Career & Technical Education Academy, also known as Debbie Smith Career Technical Academy High School, CMAR #20-100-C-05-MS, in the amount of \$97,606,379 and approves an owners contingency in the amount of \$5,987,402 for a total of \$103,593,781.** The result of the vote was 5-0-0: (Yea: Jeff Church, Adam Mayberry, Diane Nicolet, Joe Rodriguez, and Beth Smith. Abstain: Colleen Westlake.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

3.03 PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO CONSIDER, APPROVE, AND/OR AMEND THE DRAFT STUDENT BEHAVIOR MANUAL FOR THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

Dr. Paul LaMarca, Chief Strategies Officer, provided the Trustees with an update on the status of the draft student behavior manual since the June 27, 2023 meeting. The intention for the current meeting was for the Board to provide preliminary approval of the manual so it could be sent to the schools for their review. Final adoption of the manual was anticipated in September 2023.

Trustee Woodley arrived at the meeting at 4:22 p.m. and was present via video conference.

President Smith thanked staff for all their work on the document. She was confident the District had produced a manual that was much improved over prior versions. She appreciated the collaborations among all parties involved in the revision.

Trustee Church indicated that he continued to have concerns with various aspects of the proposed manual, including the heavy inclusion of restorative discipline and restorative practices. He understood the requirements from the state, but believed the District went overboard in their use of the ideologies. He also felt there were too many contradictory statements on when police should be called. He agreed the document had come a long way from where everyone started but would like to continue to see the District try to improve the manual.

Trustee Woodley thanked Dr. LaMarca for listening to the comments and concerns of the Trustees and including their intentions whenever possible.

It was moved by Trustee Rodriguez and seconded by Trustee Nicolet that **the Board of Trustees approves the preliminary draft of the 2023-24 Behavior Manual to be shared with schools for further review and comment.** The result of the vote was 6-1: (Yea: Adam Mayberry, Diane Nicolet, Joe Rodriguez, Beth Smith, Colleen Westlake, and Alex Woodley. Nay: Jeff Church.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

President Smith recessed the meeting for 20 minutes.

3.04 PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED SEXUALITY, HEALTH, AND RESPONSIBILITY EDUCATION (S.H.A.R.E.) 4th AND 5th GRADE CURRICULA, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE S.H.A.R.E. ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Kindra Fox, Director, Secondary Curriculum and Instruction, and Rochelle Proctor, SHARE Coordinator, provided a presentation on the proposed 4th and 5th grade Sexuality, Health, and Responsibility Education (SHARE) curriculum. The SHARE curriculum was grounded in the Nevada Academic Content Standards (NACS) and designed to help students make informed choices. The curriculum was an "opt-in" program so unless parents/guardians provided active permission, the students would not receive the lessons. Parents/guardians were also informed prior to the curriculum being taught and always had the opportunity to change their child's registration. Close to 90% of families opted into the SHARE curriculum. The current 4th and 5th grade curricula were over 20 years old and did not adequately cover the topics of healthy relationships, consent, setting boundaries, and sexual assault. The individual lessons and associated NACS were presented.

Trustee Westlake asked how the terminology used, girl or person with a vulva and boy or person with a penis, was tied to NACS since the books and videos used female anatomy and male anatomy. She was concerned the lessons were providing inaccurate information. Ms. Proctor indicated the terminology was aligned with the NACS for human reproductive systems.

President Smith mentioned the Board had also received public comment from local gynecologists and pediatrician groups in support of use of person with a vulva and person with a penis.

Trustee Westlake disagreed that the terms were aligned to reproduction and that the information was misleading to children because there were only two genders. Ms. Proctor indicated the SHARE Advisory Committee and staff relied on NACS in terms of correctly identifying body parts and terminology.

Trustee Woodley requested clarification on if the curriculum was co-ed or the students were separated. Ms. Proctor noted all students would remain in the same classroom for the lessons.

President Smith asked if the upper grades were taught the SHARE lessons together or separate. Ms. Proctor mentioned all SHARE lessons were taught with all students together.

Trustee Mayberry wondered why the terminology proposed for the 4th and 5th grades was not the same as grades 6 and above. Ms. Proctor highlighted that if the Board approved the new language, staff would go back and address the curriculum in grades 6 through 12 to ensure a common language was used.

Trustee Mayberry inquired as to why all students were in the same classroom for the SHARE lessons. Ms. Proctor remarked, as someone who had taught the lessons to students, that one of the most common questions she received from students was why they were not in the same room as their classmates if they were learning the same thing.

Trustee Church asked if the District would be compliant with state law and policies if the Board did not approve the proposed changes and when the proposed changes would occur if the Board were to approve them. Ms. Proctor and Ms. Fox indicated the District would be compliant with state law, but believed the District would be missing part of the standards for health included in NACS. If the Board approved the proposed changes, staff would implement the changes for the start of the school year.

Trustee Church wondered if the parents had been notified of the changes to the curriculum when they completed the registration process for the upcoming school year.

President Smith countered that staff could not notify parents of the changes because the proposed changes had not been approved by the Board. Parents were provided with the opportunity to review the current curriculum and it would not be appropriate for staff to provide a different curriculum for parents to review until it was approved.

Trustee Westlake questioned why the District was considering using videos that included language which did not align to the proposed changes of person with a vulva and person with a penis, but male anatomy and female anatomy. She indicated she would prefer using references to reproductive anatomy if that was the direction the District was moving in. Ms. Proctor explained the committee, which included medical and human development experts, determined it was important to be inclusive of all students and not only talk about reproductive anatomy. She agreed the language should be consistent with what was included in the videos.

Student Representative Deason remarked that she did not take part in the 4th and 5th grade SHARE curriculum since she lived in a different state at the time. She believed the curriculum was important for students and that it was an awkward topic but the District could help with that awkwardness through consistency, including keeping all students together for the lessons. If everyone was together, then the District could be assured everyone was receiving the same information and there would be no wondering what someone else was learning. She agreed if the terminology was person with a vulva or person with a penis in the younger grades, then it should be the same in the older grades.

President Smith opened the meeting to public comment.

Joni Hammond requested the Trustees vote no on the proposed changes to the SHARE curriculum. She believed there were two sexes and that the proposed curriculum was more like a "how to manual" that was unnecessary for 10- and 11-year-olds. She wanted to see the District focus on science, math, and reading, not sex education.

Linda Duncan appreciated that parents had the ability to opt their children out of the curriculum, but she still felt the Board should vote no. She mentioned she had used similar language on a neighborhood app and was banned for 3 days so it should not be used to teach children. She stated she was a grandmother and a taxpayer and did not believe her money should be going to the District because the school system was terrible.

Valerie Fiannaca mentioned when she had children in school there was a lot of paperwork that always came home and she, like other parents, might have missed some form. She urged the Board to reject the proposed curriculum because it was full of political correctness and sought to normalize the sexualization of children. She believed the curriculum was trying to brainwash children into becoming communists and was the beginning of the destruction of the American culture. She disagreed with the proposed language because only boys had penises and girls had vaginas.

Cliff Nellis believed the problem with society was that it was no longer homogenous, and people did not believe in the Christian principals the country was founded on, including that God created males and females. He did not believe people could change their genders and the District was trying to destroy the culture and heritage with the proposed curriculum. He felt children needed to be taught Christian morality and indicated he would develop a curriculum to teach them a foundation that would allow them to be successful in life.

Ursula Funk indicated she was a former nurse and that there were children born with ambiguous sex organs. She mentioned when that would happen, it would ultimately be up to that child to determine if they were male or female. She expressed frustration

that children were being labeled as immoral because their parents provided them the opportunity to make their own determination as to who they wanted to be. She believed the proposed curriculum was no different than when she taught her children biological and anatomical terms for body parts when they were younger. She urged the Board to approve the proposed curriculum.

Jonathon McNeill was a lifetime Reno resident and alumni of the Washoe County School District. He spoke in support of the proposed SHARE curriculum and was saddened that he had to stand before the Board to advocate for human rights and against violence. He felt the SHARE curriculum he was provided as a former student in the District failed to educate him and his peers about the complexities of sexuality and gender which contributed to the alienation of friends and classmates. He believed the intentional lack of language and acknowledgment of LGBTQ+ topics deliberately excluded members of the community and instilled stigma and bias, which perpetuated a system of oppression and violence. He felt the lessons surrounding boundaries and consent would contribute to a safer school system and community.

Elvira Diaz spoke of the importance of the proposed curriculum using her son as an example. She explained how her son was born with a vulva but asked for a penis when he was 4 years old. She talked of how her son had the support of teachers and administrators from elementary school through high school and how important that support was for him. She hoped other children had parents like herself that were willing to accept and support their children. She believed it was important for the students to be taught the lessons together, so they learned how to respect each other.

Danielle Stroup was a college student and graduate of the Washoe County School District. She spoke in support of the proposed 4th and 5th grade curriculum because it would benefit the youth of the community. She mentioned there were many families, like her own, that had a single parent who relied on the school system to properly educate children with updated information. She hoped to one day send her children to a school system that supported updated information and gender inclusivity in their sex education curriculum.

Mike Norman expressed concern that he did not see the 42% Hispanic community represented at the meeting. He believed the proposed changes to the SHARE curriculum were coming from a small, yet powerful group at the federal level and not a local grassroots organization. He believed the quality of education in America had declined with the advent of the federal Department of Education and that local school boards were being forced to change subject matter to topics that were inappropriate for young children. He urged the Board to do what they knew was right and vote against what federal bureaucrats wanted.

Brooke Westlake indicated she was not related to Trustee Westlake but agreed with her comments that only a girl was a person with a vulva and only a boy was a person with a penis. She indicated she had two sons and was hopeful her youngest son would not be attending school in the District for various reasons, including the proposed changes to the SHARE curriculum. She believed the proposed changes were not factual nor did they follow Nevada Revised Statutes. She declared the job of the Board was to listen to the parents in the community and not place a political agenda in front of 4th and 5th graders.

Bill Sims spoke in support of the proposed SHARE curriculum since the current curriculum was over 20 years old. He believed it was important for students to have medically accurate information and to be inclusive of all genders. He urged the Trustees to vote yes to make sure all students felt included and reminded those opposed to the curriculum that they did not have to sign their children up for the program.

Michele Damon was a nurse and parent in the community. She mentioned she had one biological son and four adopted children, with one of her children identifying as transgender. She commented that all her children asked her to come to the meeting to speak in support of the proposed changes. She believed it was important for adults to listen to the youth in a community and what they wanted in their lives. She mentioned when her children participated in the 4th and 5th grade SHARE program, they would come home wondering why they were separated from others in their class and if one group learned something different. She emphasized that it was important for everyone to understand anatomy so they understood their bodies.

Bri Schmidt spoke in support of the proposed changes to the SHARE curriculum on behalf of Silver State Equality, a civil rights organization for LGBTQ+ individuals in Nevada. Silver State Equality believed it was important for all students to have access to medically accurate and gender inclusive information.

Julie Morrison was a 33-year resident of the area and the mother of sons who attended schools in the District, and who participated in the SHARE program. She explained she was aware of the curriculum she had signed her sons up for and that the lessons provided the opportunity to have candid, factually accurate conversations at home about sex and sexuality. She believed the proposed curriculum was age appropriate and used medically accurate language and illustrations. She urged the Board to keep the program opt-in so if someone did not want their child to participate, they did not have to sign the form.

Alicia Lindsey was a 22-year resident of the area and parent of a 5th grader. She supported the proposed curriculum because she believed it was honest, medically accurate, and age appropriate. She felt the pictures of the body parts were helpful for

children to become familiar with their bodies. She emphasized that talking more, not less, about topics in the curriculum led to healthier, happier, and honest children who would be more willing to talk to trusted adults when they were struggling. She noted the Center for Disease Control and Prevention stated that evidence-based, medically accurate, age appropriate, culturally sensitive, and comprehensive sex education programs had proved to help delay the onset of sexual activity in young people.

Liz O'Brien spoke in opposition of the proposed SHARE curriculum language that referred to people with a vulva and people with a penis. She claimed the job of the school district was to educate, not indoctrinate and that the proposed curriculum had no basis in biology. She believed the language was a way to "backdoor transgenderism ideology." She mentioned that her son was gay but she never believed he should have been born in a female body. She felt pushing gender ideology was just as bad as conversion therapy and that what was occurring with many young women now was a social contagion.

Pastor Craig Dyson mentioned he was the lead pastor of a local church that supported the protection and revival of Christian Judeo values and standards that founded America. He appreciated the questions raised by the Trustees and expressed frustration that staff could not answer questions but continued to claim they were following the standards. He believed the more LGBTQ+ ideologies were imposed upon children, the more society was putting children in a position where they were unable to protect themselves. He disagreed that adults should listen to the children on what they wanted because it was important to follow the wisdom of the elders. He indicated he wanted to see more prayer, not pride, in schools and more teaching of the bible, not catering to a small population of students that were confused.

Vicki Schnabel stated she was a long-time resident of the area and had taught her children to be loving to every person. She believed if the District focused on that, then there were not need to be lessons on how kids could transform themselves. She felt the Board should spend more time on education and not social issues. She remarked that her granddaughter could not read cursive, add, or multiply and the Board should focus on actual education so the students would be qualified to go to college.

Jennifer Cassady was the parent and grandparent of students in the District. She indicated she earned a bachelor's degree in biology and a master's in divinity. She believed the children needed and deserved an education that was both inclusive and medically accurate. As a biologist, she understood gender was a spectrum and more complicated than just male and female. She believed excluding trans children was harmful and that trans and intersex children made up a larger population than redheaded children, but even if there was only one child, then that one child deserved to be protected. She urged the Board to support the proposed curriculum to provide our children with an education that was inclusive and accurate.

Roger Edwards was a 50-year resident of the area and a father and grandfather. He felt if staff could not provide the appropriate information to the Trustees when asked, then it was the duty of the Trustees to vote "no." He believed the District did not have time to focus on providing sex education because they needed to focus on teaching kids to read and basic math. He felt the Board should move away from teaching stuff the young people did not need and provide them with education so they could get a job after graduation.

President Smith interjected prior to Sandee Tibbett beginning her comments. She stated she was aware of the profanity Ms. Tibbett directed at Superintendent Enfield during the Board meeting on June 13, 2023. She stated she would not tolerate any personal attacks, swearing, or other willful disruptions at the meeting. She highlighted the school district was in service to children and their families and everyone should conduct themselves professionally.

Sandee Tibbett spoke in opposition to the proposed changes to the SHARE curriculum. She wondered if those who submitted their comments via email had actually read the new curriculum because they did not take the time to say why they were in support of it. She believed the proposed material was inappropriate for 4th and 5th grade students because children that age should not be thinking about breast size or erect penises, nor did they need to know a penis had to enter a vagina to make a baby. She felt person with a vulva or penis was dehumanizing language that did not belong in a classroom. She did not believe the proposed curriculum was anything other than an outline of a lesson plan so parents would not know what was really being taught. She claimed that forcing boys and girls to view and discuss materials in front of the opposite sex was embarrassing and contributed to the breakdown of modesty.

Kim Bacchus indicated she would prefer the District use definitions students would be able to find in a dictionary when it came to providing 4th and 5th graders with a baseline on gender. She felt a trans student would be confused no matter what they learned in the SHARE program. She agreed factual information should be taught but was concerned if some of the lessons could be triggering to some students who had been sexually assaulted.

Nichelle Hull claimed Washoe County parents were the funders and consumers of their kids' education, so the Board should listen to the parents and what they wanted their children to learn. She indicated there were numerous groups in Washoe County, that parents were active in, who showed parents how to take their children out of the District. She believed the focus on gender ideology was a way for the District to encourage confusion in children. She felt the District should teach risk avoidance sex education because that was what she was raised on and there was not confusion on gender at that time.

J.S. McElhinney III remarked that he was a healthcare professional in had numerous courses in health-related topics. He indicated he learned about XX and XY chromosomes and that there were anomalies in a small percentage of the population, but those cases were rare. He claimed the terminology used for male and females for thousands of years remained the most appropriate. He believed it was natural to experiment with different things, but a desire to change one's biology was not natural. He felt that because children were so susceptible to persuasion by adults that teachers and parents could plant ideas that would cause irreparable harm. He also believed the SHARE program should not begin until the 6th grade.

Alex Milham explained he had recently graduated with a PhD in math and loved working with students who struggled because of the reactions he saw when they realized they could work through their challenges. He mentioned he was a very happy person because he had a supportive community but that had not always been the case as a transgender man. He told his story of being raised in a very conservative environment and the pain of thinking there was something wrong with him. He wanted better for other transgender students in Washoe County and believed the Trustees had the ability to make that happen through an inclusive curriculum with appropriate language.

Adrian Lowry spoke in support of the proposed curriculum. He provided information on some of the factual and historical reasons transgenderism was excluded from medical books and research. He claimed there were many people with hate in their hearts for transgender people and wanted them removed from history, including referring to them as a social contagion. He urged the Board not to erase all the transgender boys and girls in the District but accept and protect them.

Jean Kramer was a retired high school teacher. She indicated she was more concerned about the educational system in general than about the SHARE program. She expressed frustration over the amount of time and money the District was spending on the SHARE program when so many students were failing. She would prefer the Board focus on reading, writing, arithmetic, civics, and government.

Lilith Baran, American Civil Liberties Union of Nevada, spoke in support of the proposed curriculum and thanked the SHARE committee for their work. She noted the many medical professional present who had spoken in support of the proposed revisions because they understood the harmful mental and physical outcomes directly associated with LGBTQ+ discrimination. She urged everyone to take note of the stress they were feeling in the room and that it was the same stress members of the LGBTQ+ population felt all the time. She believed protective programming, such as the SHARE program, against the harms of discrimination and disinformation were imperative to a healthy education and community. She concluded wondering if prior school boards heard similar arguments when discussions related to integration were held because some

people did not believe it was appropriate to have students of certain colors learning with other students.

Kelly Roper stated she had been a member of the SHARE committee since 2017 and was incredibly pleased with the work and caring Ms. Proctor put in to developing the lessons. She mentioned how often Ms. Proctor was responsive to change based on committee discussions and public comments. She provided the Board with information on the meeting where the proposed curriculum was voted on and the hours of personal insults hurled at committee members, with no attempts at providing solutions to their concerns. She understood sex education was an emotional topic, but members of the public should come prepared to help create inclusive curriculums instead of just telling the committee or Board they were wrong. She believed the proposed curriculum was factual and wished her daughters had the opportunity to experience it because she preferred, they feel empowered to know what was going on with their own bodies. She concluded by noting having all students together for the lessons would help build compassion for each other when the students began facing their own embarrassing changes.

Valerie White spoke in opposition to the proposed SHARE curriculum. She believed the Board was acting as "Lucifer's evil agents" when they supported teaching children to be confused about whether they were a boy or a girl. She claimed the Board was supporting the grooming of children and acceptance of pedophilia.

Victoria Myer agreed with Ms. White and urged the Board to vote "no" on the proposed SHARE curriculum. She believed that talking about people with a vulva or people with a penis was objectifying them and treating them as if they had no feelings or rights of their own. She claimed that by objectifying the children, the District would be dehumanizing them and imparting negative effects on their psychological development.

Felicia Perez remarked she had an undergraduate degree in sociology and a master's degree in curriculum and instruction, as well as being sick and disabled. She mentioned that because upon entering the building, she went through a number of doors with automatic door openers so people like herself were able to access the building, even though there were not many disabled people at the meeting. The automatic doors were there because in 1990, the Americans with Disabilities Act was approved, and facilities were required to accommodate a small number of people who might access a building. She believed the proposed SHARE curriculum was similar in teaching that people with vulvas and people with penises were appropriate ways of identifying others, even if you did not identify as such yourself.

Emily Hobson was a professor at the University of Nevada, Reno and spoke in support of the proposed SHARE curriculum. She believed the proposed curriculum would help protect children by teaching them basic and accurate information about gender and

sexual health to support their safety and well-being. She explained there were about 30 variations of intersex conditions that represented around 2% of the global population, which translated into about 1,200 students in a school district with 60,000 students. She emphasized that if Nevada wanted to improve their state education rankings, then it was important for the school districts to bring themselves up to the same inclusive standards as top performing states. She claimed the backlash against the proposed curriculum was part of a long history of reactionary organizing by people whose agendas were tied to excluding those who did not look or think like themselves.

Macy Berndt spoke in opposition to the proposed SHARE curriculum. She believed the District should focus on teaching math, writing, and science so parents would trust the District was preparing the children for future academic success. She felt sex education was not a curriculum that should be taken lightly or molded to fit harmful ideologies intended to confuse children, but a curriculum that provided factual and comprehensive medical information about human sexuality, anatomy, reproduction, and healthy relationships. She expressed frustration over the talk of having an inclusive curriculum but ignoring those who wanted to include religious beliefs or those who opposed transgender ideologies.

Rabbi Benjamin Zober stated, as a biblical scholar, that the idea of male and female as exclusive to other genders was not supported by biblical text and that Judeo tradition had recognized at least seven genders since the 2nd century. He noted the proposed SHARE curriculum was based in science and was age appropriate, which should always be the intent of the educational system. He emphasized that science continued to change so it was important to recognize there were different understandings of sex and gender than when many people commenting first learned about the topics. He indicated he was a member of the SHARE Committee and spoke of the work done by the Committee to ensure the curriculum was appropriate and grounded in science.

Andrea Thompson was a member of the SHARE Committee and dual certified as a family practice and psychiatric health care provider in the community. She spoke of the reasons using appropriate language, such as person or body with a vulva or penis, was important for a healthcare standpoint, especially for transgender youth. She noted that Nevada was behind in education, but the state did rank number 1 for syphilis, ranked high for other sexually transmitted diseases, and had high teen pregnancy rates. She believed the only way for the community to move the needle in terms of protecting teens and young adults was to provide them with the appropriate information when they were younger. She warned that if the schools did not provide the information, children would get it from the internet and that would not move Nevada forward in a positive way.

James Benthin spoke in opposition to the proposed SHARE curriculum and the SHARE program in general. He believed the program introduced sexualization at a young age

and violated the innocence of children. He felt kids needed adults to speak against the program to protect them.

Tyler Pacheco spoke in support of the proposed SHARE curriculum. He believed the state standards should be considered the bare minimum in terms of what should be taught and the District had to go beyond those standards to protect children. He mentioned around 60% of trans-individuals realized they were trans before they turned 10 years old, which meant providing the information in the 4th and 5th grades was the most appropriate time for the information. He noted the demographics of those in support of the new curriculum were younger people, medical professionals, professors, and others close to the classroom. He believed it was important to trust those who were closer to the students.

John Eppolito stated he would like to see the opt-in provision continued and the Board agree to maintain that status moving forward. He disagreed with the salary of the SHARE Coordinator and would prefer those funds be used to pay for three new teachers because he continued to see the quality of education decline in the District.

President Smith requested clarification on the opt-in provision. Neil Rombardo, Chief General Counsel, stated the opt-in provision was set by Nevada Revised Statute 389.036 and if a parent failed to respond, the child would not be able to attend the program.

Lydia Taylor spoke in support of the proposed SHARE curriculum. She stated she was the parent of LGBTQ+ students in the District and had witnessed the devastating impact of anti-LGBTQ+ bullying and exclusions. She believed the simple acknowledgement of variations in gender identity and sexual orientation would make a significant difference in many students' social experiences at school. She felt the benefits of providing a curriculum that acknowledged the existence of LGBTQ+ outweighed the risk of a small number of students interpreting the lessons as pro LGBTQ+.

Erika Minaberry expressed her support for the proposed SHARE curriculum because it was medically accurate and appropriate. She stated she had two trans kids and that she did not know what it meant to be trans until she had trans kids. She noted there was medical science behind being trans, as well as cultural acceptance. She concluded by providing information about a friend who was a trans-woman who committed suicide by setting herself on fire because she believed it was easier to be burned alive than to exist as a trans person.

The Board received emails from the following:

Richard Petersen

Linda Sinclair

Andrea Kinney

Gayle Valdes

Susan Hughes

Greta de Jong

Thelma Matlin	Krystal Peake	Dr. Christina Raman
Nancy Young	Kristen Davis-Coelho	Gaia Brown
Bonnie Hill	Adriana Hernandez-	Sarah Gobbs
Teresa Wachs	Chavez	David Titzel
Meredith Ford	Leslie Hasvold	Carole Chouinard
Gail Grundmann	Michael Olinger	Jazmyn Horton
Yvonne Wood-	Catherine High	Josh Richmond
Antonuccio	Jessica Oberg	Kelly Schuermann
Rosalind Bedell	Zoie Barnes	Penelope LePome
Stephanie Ball	Diana Bandt	Elizabeth Willmer
Susan Hoog	Ashley Beerman	Alison Gaulden
Roberta Gerber	Pam Larsen	Brinn Rasmusson
Nancy Young	Leigh Mayers	Jenny Snaza
David	Renna Hickey	Andrew Willmer
Glynda Wilson	John Compisi	Janet Butcher
Jennifer Tibben	Ben Hoover	Jason McGregor
Beth Blankenship	Shannon Manning	Laynette Evans
Lenore Cornille	Bambi Gillette	Julie Adams
Emily Hart	Sean Hill	John Osborne
Anthony Shafton	Lauren Babb	Deborah Nicholas
Cam Gorinier	Valerie Ballard	Katy Chandler-Isacksen
Cyndee Gaynor	Briana Escamilla	Stephen Novacek
Carissa Snedeker	Jenna Dewar	Brielle Bjorke
Kay Henjum	Danielle Kanekoa	Ed Miller
Claire	Meredith Tanzer	Kaitlyn Van Kirk
Sheila Freed	Jill Pellicciarini	Amber Falgout
Stephanie Schoen	Callie George	Jenna Cole
Judi Hein	Maria Cristina Phillips	Kristin Williams
Deborah Achtenberg	Raimi Walken	Mary Federico Katz
Reed Williams	Josh Reed	Andrea Lee Charles
Allan Ferrenberg	Ryan Richardson	Jonnie Pullman
Midori Ishibashi Wall	Emily Rankin	Christopher Nicholson
Amy Wolfe	Bryt	Suzanne Williams
Anneliese Murrillo	Cynthia Cooper	Kristen De Haan
Thomas Webb	Aaron Dewar	Meghan McGowan
Erika Tribett	Kay Winchester	Eric Lerude
Zanayda Braxton	Donnelyn Curtis	Megan B
Gabby Nickel	Bruce Foster	Dave Maass
Bailey Falk	Dr. Jennifer Mortensen	Beth Martin
Paola Godinez	Pamela Payne	Charles Elliot
Paige Guest	Lois Bianchi	Nancy Lindsey
Kerry Stendell	David Bianchi	Karen
Shelby McAuliffe	Lynn Kocher	Elizabeth Burton

Hailey Lindsley	Barbara Twitchell	Casey Cooper
Carol Cooke	Janice Flanagan	Cara Dyson
Joyce Newman	Sr. Sara Working	Robin Turner
Graeme Reid	Xo	Therese & Patrick Class
Mewgan Mather	Ethan Clift	Rockey Polito
Serena Evans	Lori Kazmer	Jill Raduziner
Chelsea Hansen	YeVonne Allen	Kelly C.
Lea Moser	Ariel Van Cleve	Lori Mendez
Heather Carpenter	Emily Freeman	Dr. Mariko Rajamand
Molly Willoughby	Ethan B.	Scot Krause
G. Russell	Philip Moore	Yolanda Ortega-Gamill

President Smith recessed the meeting for 15 minutes.

President Smith thanked everyone who came to provide public comment and those who emailed their comments. She appreciated all the stories that were shared and the different backgrounds and perspectives provided. She believed in the existence of all people and that they all mattered. She felt it was the messages and stories that emphasized why inclusive and medically accurate sexual health and responsibility education was necessary. The fact that the program was opt-in allowed everyone to get what they wanted because if someone disagreed with the content, they did not have to sign their children up for the program. She respected the choice of the parents and if the parents wanted to keep conversations about sex education in private, then that was their choice; however, if parents wanted their children to participate in the SHARE program, they also had that choice.

Trustee Rodriguez commented, in response to a question about where the Hispanic families where, that he and Trustee Woodley were both Latino and represented about 30% of the Board of Trustees. He agreed the curriculum needed to be updated and that it was appropriate for everyone to participate in the lessons together. He was concerned about comments that harkened back to “the good old days” because he was never sure what that meant and if it meant a time when segregation was allowed, women could not vote, or what. He also knew how important it was to listen to what the students wanted because they were the future. He mentioned he would like to see additional information included in the SHARE curriculum about grooming awareness because human trafficking was a large problem in the community.

Trustee Woodley emphasized the SHARE curriculum was mandated by Nevada Revised Statutes and there were many households, like his when he was growing up, where sex education was not provided. He appreciated the expanded scope of what was covered in the curriculum and the information about hygiene. He indicated that religion was important to him, and he did not feel there was anything in the curriculum that concerned or disrespected his religion.

Trustee Nicolet thanked everyone who attended the meeting to comment and those who emailed. She was concerned about the videos being used because some were silly and not insightful. She provided examples of some of the videos she had concerns with. She appreciated the SHARE curriculum included risk avoidance education and she did not have a problem with the language used, to include person or people.

Trustee Church believed the proposed curriculum should be sent back to staff because there were so many concerning issues. He felt the curriculum would alienate and marginalize at least half of the community and result in more students not receiving the SHARE curriculum. He also believed the District would find itself in expensive litigation because the curriculum ignored constitutional religious liberties. He disagreed with the inclusion of LGBTQ+ material and felt it went beyond the legal requirements in Nevada Revised Statutes. He also believed there were numerous problems with how the proposed curriculum was shared with the community for their review and violations of Board policy and administrative regulations occurred. Mr. Rombardo stated Nevada Revised Statutes required school districts to teach a SHARE curriculum but did not require school districts teach a religious curriculum. He highlighted that gender identity or expression was also considered a protected class under the Nevada Constitution and multiple circuit courts had recently found in favor of protections for transgender rights.

Trustee Westlake remarked that she supported the SHARE curriculum because it was important; however, she disagreed with the proposed revisions because she did not feel everyone was represented in the new language. She liked some of the videos, especially the one on what made a good friend, which she would like to see shown to all students, not just those in the SHARE program. She disagreed with the medical accuracy of some of the information and believed that if gender was going to be discussed that it be done in a fully transparent manner that gave the transgender community the courtesy and respect they deserved. She wanted to see the curriculum go farther than the proposed language did.

Trustee Mayberry thanked staff for all their work. He admitted he was a little frustrated in having to be in the position of debating the importance of sex education in the 21st century. He supported the revisions because they acknowledged the existence of gender identity and gender expression. He agreed that a review of the videos needed to occur and wondered if that should be included as part of the motion.

Superintendent Enfield indicated, based on the discussion, she would directed staff to review all videos included in the curriculum. If changes were needed, they would be brought back to the Board for consideration.

It was moved by Trustee Rodriguez and seconded by Trustee Nicolet that **the Board of Trustees approves the proposed 4th and 5th Grade Sexuality, Health and**

Responsibility Education (S.H.A.R.E.) curricula, as recommended by the S.H.A.R.E. Advisory Committee. The result of the vote was 5-2: (Yea: Adam Mayberry, Diane Nicolet, Joe Rodriguez, Beth Smith, and Alex Woodley. Nay: Jeff Church and Colleen Westlake.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

Trustee Woodley left the meeting at 8:34 p.m.

4. Reports

4.01 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

This item was not heard for time.

4.02 BOARD REPORTS

This item was not heard for time.

4.03 SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

This item was not heard for time.

5. Closing Items

5.01 PUBLIC COMMENT

Sandee Tibbett mentioned she came to the meetings and provided comments about what was occurring in the schools because she knew parents were afraid of what would happen to their children if they came to the meeting and spoke out against the District. She claimed her intention when she provided comments was to protect children and push back against radical and progressive agendas that were filling their minds with sexually charged ideologies and poisoning them.

The Board received an email from G. Russell.

5.02 NEXT MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

The next Regular Meeting would take place on Tuesday, August 8, 2023.

5.03 ADJOURN MEETING

There being no further business to come before the members of the Board, President Smith declared the meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

Elizabeth Smith, President

Joseph Rodriguez, Clerk

From: RICHARD PETERSEN
Sent: Monday, July 10, 2023 3:55 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Gender identity, Pronouns, CRT, DEI and 1619 project

In no way am I threatening or complaining about any board member. I want no harm to come to any of you. I just wanted to share my views!

It is disturbing to see news everyday showing school districts trying to limit parent involvement in the education of their children. Despite what Biden says the children are not possessions of the state, they are wards of their parents. Parents have a right to know what is being taught.

Teachers don't need to sugar coat US history, but they should not teach revisionist history that portrays the US in a poor light. CRT, DEI and the 1619 project are having a negative impact on our youth. 75% of military age young people can't pass the physical test to enter any service. Many districts are pushing for students to have gender reassignment surgery and treatment without parental consent or knowledge. Biological men are competing against young woman athletes. How is that fair? The strange practice of "pronouns" begs common sense. I hope Washoe County Schools are teaching the three R's and STEM classes.

Our nation is far behind many other countries including China, our enemy. If we are to survive as a nation we need to teach the hard subjects to our students so they can compete in a technologically advanced economy. Apprenticeship training in trades is an excellent means of gaining needed skills. Not everyone needs to go to college, but everyone needs a higher education.

I, and most people, do not want any harm to come to LGBTQ or transgender persons. They have a right to live their lives in peace, as do the rest of us. Informed, adult decisions are to be respected. Privacy for the individual is a right. The golden rule should be followed, love one another as you love yourself. It is supposed to go both ways.

I don't know if WCSD is doing any of the things I have listed. I'm 80 years old and all my children have left home decades ago. I just hope that WCSD decision making aims at graduating productive, educated citizens who are prepared to meet the challenges of the future.

Thank you for your time.

Richard Petersen

From: gayle valdes
Sent: Tuesday, July 11, 2023 8:23 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comment for SHARE curriculum

Hello

It is silly the phrases “bodies with penises/vulvas...” are used ad nauseum. Just use the words girls and boys/male and female!! That whole issue has been absolutely driven to insanity.

Why refer to hormones as “raging”? To me, that is slang.

I really like the lesson about self-care, self-love, etc.

I don’t agree with teaching 5th graders about sexual orientation.

Sent from my iPad

From: Linda Sinclair
Sent: Friday, July 14, 2023 12:37 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SHARE

I am in support of the adoption of the Washoe County 4/5 SHARE program. Since it is an opt in program, I am not involved in other families choices. Other families should not involve themselves in my family's choices.

From: Sue Hughes
Sent: Saturday, July 15, 2023 10:29 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Medically Accurate Sex Ed

Please vote yes on the SHARE curriculum on July 25th.
Thank you...

Susan Hughes

Incline Village, NV 89450

From: Andrea Reed Kinney
Sent: Sunday, July 16, 2023 9:04 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SHARE curriculum

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to share my support for the adoption of the SHARE curriculum. Medically accurate and inclusive sexual health education is extremely important for our students to have access to. I appreciate the effort made by the committee to include many members of the community to help develop this curriculum and I respect that this will be an OPT IN program for students. I think tremendous effort has been made to be sensitive to the concerns of families while also creating curriculum that honors scientific accuracy and inclusivity. All students deserve to feel represented in the sex ed curriculum. I think this effort to work together and bridge differences should be celebrated. Please adopt the SHARE curriculum at the next board meeting vote.

Thank you,
Andrea Kinney

From: Greta de Jong
Sent: Sunday, July 16, 2023 3:21 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public comment on SHARE curriculum for July 25 Board of Trustees meeting

I am a long-time resident of Reno and I support adoption of the SHARE curriculum for 4th and 5th grade in the Washoe County Schools. The SHARE curriculum was developed by a rigorously vetted committee of experts and stakeholders that includes teachers, counselors, health professionals, and parents. I have reviewed the SHARE curriculum and found the materials to be very clear, engaging, inclusive, and age-appropriate. Parents who disagree with it do not have to expose their children to these materials—in fact, parents must opt-in in order for their children to have access to it.

There is no reason to reject this curriculum, as some have demanded. The public schools belong to all of us and must represent the diverse religious, political, and social values of all people in our region. Allowing a small minority of MAGA conservatives organizing under the banner of “parents’ rights” to impose their world view on the school system would greatly damage the public schools, the children who attend them, and our democracy.

Greta de Jong

From: Thelma Matlin
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2023 12:41 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] 4/5 SHARE Program

I think that the Washoe County School Board should vote to approve the 4/5 SHARE program. It should be an opt - in program.

Thelma Matlin

Reno, NV 89519

Sent from my iPad

From: Nancy Young
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2023 12:44 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SHARE

I support the adoption of the Washoe County Schools SHARE program for grades 4 and 5.

Nancy Young

From: bonnie hill
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2023 12:46 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] 4/5 SHARE

Honorable School Board Members;
Please pass the 4/5/SHARE program for Washoe County Schools.
I am 78 yrs old; seen so many awful situations crop up because YOUNG teens had no knowledge of sex, health, and responsibility about sex. Among those are passing HIV Aids and venereal diseases; unwanted pregnancies carried to term; unwanted pregnancies terminated at homeno medical attention; unwanted pregnancies where mother does not have adequate nutrition, and does not have insurance or money to get medical attention....resulting in tragedy for the mother or the baby. The father of the baby is usually not present in the raising of the baby--tragic for everyone involved.Responsibility for the pregnancy and or HIV and other venereal diseases is ignored....because pre-teens and young teens know nothing about them.
Sexual involvement is a natural imperative.... so Let's start giving kids some information to go with that.
please vote yes for 4/5SHARE.
Bonnie Keith Hill

Reno, NV

From: Teresa Wachs
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2023 1:45 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Washoe Schools SHARE program

Hello,

I would like to express my support for the adoption of the Washoe Schools SHARE program for grades 4/5.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.
Teresa Wachs

Sent from my iPhone

From: Larry and Meredith
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2023 2:01 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SHARE program

I am in support of the SHARE program in our school district.

Meredith Ford

Reno 89511

From: gail grundmann
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2023 2:10 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] 4/5 share

[

Please support the 4/5 share program. This is such an important issue . We cannot ignore the impact on our children . They need this education.

Thank you Gail Grundmann

Sent from my iPhone

From: yvonnewood
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2023 2:14 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SHARE program

Dear Trustees

I am a retired clinical psychologist and parent of a child who attended SHARE. I also served on the board of SHARE about 15 years ago. I think it is an excellent program and I believe my son profited from attending the program. I fully support the 4/5 optional program.

Yvonne Wood-Antonuccio, PhD

From: Rosalind Bedell
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2023 2:43 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SHARE program

I am in support of the adoption of the Washoe Schools SHARE program for Grades 4 and 5.
Rosalind Bedell

From: Stephanie Ball
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2023 2:43 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Share program

I am in support of the adoption of the Washoe Schools SHARE program for grades 4/5.

Reno, NV 89509

Sent from my iPhone
Stephanie Ball

From: SUSAN HOOG
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2023 9:28 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SHARE

Hi!

I am in support of the adoption of the Washoe Schools SHARE program for grades 4/5.

I appreciate what you do.

Thank you,
Susan Hoog
Realtor Ferrari-Lund



IMPORTANT NOTICE: Never trust wiring instructions sent via email. Cyber criminals are hacking email accounts and sending emails with fake wiring instructions. These emails are convincing and sophisticated! For sure! Always independently confirm wiring instructions in person or via a telephone call to a trusted and verified phone number of your title officer or agent. Never wire money without double checking that the wiring instructions are correct! 🤔

From: Roberta Gerber
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2023 10:16 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Share

I am in favor of adopting the Washoe Schools SHARE program for grades 4-5

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

From: Nancy Young
Sent: Tuesday, July 18, 2023 6:58 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SHARE PROGRAM

I support the adoption of the SHARE program for grades 4/5.

Nancy Young

From:
Sent: Tuesday, July 18, 2023 1:36 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Regarding Sexual Education

The importance of sexual education cannot be understated. The better education we have regarding sexuality the better our children. I know that some are opposed to it, but I feel that their arguments are not valid. We need to teach people that there is no shame in our own biology. It is something that growing up I have suffered from. I don't want the same for our children. I want them to know that it is okay to have these feelings, but also to know the dangers that can happen alongside it. Make sex education better so that it will help the community.

Thank you,
David

From: Glynda Wilson
Sent: Wednesday, July 19, 2023 12:54 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SHARE

I, as a patron of WCSD, am in favor of the proposed changes to the Sexual Health and Responsibility Education program. These changes would allow the curricula to be more medically accurate and inclusive."
Please consider approving the changes that will benefit all students of the Washoe County School Community.

Sincerely,

Glynda Wilson

Reno, NV 89508

From: Jennifer Tibben
Sent: Wednesday, July 19, 2023 2:26 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SHARE curriculum

I am writing to voice my SUPPORT for the proposed curriculum. I feel the curriculum should be more medically accurate and inclusive! Thank you!

Jennifer Tibben

Department Chair & Choir Director, Damonte Ranch HS
Artistic Director, Bella Voce
Conductor, Reno Philharmonic Chorus
Lifelong Repertoire & Resources Coordinator,
Western Division American Choral
Directors Association

Never take away anyone's hope. It may be the only thing they have.

From: Beth Blankenship
Sent: Wednesday, July 19, 2023 2:40 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] I support the proposed the Curriculum!

Dear WCSD,

In these volatile times, I believe it is very important that we teach/provide our children with accurate information. I definitely support the sciences. So, I find this proposed change to be important and necessary. It is foremost that we educate our children so they can make wise decisions in this ever changing world.

Thank you
P Beth Blankenship
Reno, NV 89502

*please support the proposed curriculum.

From: Lenore Cornille
Sent: Wednesday, July 19, 2023 4:44 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public comments on sex education material

Dear sirs and madams.

I am a great supporter of medically and scientifically accurate information with education for our youth. Education should not be biased by some people's religious or ethical views but it should be based on clear and accurate science. I highly encourage you to allow science and medicine to guide your sexual education to our youth. Only when they have accurate information can they make informed decisions. Please do not fold to conservative viewpoints the discount the accurate scientific and medical evidence about sexual education. Thank you so much for your time.

Lenore Cornille Reno Nevada 89521

From: Emily Hart
Sent: Thursday, July 20, 2023 5:23 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Gender inclusive medically accurate sex Ed in schools

Children need to know the truth about human sexuality as they become sexually mature. Children need accurate information and positive support in making decisions about their own sexuality. Let's avoid hysteria.
Thanks, Emily Hart

Sent from my iPhone

From: Anthony Shafton
Sent: Thursday, July 20, 2023 8:41 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Sex ed

Please do not be scared off from approving the SHARE curriculum by regressive ideologues.

--
Anthony Shafton
Reno, NV 89509

From: Cam Gordinier
Sent: Wednesday, July 19, 2023 2:51 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Vote yes for 4/5 Share program

To the Washoe Schools Trustee

I am in support of the adoption of the Washoe Schools Shares Program for grades 4/5. Urging you to vote yes. Thank you.

Cam Gordinier

From: Cyndee Gaynor
Sent: Wednesday, July 19, 2023 6:16 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SHARE Program...

I support the proposed curriculum of gender inclusive, medically accurate sex education.

From: Carissa Snedeker
Sent: Thursday, July 20, 2023 6:07 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for 4th and 5th grade SHARE curriculum

Dear School Board Trustees,

I am writing to let you know that I support approval of the 4th and 5th grade SHARE curriculum. I have reviewed it and see that it is science-based and inclusive and that is so good for all our kids. I like how it focuses on not just the physical changes the kids will experience, but the emotional changes as well and that while puberty can be a confusing time, knowing what to expect can give them a leg up in navigating their world.

I will try to be there in person, but I have a doctor's appointment that may preclude me from doing so. I know there may be louder voices than mine, but they don't represent the majority.

Sincerely,

Carissa Snedeker
Sparks

From: Kay Henjum
Sent: Thursday, July 20, 2023 10:00 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SHARE

Hello,

I would like to encourage you to adopt the SHARE program for grades four and five.

I am a retired 4th grade teacher who understands the need for factual, medical based information to be shared with our students. As a teacher, I was very appreciative of the professional manner in which the SHARE teachers presented their information and the respect they required the students to give the subject matter. Too many students are willing to believe what they hear on the playground from their uninformed peers, and this can lead them into bad situations. The fact that parents can opt out of the program is dangerous enough on its own, but it certainly allows for the parent choice that some parents need.

As a child, I came from a home where Sexuality and Health education were NOT talked about. When I first started menstruating, I was scared to death! I was scared to tell my mother, thinking something was wrong with me. It is very important that our students get accurate, age appropriate information in a timely manner. I've had many fourth grade students over the years who started into puberty, and it scares me to think that they many not get the information they need.

Thank you for adopting the SHARE curriculum and making the decision that will be best for our students and our community.

Kay Henjum, M. Ed. NBCT

From: Claire Hall
Sent: Thursday, July 20, 2023 10:48 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment Regarding 7/25 Meeting

To the Board of Trustees,

My name is Claire and I was born and raised here in Reno, Nevada. I attended a school that provided religious-based "sex-ed" in which we learned about practicing abstinence, and almost nothing else. It was not informative whatsoever, and caused for a lot of my classmates to be thrown into a world with no knowledge on our own bodies and how to protect ourselves and take care of ourselves. This is dangerous, and I know multiple of my classmates ended up with unwanted pregnancies at young ages because of this. They received abortion care.

I believe in preventing unwanted pregnancies, and giving young people the power to understand their bodies, and protect them and take care of them, with medically accurate information. This is vitally important to the young people of Washoe County and beyond. Please support this curriculum change.

Sincerely,
Claire

From: Sheila Freed
Sent: Thursday, July 20, 2023 1:47 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SHARE Curriculum

Hello, School Board Members,

I have just reviewed the proposed curriculum for 4th and 5th graders in what some refer to as "sex education." I was quite impressed, and I respectfully request that you support it.

The material presented appears to be carefully crafted to be factual and objective, non-judgmental and inclusive. I don't understand why anyone would object to this content. In this internet age when children have so much information available, it is extremely important that they receive accurate, non-biased information free of violence, exploitation, and so much more. I was particularly pleased to see the lesson on consent. As someone who has worked with victims of both domestic violence and child abuse, I know it is very important to get this information to young people. I urge you to implement this curriculum as soon as approved.

Respectfully,
Sheila Freed

Reno NV 89509

From: Stephanie Schoen
Sent: Thursday, July 20, 2023 5:01 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SHARE program support

To the Washoe County School District,

I put my full support behind the SHARE program for 4th & 5th graders. Failure to provide the opportunity for this critical information to this age group would be unfair to the kids. The parents don't always know this information themselves, or don't have the skills or relationship with their kids necessary to providing the right information at the right time. I say approve this program!

Furthermore, allowing parents to opt out for kids respects their rights, yet there might be a way to make them more comfortable with it before they make that decision. Perhaps they should be invited preview the information beforehand so they understand exactly what their child will be missing. Just an idea...

Regards,

Stephanie Schoen, M.A., OTR/L

From: Judi Hein
Sent: Thursday, July 20, 2023 6:07 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Share program

I am strongly in favor of the Share program. It is essential for our children to learn these things in an educational environment. Please pass the Share program.

Judi Hein
Reno, NV 89511

From: Deborah Achtenberg
Sent: Thursday, July 20, 2023 8:46 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please support the SHARE program

Dear Washoe County School Board members,

I strongly urge you to support SHARE.

I have looked over the SHARE curriculum and see nothing in it that is not age appropriate. As an educator, I think sometimes we underestimate our students. They can understand and absorb a lot, both intellectually and emotionally. We don't want to hold our students back, after all!

Students today are exposed to many of the topics treated in the curriculum anyway—on social media, for example. All the more reason to expose them to a thoughtful, well-developed curriculum which includes accurate content.

For your information, I am a long-time Reno resident. I have lived in Reno for forty-one years (twenty-five years at my current address).

Thank you.

Truly,

Deborah Achtenberg

Reno, Nevada 89509

From: Reed Williams
Sent: Friday, July 21, 2023 10:11 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Approve Changes to the Sex Ed. Curriculum

I urge the School Board to approve the changes to the Sex Ed curriculum at the Washoe County School District Sexual Health Education (WCSD Share) approval meeting on July 25. Thank you

Reed Williams

Sent from my iPad

From: Allan Ferrenberg
Sent: Friday, July 21, 2023 10:52 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Share curriculum

I strongly urge the Trustees to approve the SHARE curriculum, or at least something very close to it.

Allan Ferrenberg
Reno, NV 89521

From: Midori Ishibashi Wall
Sent: Friday, July 21, 2023 11:44 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SHARE Program

Dear WCSD Board of Trustees,

I'd like to voice my strong support of the proposed changes to the SHARE program. These changes will bring Washoe County's sexual health education curricula up to the standards suggested by the American Academy of Pediatrics.

They will allow the information our children receive to be more medically accurate and inclusive, which in turn will allow them to make more informed decisions about their bodies and relationships. More knowledge--- and accurate knowledge--- after all, are what an education system should strive to provide.

Thank you for your service.

Respectfully,

Midori Ishibashi Wall

From: Amy Nichols
Sent: Saturday, July 22, 2023 10:20 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Washoe County Sex Ed Curriculum

Hello,

I am a local community member and homeowner, who plans to send my kids to Washoe County Schools. I also attended Reno high school and the university of Nevada, Reno.

I SUPPORT the proposed curriculum for sex Ed for 4th and 5th graders. A strong sex Ed curriculum not only vastly improved the lives of individuals, but also has demonstrated huge economic benefits in regards to savings in social programs, healthcare, and mental health services.

Simply put, gender neutral and gender affirming care SAVES LIVES.

Cordially,
Amy Wolfe

From: Anneliese Murillo
Sent: Saturday, July 22, 2023 11:38 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Sex Education

I'm a resident of Washoe County and I support the proposed sex ed curriculum for fourth and fifth graders. Anneliese Murillo

From: Thomas Webb
Sent: Saturday, July 22, 2023 11:41 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Sex Ed Curriculum for 4th and 5th Graders

To whom it may concern,

As a resident of Washoe County, I support the purposed sex ed curriculum for 4th and 5th graders to include inclusive and medically accurate information.

Cheers!
Thomas

From: Erika Tribett
Sent: Saturday, July 22, 2023 12:01 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Sex Ed curriculum

I support the proposed sex Ed curriculum for 4th and 5th graders. Accurate gender representation in education is fundamental to the understand of human sexuality in all its forms, safe and inclusive educational opportunities and supportive of the long term mental health of Washoe County children.

Erika Tribett

Sent from my iPhone

From: Zaneyda B
Sent: Saturday, July 22, 2023 12:10 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Sex Ed Washoe County

"I SUPPORT THE PROPOSED SEX ED CURRICULUM FOR YTH AND STH GRADERS"

--

Zaneyda Braxton | She Her Hers | Marketing Intern |
University of Nevada, Reno | Jot Travis Building 253 |

From: gabrielle nickel
Sent: Saturday, July 22, 2023 12:18 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Sex Ed

I grew up in Washoe county and I support the proposed sex Ed curriculum for 4th and 5th graders. Thank you for your service on the board,

Gabby Nickel

From: Bailey Falk
Sent: Saturday, July 22, 2023 12:25 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SHARE decision

Please support medically accurate and gender-inclusive sex education!

Bailey Falk (they/them/theirs)

From: Paola Godinez
Sent: Saturday, July 22, 2023 12:34 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] WCSD

My sex education was not very supportive. I hope it is better the younger generation to provide reliable and accurate information.

Paola Godinez

From: Paige Guest
Sent: Saturday, July 22, 2023 12:50 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Sex ed

I support the proposed sex ed curriculum for 4th and fifth graders.
Paige Guest

Sent from my iPhone

From: Kerry Stendell
Sent: Saturday, July 22, 2023 1:17 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Medically appropriate sex education curriculum comments

Hello,

I support the proposed sex education curriculum for 4th and 5th graders. Having medically accurate and gender-inclusive sex education is vital and necessary for the public health of all students and the community.

Thank you,
Kerry Stendell

From: shelbymcauliffe
Sent: Saturday, July 22, 2023 1:20 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Sex ed

I support the proposed sex ed curriculum for fourth and fifth graders.

Shelby McAuliffe
Artist | Photographer | Event Producer
Message sent by iPhone

From: Krystal Peake
Sent: Saturday, July 22, 2023 1:55 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Sex Ed Curriculum

I support the proposed sex ed curriculum for 4th and 5th graders.

From: Kristen Davis-Coelho
Sent: Saturday, July 22, 2023 2:17 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] WCSB Sex Ed Hearing

Washoe County School Board members,

As both a parent and a clinical psychologist, I have carefully reviewed the proposed curriculum and I am writing in support of it. It is critically important to provide our children with a Sex Ed curriculum that is inclusive of all sexual orientations and gender identities, as well as factual age-appropriate information. Our children's mental health depends on it.

Thank you,
Kristen Davis-Coelho

From: Adriana Hernandez-Chavez
Sent: Saturday, July 22, 2023 1:21 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public comment

I support the proposed sex ed curriculum for 4th and 5th graders

From: Leslie Hasvold
Sent: Saturday, July 22, 2023 2:24 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Sex Ed curriculum

I support the proposed sec Ed curriculum for 4th and 5th graders.

--leslie hasvold
sent via iPhone, please excuse typos and brevity!

From: Michael Olinger
Sent: Saturday, July 22, 2023 1:21 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public comment

I support the proposed sex ed curriculum for 4th and 5th graders.

From: Catherine High
Sent: Saturday, July 22, 2023 2:59 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] public comment

I strongly support the proposed sex ed curriculum for 4th and 5th graders in WCSD

From: Jessica Oberg
Sent: Saturday, July 22, 2023 11:55 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL]

I support the proposed sex ed curriculum for 4th and 5th graders!

From: Zoie Barnes
Sent: Saturday, July 22, 2023 3:06 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL]

I support the proposed sex ed curriculum for fourth and fifth graders.

Sent from my iPhone

From: D Ba
Sent: Saturday, July 22, 2023 4:03 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Sex Ed

Hello WCSD,

I hope that you understand how important sex education is. Children are going through puberty at a young age and parents do not always admit to or know the content from which their children are learning about their sexuality. Don't make children figure this out on their own. Common sense education is essential. When people know better they do better. We can save young people from ignorance about their own bodies and teach them to respect themselves and others.

Teaching Abstinence Is useless. It doesn't work. We need to face the reality of the world we live in and provide knowledge to young people before they have to address these issues in their lives on their own.

Thank you,
Diana Bandt
Reno NV 89521

Sent from my iPhone

From: ashlyn beerman
Sent: Saturday, July 22, 2023 5:10 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Sex Education

Hello,

We need a more comprehensive and inclusive sex education program in our schools!!

Thanks :))

--

Ashlyn Beerman

From: Pam Larsen
Sent: Saturday, July 22, 2023 11:09 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL]

I support the sex ed curriculum for 4th and 5th graders.

From: Leigh Mayers
Sent: Saturday, July 22, 2023 2:33 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL]

I went through SHARE in Washoe County and after I went looking for another sex Ed program because I felt that the Washoe county program did not have enough information. This is why I support the proposed sex Ed curriculum for the 4th and 5th graders.

From: Renna Hickey
Sent: Sunday, July 23, 2023 2:16 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Sex Ed Curriculum

I SUPPORT THE PROPOSED SEX ED CURRICULUM FOR 4TH AND 5TH GRADERS

As a now-college student I realize that people around me today have different levels of sex education and hygiene knowledge. I was fortunate to have been taught by a Planned Parenthood representative when I was in high school, however puberty hit me and and peers in the end of primary school. This curriculum could help so many kids understand their bodies before and after changes are made. It's a safe place that they deserve.

- Renna Hickey

From:
Sent: Sunday, July 23, 2023 5:26 PM
To: Public Comments
Cc: BoardMembers
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comment on the SHARE Curriculum being voted on, on Tuesday, July 25th

Importance: High

Dear Washoe County School Board,

It has come to my attention that the Washoe County School Board will be meeting on Tuesday to vote on the New Share Curriculum for 4th and 5th Graders. My brief review of elements of this curriculum, as a mature adult, made me gasp. Portions of this curriculum are infantile, ignore biology and would sexualize these school age children (4th-5th graders). Further, it appears intended to confuse these impressionable young people so that they may be groomed by the those who prey on young children. What, exactly, is wrong with keeping male/boy or female/girl? Who is this curriculum intended to serve. To me, it is the confused 'adults' in our county who are attempting to engender further confusion among the community so they can be the smartest, coolest people, and meanwhile recruit our children to their confused, immoral, degrading and perverse behaviors and thinking. It is not intended to help our children grow and learn in a safe environment! It is NOT the job of government (or the school board) to teach sexual identity, dental dams and Saran wrap at the 4th-5th grades level or to re-name boys and girls as People with a Vulva or a Penis. Please do not approve this ridiculous, dangers and disruptive Curriculum.

John Compisi

Somersett, NW Reno

From: Ben Hoover
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 1:49 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] "SHARE"

This proposed poorly named SHARE educational program is disgusting, pedophilic, indoctrinating, and harmful to children. You are pandering to a tiny segment of the population that are non-heterosexual. You are attempting to force young children to your demented way of thinking. You are on a slippery slope of attempting to normalize transgenderism and pedophilia. I'm sick to death of all of your brain washing and indoctrinating kids to your twisted way of thinking.

Your job is education. PERIOD. Educate these kids with the facts. There is male and female. That's it. You can't change your chromosomes. You can call yourself whatever you want. You can pretend to be a volleyball. That doesn't make it true.

Do what we pay you to do. Which is very simple. Teach them the basics of anatomy and biology. THAT'S IT.

From: Shannon Manning
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 7:14 AM
To: Public Comments; BoardMembers; Church, Jeffrey; Colleen.Westlake@washoeshools.net; Rodriguez, Joseph M; Smith, Elizabeth A; Woodley, Alex; Mayberry, Adam; Nicolet, Diane M; BoardMembers
Cc: Joe Lombardo; Covington, Tami
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Washoe County Sex Education - Please Keep it Simple

Washoe County School Board:

My Mother-in-Law sent me a link to the proposed sexual education curriculum, and I have a few questions and concerns about the change:

- 1) Why is the school board proposing a change to the naming of what a boy/man is, and what a girl/female/woman is from an anatomy perspective? Do you have data that supports a need for a change? If so, what data supports this naming convention change to arguably something more complicated than what it really is?
- 2) Has the board complied with NRS 389.036 below regarding the change and the education of our youth with regards to sexual orientation. Can you please list how the Washoe County School Board is complying with all requirements listed below regarding the NRS? More importantly, have the parents all been sent a copy of the instruction material for review, per 4, and 5 below in the NRS. I really hope this doesn't pass, but if it does, will my daughters be singled out if they we choose for them not to be a part of this education?
- 3) I have three daughters, and by the time they are in Kindergarten they know what a boy is and what a girl is through our current education process, and home instruction; therefore, an explanation to number one above is very important to me.
- 4) During my education experience, I remember having sex ed in 8th or 9th grade, why are we teaching this at such a young age to 9- and 10-year-olds whom, more than likely, have never hit puberty?

More clarity and explanation for this change of curriculum would be appreciated, and please ask yourself this...If you have a pet in the house, are you going to say, "this is my yellow lab Roxy, she is a canine with a vulva?" My request is to keep this simple, boys have a penis, girls have a vagina, why are we complicating this issue? Lastly, my wife is a physical therapist, and she knows the human anatomy well, when reading this proposed change she was confused and said, "I don't even know what/where the vulva is".

Please vote "NO" on this initiative, fully comply with the applicable NRS, keep the parents involved, and send us more updated curriculum updates with more transparency please.

NRS 389.036 Establishment of course or unit of course of instruction concerning human immunodeficiency virus, human reproductive system, related communicable diseases and sexual responsibility; appointment of advisory committee; notice to parent or guardian; consent of parent or guardian required; materials to be made available to parents or guardians of pupils.

1. The board of trustees of a school district shall establish a course or unit of a course of:
 - (a) Factual instruction concerning the human immunodeficiency virus; and
 - (b) Instruction on the human reproductive system, related communicable diseases and sexual responsibility.
2. Each board of trustees shall appoint an advisory committee consisting of:
 - (a) Five parents of children who attend schools in the district; and
 - (b) Four representatives, one from each of four of the following professions or occupations:
 - (1) Medicine or nursing;
 - (2) Counseling;
 - (3) Religion;
 - (4) Pupils who attend schools in the district; or
 - (5) Teaching.

➡ This committee shall advise the district concerning the content of and materials to be used in a course of instruction established pursuant to this section, and the recommended ages of the pupils to whom the course is offered. The final decision on these matters must be that of the board of trustees.

3. The subjects of the courses may be taught only by a teacher or school nurse whose qualifications have been previously approved by the board of trustees.

4. The parent or guardian of each pupil to whom a course is offered must first be furnished written notice that the course will be offered. The notice must be given in the usual manner used by the local district to transmit written material to parents, and must contain a form for the signature of the parent or guardian of the pupil consenting to the pupil's attendance. Upon receipt of the written consent of the parent or guardian, the pupil may attend the course. If the written consent of the parent or guardian is not received, the pupil must be excused from such attendance without any penalty as to credits or academic standing. Any course offered pursuant to this section is not a requirement for graduation.

5. All instructional materials to be used in a course must be available for inspection by parents or guardians of pupils at reasonable times and locations before the course is taught, and appropriate written notice of the availability of the material must be furnished to all parents and guardians.

(Added to NRS by [1979, 836](#); A [1987, 1734](#); [2021, 3195](#))

Sincerely,

Shannon Robert Manning

From: Bambi Gillette
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 8:03 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] The SHARE program

I am a Washoe County/Reno resident and I am asking you to please vote to adopt the SHARE program. Bambi
Gillette Sent from my iPad

From: Sean Hill
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 8:49 AM
To: Public Comments; BoardMembers
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment - SHARE

Hello,

I am a local parent and I have 2 boys in Washoe County schools, one entering 3rd grade and the other entering 7th. I'm writing so that you can record my full support of adopting the new SHARE curriculum for 4th-5th grade. I understand that Nevada is one of only 5 States with an opt-in policy (vs opt out), and our family exercises our choice to opt in so that our kids can get some external education about sexuality and reproduction. I take no issue with the use of the word "people" in the 2 new slides that have been controversial. I support and trust the committee that is recommending the curriculum.

Thank you,
Sean Hill
Reno

From: Lauren Babb
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 9:46 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SUPPORT WCSD approving new curricula for 4th &5th graders

Hello,

Planned Parenthood Mar Monte supports developmentally appropriate, medically accurate, gender-inclusive sexual education, equipping students to make safe and informed decisions about their bodies and relationships. The early years of a child's education are crucial for laying the foundation of lifelong learning and healthy development. By providing accurate, age-appropriate, and comprehensive sexual health education about puberty, friendships, consent, like and love, and understanding their changing bodies, we can equip our students with the tools they need to develop healthy attitudes and make responsible choices. This education helps reduce unintended pregnancies, prevents STIs, and promotes healthy relationships. Investing in sexual health education today will benefit the well-being of our students and the Washoe County community in the long run. We hope we can embrace the opportunity to equip young students with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary to lead healthy, fulfilling lives and contribute positively to our community.

Thanks!

Lauren Babb

Vice President of Public Affairs

She, Her, Hers


*From the California Coast (Mar) to the Sierra
Nevada (Monte)*



From: Valerie Ballard
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 10:31 AM
To: Public Comments; BoardMembers
Subject: [EXTERNAL] share curriculum

Please vote NO. This is all really getting out of hand and going too far.

--

Warmest Regards,

Valerie Ballard

Your Real Estate Consultant for Life
REALTY WORLD-Ballard Company, Inc.

P.S. BY REFERRAL ONLY means that I dedicate 100% of my energy toward serving my clients. This focused approach has provided me with the time to enhance my education and experience so I can guarantee a fully professional level of service to you. As a result, my valued customers, suppliers, and friends refer their family members, coworkers, neighbors and other people they know to me for advice and consulting services. My goal is to build strong, lifelong relationships, one person at a time.

From: Briana Escamilla
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 10:43 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SHARE Curriculum

To whom it may concern-

I'm writing to share my support for the proposed S.H.A.R.E. curriculum. Medically accurate and inclusive sex ed is vital to healthy and empowered communities. I urge you all to adopt this curriculum.

Thank you-

Briana Escamilla
Sparks, NV 89431

From: Jenna Dewar
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 10:50 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] S.H.A.R.E. Agenda Item

I wholeheartedly support the proposed S.H.A.R.E. curriculum for 4th and 5th graders. As a parent of two future WCSD students, I appreciate that I have the opportunity to provide this support as it will directly affect my family.

The opt-in nature of this curriculum ensures that all families have access to sex education and freedom to make the choice regarding participation or lack thereof that is the best fit for their own family. For those who are not in support of the curriculum contents, their argument should end there knowing that they simply should not opt-in if that is not right for your family. It is not their job to regulate what my children learn if they are choosing not to participate in this curriculum anyway. If you wouldn't have your children participate, you don't get to regulate.

The curriculum teaches these same medically accurate terms through the inclusion of labeled illustrations of the body. Labeled illustrations provide clear and accurate visual representations of body parts. Labeled illustrations provide a level of privacy during the discussion as it allows students to focus on the information without feeling self-conscious or embarrassed. Labeled illustrations transcend language barriers and provide a way to communicate essential information effectively. And lastly, labeled illustrations help create a positive and non-judgmental atmosphere around sex education. Understanding the names and functions of body parts is crucial for recognizing signs of potential health issues and seeking appropriate medical care.

A specific argument that has been made is that this approach is "pornographic." Using labeled illustrations of the body in sexual education is not pornography because the intent, context, and purpose behind these illustrations are fundamentally different from the characteristics of pornography. The purpose is to provide age-appropriate information to students in a safe and controlled environment, ensuring that it aligns with educational standards and guidelines. This content is age appropriate and necessary for children to learn.

My daughter who is three-years-old was recently at a birthday party. When I noticed her grabbing her genital area, I asked her if she needed to go to the bathroom, and her response was "No, Mommy, these overalls are hurting my vulva, they are too small." Teaching my daughter the accurate names for her body allowed her to clearly and effectively communicate in this moment – she has a vulva and she was empowered to name this body part with no shame, guilt, or confusion. This is the type of empowered discussion I want for my children and the S.H.A.R.E. curriculum aligns with this outcome. Please support adoption immediately.

--Jenna Dewar

From: Danielle Kanekoa
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 11:07 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] S.H.A.R.E

To Whom it May Concern,

I am in full support of the curriculum change for the SHARE program. Changing the language to "bodies with vulva's and bodies with penises" is more inclusive. My child knows she is a "body with a vulva" and she knows her cousin is a "body with a penis."

If it makes one child in the classroom feel more included, that is what is important.

Trasngender and gender fluid students face disproportionately high rates of discrimination in school and a much higher rate of suicide. If changing the current language helps to make those children feel more included, the language needs to be changed..

My child is going to be in 5th grade this year and I will happily have her in the SHARE program with the current changes.

Thank you,
Danielle Kanekoa

From: Meredith Tanzer
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 11:55 AM
To: BoardMembers
Cc: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SHARE Program

I wholeheartedly support the proposed S.H.A.R.E. curriculum for 4th and 5th graders.

Please let's give kids tools to know their bodies and for them to feel comfortable talking about what's going on in an educated way.

The opt-in nature of this curriculum ensures that all families have access to sex education and freedom to make the choice regarding participation or lack thereof that is the best fit for their own family. For those who are not in support of the curriculum contents, their argument should end there knowing that they simply should not opt-in if that is not right for your family.

Let's empower those littles to be in charge and educated about their bodies with parental consent. Let's provide appropriate language and the opportunity for people to opt out if they would like their kids to live in the dark.

Thank you for your consideration.
Meredith Tanzer
Community Member

From: Jill Pellicciarini
Sent: Thursday, July 20, 2023 8:05 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Sex Ed

Please support comprehensive sexuality education in our schools. Kids need access to all the information. Sent from my iPhone

From: Callie George
Sent: Saturday, July 22, 2023 11:47 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL]

I'm a resident of washoe county and I support the sex Ed curriculum!!

Sent from my iPhone

From: Maria Cristina Phillips
Sent: Saturday, July 22, 2023 10:40 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for sex ed!

I support the proposed sex ed curriculum for 4th and 5th graders!

Sent from my iPhone

From: Raimi Walken
Sent: Saturday, July 22, 2023 11:53 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SUPPORT FOR SEX ED

"I support the proposed sex ed curriculum for 4 th and 5th graders."

Sent from my iPhone

From: Josh D Reed
Sent: Saturday, July 22, 2023 11:59 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public comment

I support to proposed sex Ed curriculum for fourth and fifth graders.

From: Ryan Richardson
Sent: Saturday, July 22, 2023 10:45 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL]

I am a citizen of Washoe county and I support the proposed sex Ed curriculum for 4th and 5th graders.

From: Emily Rankin
Sent: Saturday, July 22, 2023 3:48 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Sex Ed

I support the proposed sex Ed curriculum for 4th and 5th graders.

From: BrytStar N
Sent: Saturday, July 22, 2023 3:03 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] I support

I support the proposed sex ed curriculum for the fourth and fifth grade!

From:
Sent: Sunday, July 23, 2023 3:39 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] S.H.A.R.E.

I wish the S.H.A.R.E. curriculum had been available when I was a kid. I would have had much healthier social habits. I would have had more confidence. I would have taken better care of myself.

Keep the curriculum.

Cynthia Cooper

Washoe County Resident, District 2

Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.

From: Aaron Dewar
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 1:22 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Sex Education Curriculum

Dear WCSD

I am writing to you to express my concern about the future of my children's education. I would like my children to get the best education that they can get and that would mean using the most accurate medical terminology to describe all sex education material. This is opt-in education, so my kids' freedom to learn will be taken away by others who can already prevent their children from being educated. Please defend my kids, their freedoms, and help them learn what they need to become great members of the Northern Nevada Community.

Thank you
Aaron
Future Parent of two WCSD Children

--

Aaron Dewar

From: Kay Winchester
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 1:25 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SHARE curriculum

I support this program wholeheartedly. Young people need this information to understand and navigate our complex world. Thank you.

From: Donnelyn Curtis
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 1:54 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SHARE curriculum for 4th and 5th grade

Dear members of the Washoe County School Board,

I have read the proposed SHARE curriculum that is up for approval at your meeting tomorrow. I have a grandson in the second grade in the WCSD, and this is a curriculum that I (and his parents) would support when he gets to the 4th grade. It seems appropriate, accurate, and reasonable in all ways, and I hope that you will be able to disregard the opposition to some of the content. Our children are curious and diverse, and we cannot allow them to be deprived of information that will answer their questions. If parents do not approve of some of that content, they will have the option to keep their own children uninformed. I see nothing in the curriculum that would be objectionable to the vast majority of parents in our district.

Thank you,

Donnelyn Curtis
Reno, NV 89512

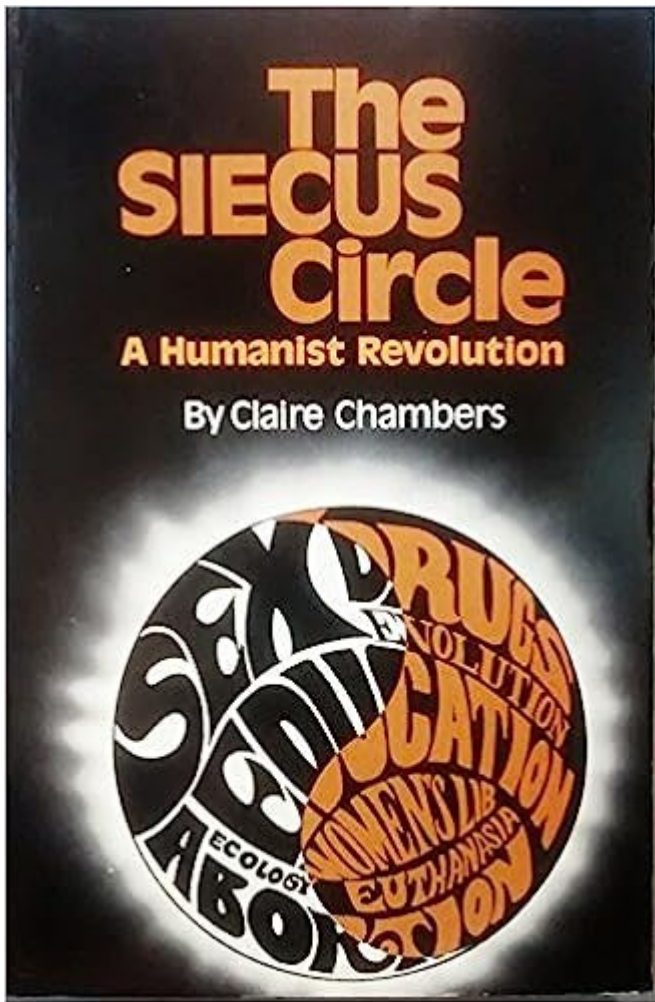
From: BRUCE FOSTER
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 2:19 PM
To: Westlake, Colleen M; Church, Jeffrey; Mayberry, Adam; Rodriguez, Joseph M; Woodley, Alex; Nicolet, Diane M; Smith, Elizabeth A; Enfield, Susan; Rombardo, Neil; BoardMembers
Cc: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item 3.04

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Why do we have Sex Education in schools, Drag Queen Story Hour,
books that express the Rainbow/ Trans Revolution in the school libraries
creating total gender confusion of our youth, not to mention the
push to normalize pedophilia? With the continued push to lower the
age to the exposure of the SHARE curriculum, the question then
becomes at "what age of consent should a child be to have sex with
an adult?" Going further,
at what age of consent can a child determine to get gender-
transition
surgery?

I am not going to reinvent the wheel so I will defer to the intense
interview
with Claire Chambers that takes a deep dive into the Sex
Education
cabal in our government schools.

If you have ever asked "HOW DID WE GET HERE?" ... this is the docu-series for you. Seth Gruber sits down with Claire Chambers and Audrey Werner who are simple mothers asking the same question. In 1970, Chambers began researching and writing "The SIECUS Circle" which draws unbelievably dark connections between humanist demoniacs who began sexualizing American culture in the early 20th century. This four-part series uncovers truths you wish you could unsee and explains the twisted reality we currently live in.

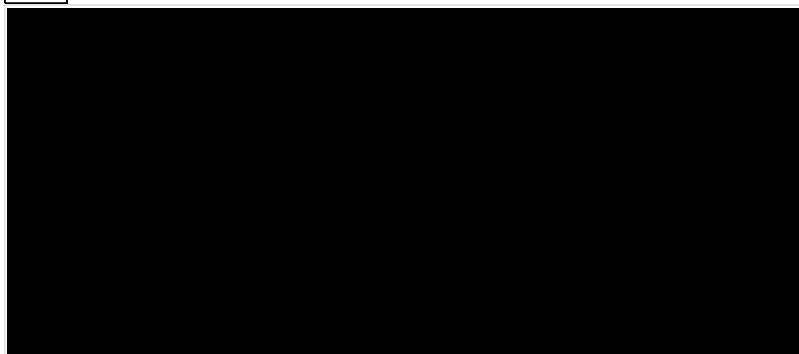


https://podcast.app/part-one-the-mom-who-exposed-the-sexual-revolutionary-cabal-in-e333845339/?utm_source=and&utm_medium=share

And, who is Alfred Kinsey? Father of the Sexual Revolution? "Do as thou wilt." (Whatever feels good) (Kinsey claims that we all are sexual from birth and that infants are capable having sex with an adult)



[Alfred Kinsey and the Children Of Table 34 | Comfort for Christians \(alecsatin.com\)](#)



Alfred Kinsey and the Children Of Table 34 | Comfort for Christians

Alec Satin

The theory of childhood sexuality advanced by Alfred Kinsey's sex researchers has shaped how and when sex educat...

-*Teachers in the US are only trained in the Kinsey sex-ed model.

Therefore, replace ALL SHARE curriculum with Abstinence curriculum and concentrate on Pure

Academics and American Exceptionalism besides living a virtuous life. (Books available;

[Cameron - A Christian children's book – Brave Books](#)



[As You Grow by Kirk](#)

Respectfully,

B. Foster
Sparks

From: Jen Mortensen
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 2:25 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] In support of revised SHARE curriculum

Board of Trustees,

I am writing today - both as a mom and a professional - to encourage you to vote in support of the revised 4th/5th grade SHARE curriculum.

As a parent with two elementary-age children in WCSD, I look forward to their participation in an updated program that emphasizes honesty, inclusivity, and scientific facts about sex, gender, and other important topics.

As a professor in the College of Education and Human Development at UNR, the material in the revised curriculum is scientifically accurate and developmentally appropriate for the children's ages and grade level. Comprehensive sexual education is an important public health measure that keeps our children and communities safe and healthy. Inclusive language makes all children feel seen and supported in the classroom.

Also, please be mindful that SHARE is an opt-in program. Those who disagree can simply decline their children's participation. Families who opt-in deserve medically accurate information.

Respectfully,
Jennifer Mortensen, Ph.D.

From: Pamela Payne
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 2:29 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Supporting SHARE update

I whole heartedly support the proposed S.H.A.R.E. curriculum for 4th and 5th graders. As a parent a WCSD student 6th grader who received the outdated curriculum. I appreciate that I have opportunity to provide this support as it will directly affect my family.

The opt-in nature of this curriculum ensures that all families have access to sex education and freedom to make the choice regarding participation or lack thereof that is the best fit for their own family. For those who are not in support of the curriculum contents, their argument should end there knowing that they simply should not opt-in if that is not right for your family. It is not their job to regulate what my children learn if they are choosing not to participate in this curriculum anyway. If you wouldn't have your children participate, you don't get to regulate.

The curriculum teaches these same medically accurate terms through the inclusion of labeled illustrations of the body. Labeled illustrations provide clear and accurate visual representations of body parts. Labeled illustrations provide a level of privacy during the discussion as it allows students to focus on the information without feeling self-conscious or embarrassed. Labeled illustrations transcend language barriers and provide a way to communicate essential information effectively. And lastly, labeled illustrations help create a positive and non-judgmental atmosphere around sex education. Understanding the names and functions of body parts is crucial for recognizing signs of potential health issues and seeking appropriate medical care.

A specific argument that has been made is that this approach is "pornographic." Using labeled illustrations of the body in sexual education is not pornography because the intent, context, and purpose behind these illustrations are fundamentally different from the characteristics of pornography. The purpose is to provide age-appropriate information to students in a safe and controlled environment, ensuring that it aligns with educational standards and guidelines. This content is age appropriate and necessary for children to learn.

--

Pamela B. Payne

From: Lois Bianchi
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 2:30 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Approving the Sex Ed Curriculum

We are members of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of N. Nevada with 200 members. We are in support of the updated Sex Ed Curriculum. As a retired teacher and grandparents of children who have grown up in our school district, we are adamant about educating students for the future. Those who wish to decline the curriculum have the option.

Thanks for your dedication to our school district,
Dave and Lois Bianchi, active members in our community

From: David Bianchi
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 3:07 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SHARE

I 100% support the revised updated curriculum for the 4th and 5th graders on SHARE education. it is the responsible approach to healthy sexual education and will provide accurate and timely information to our young people. Thank you

David Bianchi
Reno NV 89503

From: LYNN KOCHER >
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 3:12 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Proposed New Share Sex Ed Curriculum at Washoe County School Board

----- Forwarded message -----

From: LYNN KOCHER
Date: Mon, Jul 24, 2023, 3:07 PM
Subject: Proposed New Share Sex Ed Curriculum at Washoe County School Board
To: <PublicComments@washoeschools.net>, jeffrey.church@washoeschools.net <jeffrey.church@washoeschools.net>, colleen.westlake@washoeschools.net <colleen.westlake@washoeschools.net>, joseph.rodriguez@washoeschools.net <joseph.rodriguez@washoeschools.net>, elizabeth.smith@washoeschools.net <elizabeth.smith@washoeschools.net>, alex.woodley@washoeschools.net <alex.woodley@washoeschools.net>, adam.mayberry@washoeschools.net <adam.mayberry@washoeschools.net>, dnicolet@washoeschools.net <dnicolet@washoeschools.net>, <Boardmembers@washoeschools.net>
Cc: <lombardo@gov.nv.gov>, tcovington@washoeschools.net <tcovington@washoeschools.net>

I am very concerned about the new Sex Ed changes that will be voted on tomorrow, 7/25/23, at the school board meeting. Why would anyone in this school district or anywhere else deem it necessary to call boys and girls by any other name or "description"? The proposed name change to or description of "Girls and people with a vulva" and "Boys and people with a penis" would be totally absurd, very confusing, and absolutely unnecessary. I have three young granddaughters and they know that they are indeed girls. This change would take away their very identity as well as further confusing any child that may be questioning their gender.

To those voting on this proposal, how would the Principal of a school address an assembly of students? Instead of saying the perfectly acceptable greeting of "welcome to the new school year boys and girls" would the Principal be required to say "welcome to the new school year "people with a penis and people with a vulva"? I think most people's common sense would consider this to be ridiculous.

In closing, what happened to the policy of including parents and legal guardians in communications and making materials available for review? The timing of this change certainly seems suspect in light of school not being back in session for several more weeks.

Please vote NO.

Lynn Kocher

From: Chrissy Raman
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 3:36 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Pediatricians support SHARE curriculum approval

Dear Washoe County School Board,

I am a Pediatrician in Reno, and I am writing in support of the new SHARE curriculum. My profession, to which I have dedicated my life and career, is to help ensure the health and safety of children and teens. An extremely important part of that as they grow and mature is discussing puberty, sexual health and safety. Failure to educate children about this would be an abdication of my duties as their physician.

Standing against this curriculum change is also an abdication of parental duties. I am also a parent, and my job in that capacity is to make sure they're safe as they go into adulthood. Comprehensive and science-based sex education is an important part of that education.

At this point, we have innumerable studies showing that failure to provide comprehensive sex education results in increased rates of STIs, sexual violence, and unplanned pregnancy in teens and young adults. I think that most parents can agree that we do not want that for our children. To fail to provide evidence-based sex education to children is to bury our heads in the sand. Kids and teens will still have sex. They will just do it less safely, with less information, and with far greater risk to their health and futures.

In my career as a Pediatrician, I have discussed this with all of my teens and I have seen the places where the failure to discuss sex and sexuality has failed them. I have treated them for chlamydia, I have cared for their newborns, I have been there when they have attempted suicide, and I have talked to them when their parents won't.

Sex education, to the extent that it discusses sexual orientation and gender identity, does not make kids gay. It does not make kids trans. It simply educates children on the breadth of differences between our bodies and our experiences. This makes kids MORE SAFE. Failure to acknowledge this part of sexuality results in kids who do identify as gay or trans feeling less safe, less accepted, and sends them into the world with less information. To a parent and a Pediatrician, this is completely unacceptable.

SHARE has always been, and always will be, a voluntary program. However, it should be the expectation that all kids will have access to this learning. Parents who disagree can always opt out of the program. I can only hope that they will be there to pick up the pieces when their children either learn the hard way, or suffer from the consequences their of the their parents' choices. If they are not there, then I will be.

Sincerely,
Christina Raman, MD, Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics President, Summit Pediatrics

From: Gaia Brown
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 3:51 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please Vote Yes

Dear School Board Members,

I am asking you to support the proposed Sexual Health and Responsibility Education curriculum.

One day when I was in grammar school— about age 10 — in the late 1950s, the topic that came up amongst the girls at recess was: how did women get pregnant? Two possibilities were proffered by girls who knew more than I did. One was that the man put something that looked like pearls on the woman's abdomen, and they kind of melted in and made the woman pregnant. Oh, and it was real painful, and the woman cried. The other possibility was that the man put where he went to the bathroom into where the woman went to the bathroom. Well, we were more grossed out by the second possibility than the first, so the first one must have been right.

It was only a few years ago — I'm talking more than half a century later! — that I realized where the first idea must have come from. Although I never watched one of those grainy black and white silent "skin flicks" (I think that was what they were called), I have, as an adult, watched a few pornographic movies, enough to understand what was probably being shown in the 50's. A man and woman would be shown having intercourse, but the man would ejaculate on a woman's abdomen (the "pearls") and of course, the woman's face would be contorted in ecstasy, which could look a lot like crying from pain, especially with no soundtrack.

So it was possible for even a ten-year-old girl know about pornography in the 1950's. And to share misinformation with her friends. In this era of the internet and the sexualization of young girls (in all kinds of media), it is essential that children of all genders have sexual health education. People who think children should be shielded from such topics have it backwards. Children need this for their own protection!

When terms and functions of sexual anatomy are talked about openly, children know these are topics they can discuss with trusting adults. At what age should these discussions take place? My son-in-law has a teenaged transgender nephew with siblings who are 10 and 5 years old. One of my grandsons was created by IVF, and he knows it. He's seven.

We are all sexual beings from birth. When children are empowered by knowledge to make responsible decisions about their sexuality, they benefit, and society benefits.

Thanks for serving on the school board, and please support this curriculum.

Gaia Brown

From: Sarah Gobbs
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 4:00 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SHARE Curriculum

Hello,

My name is Sarah Gobbs-Hill and I'm a parent of children in the Washoe County School District. I am writing to ask the board to approve the SHARE curriculum that is on the agenda for the next board meeting. I know first hand the importance of teaching our children accurate information to help them make informed decisions about their lives.

Thank you,

Sarah

From: Dave
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 4:06 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SHARE Curriculum

I am writing to voice my support for science based education in the Washoe County schools. I support the SHARE curriculum and hope the Board does as well.

David Titzel

Reno, NV

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: Carole Chouinard
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 4:09 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Sexual Health and Responsibility Education

Hello,

I'm a resident of Reno and I fully support bringing WCSD sex education up to the American Academy of Pediatrics standard guidelines. This is NOT about pushing children to have sex nor is it "grooming" children to (somehow) "become" gay. It's about giving children correct and age appropriate information so that they understand what is happening in their own bodies and can inform their future decisions.

PLEASE don't let parents co-op this discussion and make the SHARE curriculum into some fabricated evil entity designed to lead children into all manner of depraved activity. It's no-nonsense education like we all could have used when younger. Now, as then, it would be great if every child had the type of parents that could easily and accurately discuss sexual development with their children. That isn't realistic.

Many thanks,
Carole Chouinard

Reno, NV 89503

From: Jazmyn Horton
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 4:24 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment for 7/25/2023

Hello,

As a new resident of Washoe County, I am excited to see that WCSD is considering updating and growing its inclusivity of providing their students with more gender inclusive and medically accurate language in their sexual education courses. It is no secret that teachings like these are vital to young people's ability to make choices they are proud of in the future and being more inclusive in language only enhances the material for all students. Coming from a small, rural area with no comprehensive (or inclusive language) sexual education, I appreciate the actions of the school district to further their curriculum for their students and feel honored to now reside in a place that takes care of the well being of young people. Thank you and I hope to see this resolution passed and continue to grow!

--

Be well,
Jazmyn Marie Horton (Alvarado)

From: N Rich
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 4:38 PM
To: BoardMembers
Cc: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Public comment July 25 meeting

Dear WCSD Board of Trustees,

I am writing regarding tomorrow's agenda items 3.03 to amend the student behavior manual and item 3.04 the sexuality SHARE program.

I do not want to infringe on anyone's rights nor should this board. Public schools should not undermine feminism or religious freedoms and cater to any particular type of cult type extremism, or scientifically false, unconventional manners under your guidance.

Therefore I do not approve of agenda 3,03 attachment B, document changes, especially when they violate other district policies, rules and regulations.

It is not necessary to change attachment B, document changes pronouns. One person can not scientifically be more than one pupil (they or them). Any language that indicates otherwise is cult-like extremism and disregards science and others rights, and causes confusion in any learning environment.

It has come to my attention, and I do not approve of the "work arounds" by your staff to ask young pupils to introduce themselves on the 1st day of school, or any day of school, to ask them to "identify" as a boy or a girl, and what pronoun they prefer. This is happening in your district and you are exposing young children publicly in a manner that parents do not realize is happening.

It should only be when a student approaches a staff member first with how they would like to be addressed, if staff is not told otherwise, they should not be coaching the entire class to change their identity. Your district is purposely exposing all children to sexual orientation and a world where they can "make believe" they are not their own biological identity who are simply there to learn academics. This is not education, it is brainwashing and I am sure you took an oath to protect children, and not to indoctrinate them.

I do not approve of attempting to remove the terms "male and female" and change the definitions in agenda item 3.04. A girl is a "female" which means is typically capable of producing eggs and giving birth to children and has the biological body parts capable for this. A boy is a "male" which means he is capable of fertilizing eggs to produce offspring and has body parts belonging to the sex that can not biologically give birth.

Your definitions are implying that a person that straps on fake bulge body parts in places they would not biologically belong, or mutilates themselves can become or identify as the opposite sex, but that is not teaching the TRUTH. This infringes on the rights of biological females who are athletic and on rights to have private spaces.

Respectfully
Josh Richmond

From: Kelly Schuermann
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 4:40 PM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] APPROVE NEW SHARE CURRICULUM

To whom it may concern, I hope the definition of the word people is taken literally, human beings in general or considered collectively. Girls are People and Boys are People. The argument over the word people defined as above is completely absurd.

Please approve the new SHARE Curriculum!

--

Kelly Schuermann, MFA.IA
*Designer, Project-Based Artist,
Pet Parent, Sunshine Enthusiast*

Take a workshop at:

[Atelier In Reno](#)

instagram: [@iamkellyw](#)

web: [iamkellyw.com](#)

From:
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 5:09 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed changes to the SHARE program

Hello,
I support the proposed changes to the SHARE (Sexual Health and Responsibility Education) program. I believe the proposed changes will make the information more medically accurate, per recommendations by the American Academy of Pediatrics. Please approve the proposed changes.
Thank you.
Penelope LePome

Water IS mental health. Water is life. Water is sacred.

The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office (CBO) said that the \$21 billion cut in funding to the Internal Revenue Service, [in the Fiscal Responsibility Act] ... will result in \$40 billion in lost revenue, increasing the deficit by \$19 billion.

From a four year old: "I know what drawing is. You think something then you draw a line around your think."

"I walk around like everything is fine, but deep down, inside my shoe, my sock is sliding off." Rebel Circus

"The American Negro really is a part of this country, and on the day we face this fact, and not before that day, we will become a nation and possibly a great one." James Baldwin

From: Elizabeth Willmer
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 5:12 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] WCSD Sex Ed Curriculum Proposal

I am writing in opposition to the proposed changes to the sex education curriculum for 4-6th grade. I am requesting you vote in favor of the Risk Avoidance model. I am an RN and there are only two sexes, male and female. Confusing children regarding there being more than two sexes is not appropriate for this age group. Also teaching anything regarding how to have safe anal or oral sex is wrong for this age group. This is grooming children to think that this type of behavior is ok and safe. We spent years teaching kids to not let someone touch them inappropriately and now you are demonstrating how to do it safely! If I talked to someones child outside of the classroom using the new curriculum I could be arrested. Please think of the children and what is best for them, not what is "policitically motivated". Our children should be protected at all costs.

Vote for the Risk Avoidance model!!!

Thank you,
Elizabeth Willmer

From: Alison Gaulden, APR, (she/her)
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 5:12 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please support the most comprehensive sex ed available

Washoe County School Board members

As a former staff member of Planned Parenthood and as a current college professor, I urge you to support comprehensive sexuality education, which is medically accurate and free from misinformation and religious bias. Young adults will be sexually active eventually in their lives. They should be informed about their physical, mental and emotional changes. Most young people who are informed about their own sexuality and how to make choices about their sexual health actually delay relationships and prevent the spread of STDs and unplanned pregnancies. We must stop treating sexuality as a forbidden crime, like we treat abuse of drugs and alcohol, and prepare students for sexual health and relationships beyond high school. Our students are less educated than teens in the 1990s.

Young people are not getting the sex education they need: About half of adolescents (53% of females and 54% of males) reported in 2015–2019 that they had received sex education that meets the minimum standard articulated in Healthy People 2030; among teens reporting penile-vaginal intercourse, fewer than half (43% of females and 47% of males) received this instruction before they first had sex.⁹

- In 2015–2019, more adolescents reported that they had received instruction about saying no to sex (81% of females and 79% of males) or waiting until marriage (67% and 58%, respectively) than about where to obtain birth control (48% of females and 45% of males) or how to use a condom (55% and 60%, respectively).⁹

<50% of adolescents reported in 2015–2019 that they had received instruction on where to get birth control before they had sex for the first time.⁹

Please empower our young people to understand their bodies, certainly to learn about abstaining but also have knowledge when they choose not to.

Alison

Alison Gaulden, APR, Fellow PRSA

Principal Lecturer, [RSJ](#) & PRSSA Nevada Faculty Adviser

[NNev Int'l Center](#) Citizen Diplomat & PR Cmte Chair

From: Brinn Rasmusson
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 6:13 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Changes to Sex Ed In WCSD

Hi I am a parent of two washoe county students. One being in 4th grade. I am writing in opposition to the proposed changes to the sex education curriculum for 4-6th grade. I am requesting you vote in favor of the Risk Avoidance model. Biologically there are only two sexes, male and female. Confusing children regarding there being more than two sexes is not appropriate for this age group. Also teaching anything regarding how to have safe anal or oral sex is wrong for this age group. This is grooming children to think that this type of behavior is ok and safe. I have spent years teaching my kids to not let someone touch them inappropriately and now you are demonstrating how to do it safely! If I talked to someone's child outside of the classroom using the new curriculum I could be arrested. Please think of the children and what is best for them, not what is "politically motivated". Our children should be protected at all costs.

Vote for the Risk Avoidance model!!!

Thank you,

Brinn Rasmusson
Sent from my iPhone

From: Jenny Snaza
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 6:32 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SHARE curriculum support

Dear Board Members,

I am a parent of two students in the WCSD and support the proposed SHARE curriculum.

Thank you!

Best,

Jenny Snaza

Sent from my iPhone (please excuse typos)

From: AJ Willmer
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 7:07 PM
To: Public Comments; BoardMembers; Church, Jeffrey; Westlake, Colleen M; Smith, Elizabeth A; Rodriguez, Joseph M; Woodley, Alex; Mayberry, Adam; Nicolet, Diane M; Covington, Tami
Subject: [EXTERNAL] WCSD Proposed Sex Ed Curriculum Changes

Good Evening,

I am writing in opposition to the proposed sex education curriculum for 4th-6th graders in Washoe County schools. I am writing in favor of the Risk Avoidance Model.

The fact that we even have to discuss this matter is absolutely sickening to me and really begs me to ask: what has happened to our once esteemed Washoe County schools? This proposed curriculum is exactly the reason so many of my friends have pulled their kids out of the public school system and why I am strongly considering following suit. God in His infinite mercy has blessed us with two genders; are we seriously considering teaching our children otherwise? There is no other way to describe this than disgusting and embarrassing.

For such an obvious truth to be denied in our schools would leave me no choice but to abandon ship and lose complete confidence in our school system leadership. As mentioned earlier, this should never have even come to a vote.

Vote for the Risk Avoidance model.

Sincerely,
Andrew J Willmer - on the behalf of thousands of Washoe County parents and children

From: jbutcher
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 8:58 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] WCSD Board Meeting July 25th - Agenda Item 3.04

Importance: High

Please enter my email into the public record:

Agenda Item 3.04 PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED SEXUALITY, HEALTH, AND RESPONSIBILITY EDUCATION (S.H.A.R.E.) 4th AND 5th GRADE CURRICULA, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE S.H.A.R.E. ADVISORY COMMITTEE **(FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)**

It is difficult to fathom why there would be a need to “FORCE” children to refer to themselves and other individuals as “a person with a vulva or a person with a penis”! Don’t we place enough stress and strife on the youth of today?

A **girl** is a young female human, usually a child or an adolescent. When a girl becomes an adult, she is generally referred to as a woman. However, the term *girl* is also used for other meanings, including *young woman*, and is sometimes used as a synonym for daughter or girlfriend regardless of age. According to the *Merriam-Webster Dictionary*, a **boy** is "a male child from birth to adulthood".

Girl appears in compounds like showgirl, cowgirl and schoolgirl. Will they be required to say “show person with a vulva, or cow person with a vulva or school person with a vulva or a friend with a vulva”? So does boy appear in compounds like cowboy and schoolboy, which will morph into “a cow person with a penis” and so on!!! Your boyhood friend will be called you “childhood friend with a penis”. Now that sounds completely ridiculous!!!!

Why is there so much emphasis these days on sexualization within the school system. The prominence on learning basic skills like reading, writing and arithmetic has become secondary to that of sex sex sex!

Do not pass the proposed 4th and 5th grade S.H.A.R.E changes affecting our boys’ and girls’ sex education. Keep to your mission!

Best Regards,

Janet Butcher
Mother - Grandmother – Great Grandmother

From: Jason McGregor
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 9:50 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Gender inclusive sex ed

I support the proposed sex Ed curriculum for 4th and 5th graders. We need to work together to make this an inclusive world for our children to grow up in. If we have a person named Alfred and they ask to be called Fred we do so why is this different except to exclude specific groups from society?

From: Laynette Evans
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 10:06 PM
To: Public Comments; Laynette Evans
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Trustees: Please Approve SHARE Curriculum for 4th & 5th graders

I'm writing in support of the proposed revised SHARE curriculum for 4th and 5th graders. Our kids need truthful, relevant, medically accurate information and guidance regarding sexual health.

I have reviewed the curriculum the committee provided online, and I believe it fits the current need.

Thank you!
Laynette Evans
Reno 89502

--

Laynette Evans
Career Management Coach

From: JULIE ADAMS
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 10:27 PM
To: Public Comments; BoardMembers; Church, Jeffrey; Westlake, Colleen M; Smith, Elizabeth A; Rodriguez, Joseph M; Woodley, Alex; Mayberry, Adam; Nicolet, Diane M; Covington, Tami
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Boys and Girls

Dear School Board: Boys and girls, male and female! Yes, that is what kids are, not body parts. How degrading! Can we all just quit with this nonsense?!? Our schools rank pretty low in the whole country and this is one reason contributing to that fact. Much time is spent with this kind of nonsense and our kids can barely read or do math. But you all apparently do not care, just so long as these kids are learning all things sexual. Quite an embarrassment that this is a priority and not the protection and nurturing of children.

Please make common sense, moral and sound decisions for our children!

Thank you,
Julie Adams
Sparks NV

From: John Osborne
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 6:51 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SHARE CURRICULUM

I am a resident of Washoe County. I have lived here since 1993. I have read the SHARE CURRICULUM that you will be voting on at your July 25th meeting. I strongly urge you to approve this curriculum.

From: Debbie Nicholas
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 6:57 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed SHARE Curriculum for 4th & 5th Grades

As a registered voter in Washoe County. I wish to provide my public comment in support of this curriculum. I've reviewed it and feel it is medically accurate, and seems appropriate for the age group. I feel the areas addressing emotional and social changes are particularly important as this is a time when many children feel insecure about changes to their bodies, and teasing/bullying behaviors.

Sincerely,

Deborah Nicholas
Incline Village, NV 89451

From: Katy Chandler
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 8:02 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SHARE curriculum

Good morning. I am writing to voice my support for the new SHARE curriculum you are considering. I appreciate the inclusion of scientifically accurate and inclusive material. My sons are both heterosexual males, but many of their friends do not easily fall into these categories. It would have been very helpful for my sons to have had basic, inclusive, accurate information. --

Katy Chandler-Isachsen

From: Stephen Novacek
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 8:47 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SHARE Program

I am in full support of adoption of the Washoe Schools SHARE program for grades 4th and 5th. Thank you



**Holland
& Hart**

Stephen Novacek
Senior Counsel
HOLLAND & HART LLP

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This message is confidential and may be privileged. If you believe that this email has been sent to you in error, please reply to the sender that you received the message in error; then please delete this email.

From: Brielle
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 9:55 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public comment sex ed gender inclusive language

Dear Washoe county schools,

I have two sons age 7 and 10. I feel that school is stronger and produces a more accepting and inviting community when every single student is acknowledged for who they are. It is critical that language be included in sex education that represents every single student. Not just those that are in the majority. The fact of the matter is that gender fluidity and homosexuality is a normal part of a human experience. Ignoring this fact, only produces ignorance and hate. I ask that you please include this language, the language of inclusivity and completeness, in my sons sexual education.

Thank you, Brielle Bjorke

From: Ed Miller
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 9:22 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Share Curriculum Agenda Item 3.04

School Board Trustees:

I strongly support the work and the proposed SHARE curriculum that is contained in Agenda Item 3.04. The Committee has painstakingly considered and weighed the efficacy and appropriateness of this curriculum. A yes vote is a vote FOR the children of Washoe County.

Respectfully submitted,
Ed Miller

From: van Kirk, Kaitlyn
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 9:32 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Support for SHARE

Dear Trustees,

I am writing in support of the newly proposed S.H.A.R.E curriculum. As a high school science teacher for WCSD I believe that providing students with age-appropriate, medically accurate information about sexual health is essential for their overall well-being and academic success. Studies have consistently shown that schools with comprehensive sex education programs experience positive outcomes, such as decreased rates of teen pregnancies and a greater understanding of consent and boundaries.

I understand that some community members may have reservations or concerns about the S.H.A.R.E curriculum. However, it is essential to address these concerns with accurate information and research-based evidence. Comprehensive sex education is not about promoting promiscuity or undermining the values of our community; it is about providing our students with the tools they need to make responsible and informed decisions about their bodies and relationships.

Furthermore, it is crucial to remember that our students are already exposed to information about sex and relationships through various media and their peers. By providing comprehensive sex education, we can ensure that they receive accurate and responsible guidance from trusted sources like educators and school materials.

Thank you so much for your time and service,

Kaitlyn Van Kirk (she/her)
Biology & Environmental Science
North Valleys High School

From: Amber Falgout
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 9:38 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment on Agenda Item 3.04

Hello,

This is Amber with Battle Born Progress. I am a lifelong Reno, Nevada resident. My oldest child is 15 and goes to a local high school. Battle Born Progress and I are in full support of the updates to the SHARE curriculum as it makes the curriculum more inclusive and fact and evidence-based. Please approve Agenda Item 3.04 to update the current SHARE curriculum. Inclusive sex education for children that is developmentally appropriate should be included in our children's education. Family members who disagree may opt out of having children in the SHARE program. As a parent, I was grateful for the SHARE program. It allowed my child to learn in a safe environment and it opened up a conversation between her and me about sexual health and appropriate sexual behavior. Thank you for your time.

--

Amber Falgout (*she/her*)
Acting Communications Director
Battle Born Progress & Institute for a Progressive Nevada



From: Jenna Cole
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 9:39 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] S.H.A.R.E. Curriculum Content

Hello,

I am writing to share my support for the proposed S.H.A.R.E. curriculum. As a family educator and parent of a future WCSD student, I believe that children should be taught anatomically correct body terms and the reality of what will or could happen to them. If some caregivers decide the proposed curriculum does not fit their needs or values for their child, the opt-in nature allows them to easily avoid the classes. Children should learn about their bodies and sexuality without shame, guilt, or misleading information. I urge you to please support adoption of the proposed curriculum.

Thank you,
Jenna Cole

From: Kristin Williams
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 9:40 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] In support of the new S.H.A.R.E curriculum

Good morning trustees,

I am writing in support of the new S.H.A.R.E curriculum for 4th and 5th graders. I am a parent of children going into Kindergarten, 1st and 3rd grade at Marvin Moss in Sparks and a Guest Teacher in the district . I believe teaching medically accurate and inclusive Sex Education is important. As a parent I believe that every family can decide if, when, and how they bring up sex education with their own children and have the right to “opt-in” to the S.H.A.R.E curriculum. I recognize that Sex Education can cause some anxiety and fear in families in our district and I applaud WCSD for offering lesson plans and access to the videos for families with concern and the ability for families to choose not to participate in them.

Thank you for your time,
Kristin Williams

From: Mary Federico Katz
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 10:09 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please approve SHARE

Please approve the SHARE curriculum today. Thank you for your research that created this medically accurate, inclusive sexual health education.

Sincerely,
Mary Federico Katz
Reno, NV 89511

From: Andrea Charles
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 10:10 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] S.H.A.R.E. - Comment

Dear WCSD Board of Trustees,

I support approving the new S.H.A.R.E. curricula for fourth and fifth grades. As a parent and grandparent, I know the value of giving kids facts so they don't believe the non-truth they hear from others. I think these curricula will be a good step toward creating a healthy understanding of their bodies and sexuality. I especially appreciate that the proposed curriculum is medically accurate and gender inclusive.

--

Sincerely,

Andrea Lee Charles

From: Jonnie Pullman
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 10:11 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comprehensive Sex Education (SHARE) Curriculum

First, thank you for your service. As a former WCSD Trustee, I know how time-consuming it is--rewarding, but often stressful. And thank you for allowing people like me, who cannot attend the meeting, to be able to participate.

I am writing in support of a YES vote to approve the SHARE curriculum that is on the agenda today. Our curricula for any subject should be science-based, and the SHARE curriculum is science-based. Our children deserve no less.

What I think is most important in the discussion of SHARE, other than its scientific basis, is that it is an OPT-IN curriculum. Parents who do not wish their children to receive this instruction don't have to do anything. Parents who do wish their children to learn this information must provide permission in written form. The District has chosen to take this approach out of respect for parents and families. To allow a few to deny the information to the many is the antithesis of democracy.

Discussion of anatomical organs (what appears to be most at issue in the public discussions) really has nothing to do with discussions of gay, straight, or transgendered people. It does not replace parent obligations to share and teach their values to their children. It has to do with knowing our own anatomy, and to recognize the complexity of human beings. There ARE intersex individuals--those who have a discrepancy between the external genitals and the internal organs having to do with sexual reproduction. To deny this, or information about this, denies our common humanity.

The SHARE curriculum is presented to the Board after much research and discussion in a defined and transparent process. It is supported by professional medical associations.

Please vote to approve the curriculum and support the choices of ALL parents.

Thank you for your time to read this one of many submissions.

Respectfully,

Jonnie Pullman
(I will provide address or phone number if required and requested)

From: Chris Nicholson
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 10:15 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] In support of SHARE

Dear Board of Trustees of WCSD,

As a concerned parent, former WCSD educator, and product of WCSD (including participating in the SHARE program myself), I am writing to emphasize the utmost importance of incorporating and retaining anatomically correct, medically accurate, and gender-inclusive sex education within the curriculum of our public schools. I firmly believe that comprehensive sex education is not only essential for the well-being and development of our children but also for fostering a responsible and informed generation.

In today's ever-changing and diverse society, it is imperative that we equip our students with the knowledge and tools necessary to make responsible and informed decisions about their health and relationships. Medically accurate sex education, including images and vocabulary, empowers young people to understand their bodies, the changes they undergo, and the potential consequences of their actions regarding sex and health. Comprehensive sex education has been consistently shown to lead to better reproductive health outcomes, higher education outcomes, and increased overall economic benefits for the community.

Promoting inclusivity in sex education is crucial in creating a safe and supportive environment for all students. By acknowledging, honoring, and teaching to diverse gender identities and sexual orientations, we ensure that every student feels respected, seen, and valued. Inclusive sex education is not only a matter of sensitivity but also a necessity in helping students navigate their own identities and form healthy relationships.

Data from states that have gutted or removed comprehensive sex education from their curriculum paints a concerning picture. Studies have shown that these states tend to have higher rates of teenage pregnancies, a lack of contraceptive use, and increased rates of sexually transmitted infections among young people leading to worse health outcomes and more poverty throughout their communities. These alarming statistics underscore the urgency of providing our students with the knowledge and resources they need to make informed choices about their sexual health. Comprehensive sex education has the evidence and data to be an effective tool in promoting healthy behaviors and reducing risky behaviors among children and adolescents. Our goal should be to equip all children within our community with the information and knowledge necessary to protect themselves and their partners.

I understand that discussions around sex education can be sensitive and nuanced, but we must remember that our responsibility as parents and educators is to prioritize the health and well-being of our students. And we must prioritize the health and well-being of our students using data, evidence, empathy, and compassion; *we must not let fear, oppression, or aggression dictate what is taught to our community*. I believe that by providing medically accurate and inclusive sex education, we can contribute to a future in which our children and our community can thrive.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and I sincerely hope that you will consider the immense benefits that comprehensive SHARE can bring to WCSD.

Sincerely,

Christopher Nicholson,

Concerned parent, former WCSD educator, product of WCSD

From: suzannemorganwilliams
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 10:18 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] I Support SHARE

I just reviewed the proposed objectives of SHARE for 4th and 5th grades. Years ago I used to teach the one day of “our bodies” to sixth graders in Washington State. This is so much more thoughtful and reasonable for the age group. When I was doing it there was NO curriculum but boy did the students have questions. I also know many adult women who’ve been assaulted as children. Learning about creating boundaries and identifying trusted adults might have helped them. I wholly support this curriculum – as well as the parents’ choice to opt-in or discuss this in their own time and ways with their children. Yes, please support this thoughtful curriculum for our 4th and 5th graders, many of whom already have questions, perhaps misinformation from peers, or the need to identify a trusted adult to talk with.

Suzanne Williams, former teacher, and Washoe County resident (Reno, 89521)

From: kristenirene
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 10:25 AM
To: Public Comments; Enfield, Susan
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment 3.04

Dear Board of Trustees and Dr. Enfield,

I apologize for not being able to make my comment in person. I have a prior engagement and I am not sure if the board will get to hear public comment on this important issue prior to that engagement.

I firmly support the updating of the 20 year old (or is it more than that?) 4th and 5th grade SHARE curriculum. It has needed to be updated for a very long time. I was subbing in my child's 4th grade classroom during share, so I have seen the videos. The poster on the wall of the girl portrayed in the video is one I had in my room when I was in high school. The clothes being worn were clothes I wore. So yeah, it's old and out of date, not just the styles and the bands on posters, but the information as well.

I greatly appreciate the new curriculum. Seeing "girls and people with vulvas" and "boys and people with penises" is the inclusive way to begin discussions. When I saw it in there, it made me happy to see that inclusivity.

There are students who begin going through puberty at an early age (precocious puberty). It is important for these students to know and understand what is happening with their bodies. So discussing puberty both in 4th and 5th grade is healthy and gives students accurate information.

Learning and using the proper terms for genitalia is necessary. Vulva, clitoris, labia, vagina, penis, testicles, scrotum, etc are not dirty words. They are words that describe what a person has. One reason these are important for students to know is if something is wrong, they can describe where. Or, if they are inappropriately touched by someone, they can describe where with accurate words. Saying hoohah or peepee or yingyang is not particularly descriptive. We wouldn't want students using words we didn't universally understand to describe teeth, back, arm, etc. if they were describing where they hurt or were touched, so let us give them the correct words for their genitalia as well.

SHARE is an OPT-IN program. When parents register their students, they can opt their child in to SHARE. It is not forced upon families. If a family doesn't want their child to learn about vulvas and penises at school, no big deal. They are able to opt out.

The updated curriculum provides facts to students. Not hearsay, not gossip, but actual scientific facts. The topics discussed in both the fourth and fifth grade SHARE curricula are aligned with both the National Sex Education Standards and Nevada Academic Content Standards.

One of the topics/lessons discussed is about friendship and consent and what makes a good/positive friend vs a person who might not be a friend. This is an important basis for learning what makes a positive relationship versus a negative one. Consent is explained and discussed. Other topics include how to set boundaries, the difference between like and love, and different ways to feel. It acknowledges that people may be attracted to a different gendered person, a same gendered person, or both. Imagine being a student who has felt they are attracted to someone of the same sex and having it talked about openly. They are actually seeing/hearing themselves in the topic being taught. That is important. Students should always be able to see themselves portrayed in school - this is true of gender, orientation, color of their skin, their neurodiversity, their nationality.

Again, SHARE is an OPT-IN program. When parents register their students, they can opt their child in to SHARE. It is not forced upon families. If a family doesn't want their child to learn about vulvas and penises at school, no big deal. They are able to opt out.

I am so grateful to the work put in by the SHARE team to update the 4th/5th grade curriculum and support it whole heartedly. I believe you should support it too.

Respectfully,
Kristen De Haan
Mom of two former WCSD students (both now attending UNR)

From: Meghan McGowan
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 10:29 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] I Support SHARE

To Whom It May Concern:

I support the WCSD offering medically accurate, inclusive sexual health education.

Meghan McGowan
Reno, NV

From: Eric Lerude
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 10:47 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support adoption of SHARE curriculum

Dear WCSD Board Members,

Please adopt the SHARE curriculum for 4th and 5th grades being considered at today's meeting.

My understanding is that the proposed curriculum has been developed as a result of a thorough process involving many people qualified to address this issue.

I also understand that this is an opt in curriculum, so parents who believe the curriculum is the right thing for their children can opt in to have their children learn the curriculum, and those parents who do not agree can opt out.

By the way I'm in favor of taking steps to address with compassion and empathy and open mindedness and education the challenges faced by the LGBTQ community. If the SHARE curriculum could be considered to be such a step, then I'm even more in favor of the curriculum, and this would be one more reason for adoption of the curriculum.

Thank you for your service to our community. I know these are difficult times to be on such a public body. Be strong in doing what you determine to be the right thing.

Eric Lerude

Reno resident

From: Megan Bell
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 11:06 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Sex Ed 4 All

As a queer parent who was once a queer student, I support a comprehensive and inclusive SHARE curriculum.

My children deserve the inclusion that was lacking in my upbringing. Every student deserves to feel comfortable when learning about their bodies.

Megan B

Sent from my iPhone

From: Proctor, Rochelle
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 11:37 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] New SHARE Materials

From: Dave Maass
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 8:09 PM
To: Proctor, Rochelle <RProctor@washoeschools.net>

As a Reno resident who will have a student in the WCSD system in the next few years, I strongly support inclusive language and the recognition of the existence of transgender and nonbinary people.

Please do not dilute education materials to appease Christian nationalists acting in bad faith.

Dave Maass
Reno, NV

From: Beth Martin
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 11:43 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Board Meeting SHARE curriculum 7/25/23

Hello board of trustees,

I am writing in support of the proposed SHARE curriculum. It is important that correct and appropriate information be shared with students and that is what the proposed curriculum provides to our students. Please keep in mind that SHARE is an opt in program and that leaves parents with the decision to have their child participate or not. It is also important to note that some students don't have access to correct information outside of school and the SHARE curriculum provides an opportunity for students to learn about their bodies and safe and healthy habits in a non threatening, safe environment at school. Please vote in favor of the proposed curriculum.

Respectfully,
Beth Martin
Mother of three current WCSD students
--
Beth Martin

From: Wes Elliott-
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 11:52 AM
To: Public Comments
Cc: Charles Elliott
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed Changea In Language OF S.H.A.R.E.

We need to pass on REALITY not propaganda to our future generations.
I am 75 years old and have lived in the Reno Sparks area all my life. I do not refer to anyone as a "penus" person! I learned that at an appropriate time but not as a form of recognition but of anatomy!
Let's cut this type of intrusion to our youth.

Charles Elliott

Sparks, NV

From: Nancy
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 11:56 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support of proposed changes to the Sexual Health and Responsibility Education (SHARE) program

[You don't often get email from nancy1243@sbcglobal.net. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

To our WCSD Board of Trustees:

Please ensure our children have access to a sex ed program that is medically accurate and gender inclusive. We must promote appropriate education that meets the diverse needs of our students.

Thank you for your leadership in adopting the changes.

Nancy Lindsley

From: Karen Bickel
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 11:57 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] I Support SHARE

SHARE is medically accurate, inclusive sexual health education! Please pass.
Thank you,
Karen

Sent from my iPhone

From: Elizabeth Burton
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 12:00 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] I Support SHARE

Dear Trustees,

Please support and approve the curriculum for 4th and 5th grade Sexuality Health and Education put before you today for a vote.

I believe along with with strong, positive community advocacy that this is an excellent curriculum supporting medically accurate, inclusive sexual health education. My family and my community agree and we ask that you vote YES.

Thank you so much for your time.

Elizabeth Burton
Reno, NV 89509

From: Hailey Lindsley
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 12:11 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] I support the proposed sex ed curriculum

Board of Trustees,

Thank you so much for your continued service on the board and I appreciate the opportunity to submit public comment in support of something I believe very strongly in, medically accurate and gender inclusive sex ed for young folks. I am a long time resident of Washoe County, born and raised, and I can tell you with certainty that the sex education that I received as a young person was not adequate. I believe in a brighter future for the young folks of Washoe county that they have a safe space within the classroom to be seen for who they are and have their voices heard and represented. Many young folks aren't equipped with the language to talk about their ever changing bodies and that is why it is so CRUCIAL that young folks have access to medically accurate and age appropriate graphics explaining the medical reality of what their body parts should be referred as and how they work. If you don't agree with creating a safe space for our young students to come together with all their varying experiences and gender identities and learn medically accurate and gender inclusive sex ed then dont opt your kids into the program.

Thank you so much,
Hailey Lindsley
89509

From: Carol Cooke
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 12:18 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] I Support SHARE

I strongly support the responsible science based SHARE program proposed for 4th and 5th grades.
Carol A. Cooke

From: Joyce Newman
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 12:32 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SHARE curriculum

I'm a Washoe County resident and want to voice my support for the SHARE curriculum.

Sincerely,

Joyce Newman
West Washoe Valley

If you ever needed proof that this is a political issue and is not for the benefit of children, consider that almost every written public comment is from a Democrat and is supportive of the proposed changes. That Washoe Dems "ACTION ALERT" (see below) sure worked!

The Board of Trustees is almost exclusively Democrats, as is the "SHARE" committee (all appointed by the board). The one "religious" appointee is a far-left activist. Neither the "SHARE" committee nor the Board of Trustees is representative of the majority of the community. If you want to know how the Board of Trustees, "SHARE" committee and district administration operate, I recommend you watch the 2019 HBO miniseries "Chernobyl" for a lesson in tortured logic and dysfunction which, predictably, results in disaster. Keep banging on though Comrades!

The headline in the Reno Gazette Journal yesterday was *"WCSD set to update sex ed lessons for 4th and 5th graders."* Freudian slip, or is it because they know it's a done deal? The RGJ routinely acts as a propaganda outlet for WCSD.

Anyone who tells you that "SHARE" is about "teaching medically accurate information" is either lying or doesn't know what they are talking about. While I believe a sex-ed program is desirable, it has been coopted to push a far-left narrative. Remember, all Democrats have been subjected to intensive and relentless propaganda from the well-funded far-left LGBTQ lobby for many years. That lobby is part of the drive to create division in society and the individuals involved run the whole spectrum of understanding and culpability.

The problem with the **"you can just opt-out"** argument is that the choice for parents becomes one of opting-in and receiving a far-left indoctrination or opting-out and receiving nothing. This is highly unsatisfactory as I believe most parents would be supportive of the basic sex-ed program provided for in the authorizing statute. **A basic sex-ed program is not offered by WCSD.**

The statute (NRS 389.036) states: "The board of trustees of a school district shall establish a course or unit of a course of... (1) instruction on the human reproductive system, (2) related communicable diseases, and (3) sexual responsibility." That's it, and, I believe, the proposed changes, indeed even the current "SHARE" program, are not compliant with the law. What the law provides for can be boiled down to three points; 1) don't get pregnant, 2) don't get a disease and 3) don't get molested. That is the anticipated limit of the school district's involvement. The law does not envision a course of education in every sexual variation or preference that exists. Why? Because not all parents and citizens believe that it should. The system needs to work for everyone, not just Democrats. There is ample material available from multiple other sources that parents can access for their children should they so wish.

While the county population consistently grows, WCSD enrolment consistently falls and is now more than 10,000 students less than forecasted. Why? Covid? No. Those who can, not only opt their children out of the "SHARE" program, but they opt their children out of the public school system entirely. All private and charter schools are bursting at the seams with waiting lists for

the first time ever in Washoe County history. Who is left in WCSD? Children of Democrats, children of wealthy parents who think (incorrectly) that their neighborhood school is exempt from the madness and parents who have no choice. This is deeply unsatisfactory as public school is supposed to be for everyone notwithstanding the fact that it is paid for by everyone.

My view on the current push for "Sexuality & Gender Identity™" training in public school is an entire rejection of it. It is a made-up discipline. There are two sexes. Male and Female. Nobody is "Born in the Wrong Body™". The concept of "gender" is amorphous and really is only reflective of the many personalities that humans have. For example, you can be a feminine boy, a masculine girl or anything in between but that has nothing to do with your sex or sex education. The phenomenon of students who are "different" from the general population is as old as time and the school's only role should be to provide them with the same education as everyone else and prevent any bullying. The rest is in the full and exclusive domain of parents. School districts, counselors, medical professionals, etc. may not like that or may think that they know better (sometimes they may even be correct), but they have self-expanded their roles into the exclusive domain of parents without permission or authority of law (except in limited situations such as mandatory reporting of child abuse).

Gender dysphoria is real and is being encouraged, indeed exploited, by social media, pop-culture, the Democratic Party, the left-wing counseling profession, the left-wing section of the medical profession, activist teachers, etc. Both the American Medical Association and the American Academy of Pediatrics have, I believe temporarily, been swept up in the "gender" madness and when the tide turns on "Gender Confirming Care™" the medical professionals offering those services are going to be in real trouble, indeed the litigation for performing irreversible procedures (aka child mutilation) has already begun.

The entire "SHARE" program needs to be suspended, the committee disbanded and replaced with people more representative of the community and a sex-ed program that conforms with the law established.

Graeme Reid

Here is the Washoe Dems Action Alert:

Reminder! WCSD Trustees to Vote on SHARE Curriculum
Advocate on behalf of our kids!



At the July 25th Washoe County School Board meeting, the Trustees are voting to approve the 4th and 5th Grade Sexuality Health And Responsibility Education (SHARE) curriculum. Their vote is the final step for this curriculum which has been developed, approved, and recommended by the District's SHARE Committee which includes volunteer parents, medical & mental health professionals, teachers, school counselors, and religious representatives through public meetings with public input.

How can you help? First, take some time to review the curriculum [at this link](#). Then we encourage you to add your voice to the chorus of strong, positive community advocacy that supports medically accurate, inclusive sexual health education.

Public comment can be given two ways:

- By email to publiccomments@washoeschools.net or
- Attend the meeting on Tuesday, July 25th at 2pm at the Central Administration Building Board Room located at 425 East Ninth Street, Reno, NV and give up to 3 minutes of public comment when the agenda item is heard. (If you aren't comfortable speaking in public, you may email your comment and still attend the meeting.)
- Note: Email comment carries just as much weight as public comment.

As a reminder, in the State of Nevada SHARE is **opt-in** education which means that parents CHOOSE to opt their children into this lesson. This is the epitome of parent choice.

Consent Agenda Public Comment

Dear President Smith and Board of Trustee Members-

I did not want to reiterate what you have, or will hear about the fiscal components on today's consent agenda, but I do want to bring attention to all the teachers and administrators that are entering the school year without a proper contract while monies are being spent.

You hear People over Programs everywhere you go in Washoe right now but it is important to share what that really means.

It means that we are ready to finally move past the pandemic and invest money in people instead of a new program that will, as history has shown us, most likely fade over the next 3-4 years. The pandemic opened our eyes to how many programs are available for students, but as Covid ended a new pandemic in education started.... STAFFING! Staffing our buildings with the best for students.

I write this as a representative for the labor force in Washoe that you all represent, a principal, and a parent of four in Washoe County, I would trade the best technology in the world for the best educators in the world any day of the week over my 30-year career. These educators will give my children the best they can with what they have every day.

The current morale of our staff going into this year is down because they are confused why a new contract has not been discussed. We have the mantra of always doing what is best for students, but you cannot do that until you do what is best for the labor that is taking care of them each day. **We need to show the community that our talented, skilled, and educated labor force wants to continue doing the good work, but it is becoming more difficult when we cannot afford to live in the communities we are being asked to support.**

This is truly a turning point for our county and the ability to competitively recruit and retain the best. I know that is what everyone in this room wants because we all love our children and want them to have every opportunity available to them. If we want the best outcome for our students then we must show our staff the income they deserve!

Thank you!

Freeman Holbrook

From: Megan Mather
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 1:01 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment: Sexual Health Education (WCSD Share) approval meeting

Attn: Board of Regents for WCSD

I am submitting a public comment addressing the Washoe County School District Sexual Health Education (WCSD Share) approval meeting on July 25th, 2023, at 2:00PM **addressing crucial changes to have sex ed curriculum for fourth and fifth graders more medically accurate and inclusive. As a concerned parent and member of our community, I wholeheartedly support the implementation of medically accurate, gender-inclusive sex education in our school curriculum. Equipping 4th and 5th graders with comprehensive knowledge about their bodies and relationships is a crucial step towards ensuring their safety and well-being as they navigate the complexities of adolescence and beyond.**

Firstly, medically accurate sex education empowers young students with the knowledge and understanding of their physical development. By providing age-appropriate information about puberty, reproductive health, and body changes, children can embrace these natural processes with confidence and without fear or confusion. When children have access to factual information, they are less likely to rely on unreliable sources or engage in risky behaviors driven by misinformation.

Secondly, gender-inclusive sex education fosters an inclusive and compassionate environment. It acknowledges and respects diverse gender identities and expressions, creating a safe space for all students to learn and explore their identities without judgment or prejudice. Understanding the differences between biological sex and gender identity fosters empathy and helps build a more accepting and inclusive community for everyone.

Thirdly, early education about consent, boundaries, and healthy relationships is paramount in ensuring the safety of our young students. By teaching children about respect, communication, and consent from an early age, we can equip them with the tools they need to recognize and prevent abusive or harmful situations. This knowledge lays the foundation for cultivating positive, respectful relationships in the future.

Additionally, medically accurate sex education can address misinformation and misconceptions that might otherwise be perpetuated by peers or media. In an era where children have easy access to various forms of media, ensuring they receive reliable and evidence-based information is crucial in promoting responsible decision-making.

Moreover, by providing comprehensive sex education, we enable parents and caregivers to have open and informed conversations with their children about these topics. It strengthens the family bond and creates a support system for young learners as they navigate through adolescence.

In conclusion, embracing medically accurate, gender-inclusive sex education for 4th and 5th graders is a proactive approach to safeguarding our children's well-being. It equips them with essential knowledge, encourages an inclusive and empathetic environment, fosters healthy relationships, dispels myths, and strengthens family communication. Let us unite in supporting this vital initiative, ensuring our children grow into informed, responsible, and empowered individuals. Together, we can create a safer and more compassionate community for everyone.

Sincerely,
Megan Mather



July 25, 2023

Support for agenda item 3.04: P PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED SEXUALITY, HEALTH, AND RESPONSIBILITY EDUCATION (S.H.A.R.E.) 4th AND 5th GRADE CURRICULA, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE S.H.A.R.E. ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Washoe County School Board of Trustees,

The Nevada Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence (NCEDSV) urges the Board of Trustees to adopt and implement the proposed S.H.A.R.E. curricula as comprehensive sex education is violence prevention. NCEDSV applauds the S.H.A.R.E Advisory Committee for prioritizing medically accurate sex education, proving to be an anti-violence advocate.

Nationally, 1 in 4 girls and 1 in 6 boys experience sexual abuse before the age of 18. ¹ Experiencing sexual violence as an adolescent has adverse effects and makes the victim-survivor more likely to experience re-victimization in adulthood. It has been found that “educating young people is the only true, long-term solution to gender-based violence. However, it must be age-appropriate, and evidence-based comprehensive sexuality education.” ² As life skills develop during a student’s K-12 experience, informing them with comprehensive sex education allows students to recognize healthy relationships, contribute to a healthy relationship, and understand how their choices may affect them or others. Using inclusive language in sex education is also vital in reaching all students and validating their experiences.

Current interventions for sexual violence focus on older age groups that have already been exposed to risk factors. Primary and early intervention is key in addressing effective prevention. “K-12 program begins early on in the life course when many risk factors are only just beginning to develop, and by reaching young children while they are still in development, it presents the best opportunity to address the problem before it occurs.” ³

Adopting this curriculum would have lasting impacts for our communities, creating safer school environments. Comprehensive, inclusive, and age-appropriate sex education is violence prevention programming and increases better success outcomes for our students.

¹ National Sexual Violence Resource Center. *Teenagers & Sexual Violence*. Retrieved from: https://www.nsvrc.org/sites/default/files/publications/2019-02/Teenagers_508.pdf

² UNESCO. *Comprehensive sexuality education to prevent gender-based violence*. Retrieved from: <https://en.unesco.org/news/comprehensive-sexuality-education-prevent-gender-based-violence>

³ Schneider, Madeline and Hirsch, Jennifer. July 2020. *Comprehensive sexuality education as a primary prevention strategy for sexual violence perpetration*. Trauma Violence Abuse. Retrieved from: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6283686/>

As a Board you have a responsibility to adopt policies with the student's best interest in mind, and the adoption of this curricula would prove just that.

Sincerely,

Serena Evans
Policy Director
Nevada Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual
Violence

From: Chelsea Hansen
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 1:26 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please accept the proposed changes to the S.H.A.R.E program

Good afternoon,

My name is Chelsea Hansen and I have lived in Reno for about 9 years. I am a mother of a 4-year-old. I am writing in support of accepting the proposed changes to the Sexual Health and Responsibility Education program for 4th and 5th graders. It is important that everyone with a body be educated about the parts of the body and normal changes to expect during puberty before they are in the middle of it. I also support inclusive language that doesn't make anyone feel like they or their loved ones are not ok being who they are. I hope this curriculum, which meets the standards of the American Academy of Pediatrics, is in effect when my daughter gets to be in 4th and 5th grade.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Chelsea Hansen

From: Lea Grace
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 1:35 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment - Share Curriculum

Hello, my name is Lea Moser. I am a 5th generation Nevadan, and a step-mother to five children. I am in favor of the SHARE curriculum being approved with the basic information about sexual orientation and gender identity. It's important exposure for students to learn about in a safe space such as school.

From: mollywillo
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 1:40 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for 4th and 5th grade SHARE curriculum

Dear School Board Trustees,

I am writing in favor of adopting the new SHARE curriculum. Given that our understanding of sexual identity and gender expression have developed so much in the last two decades, I think it would behoove us to be honest with children and make an environment where they can be informed and comfortable being themselves. I know some of the folks against this kind of gender-neutral language argue that teachers or districts are pushing children into "sex change" surgeries, but this is a conspiracy and really the exact opposite of what being more open and inclusive with language would accomplish. Allowing children to experiment with different pronouns, for example, is a low-stakes way to allow them to come to better understand themselves as opposed to causing someone to think they'd automatically HAVE to get a surgery just to abide by some external social gender expectations.

Also, I approve of teaching the students about both male and female biology. I am a former Washoe student, and when I took SHARE, we were split off and I really only learned about female biology -- and basically all I remembered was "this is how the vagina cleans itself" and some hygiene tips, and maybe abstinence? There is a lot that needs to be improved with young people's understanding of all sexes and how they responsibly interact. Fourth and fifth graders might seem young, but in my middle school years (6th, 7th, 8th), there were already girls who were pregnant. People that might be against these SHARE changes should consider if they would prefer rigorous sexual education for boys and girls to abortions and teen pregnancies. If you want to minimize the need for abortions, at least be responsible and arm young people with the facts, beyond "abstinence."

Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,
Molly Willoughby

From: heather.hnc
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 1:37 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comprehensive sex ed

Hello,

My name is Heather Carpenter, I am a mother and resident of Washoe County. I am writing in support of the measure for more gender-neutral language and the shift towards more inclusive and comprehensive sex education. I appreciate the board making this move.

A school must not only choose scientific reasoning, it must also choose compassion. Gender inclusive language allows for the acknowledgement that there is so much variation & diversity inherent to the human experience. It helps children better understand their own bodies and identity, and better protect themselves from those who might harm them.

Though some individuals may choose ignorance, a public education institution can not indulge in such a luxury of harm. That parents may choose to deny their children access to science-backed information should be regarded in the context of child abuse. That parents are currently permitted to deny their trans children in any sense should be regarded as a hate crime.

Kind regards,
Heather Carpenter

Sent from my Galaxy

From: g russell
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 1:48 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SHARE curriculum

Please, please, please make the schools safe for all children, especially the marginalized kids by approving this curriculum.

From: Barbara Twitchell
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 1:49 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] I Support SHARE

I am writing to express my strong and unequivocal support for the newly revised SHARE curriculum for 4th and 5th grade students. As a thoughtful, educated and involved parent and grandparent of three former and three current WCSD students, I find the new curriculum to be honest, medically accurate, inclusive, and appropriately presented for the age level that is targeted.

I know from experience that children need correct information, delivered in a positive, supportive manner, in order to be able to make good, healthy, smart decisions in their future. Not the other way around! Hiding the facts only leads them to seek answers in the wrong places resulting in misinformation, disinformation and feelings of shame. I am in my 70s and I am so grateful that I had a mother who was very honest and open about sexuality, encouraging my questions, and answering them *all* with complete and accurate information. I grew up with a very healthy, positive view of my own sexuality and that of others and always made very thoughtful and wise sexual decisions as a result. I raised my children the same way. In fact, one of my best memories is when my adolescent sons told me I was an even better source than the person that taught the SHARE program at their school because I was so comfortable and easy to talk to about it.

To those who come forward to speak against this, I would remind them that this is an OPT-IN program, so they have the right to keep their children ignorant of the facts if they so choose. They don't have the right to keep other people's children ignorant. Nor should they.

Kind regards,
Barbara Twitchell

From: janflangan
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 3:07 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SHARE Curriculum

Please keep the sex ed curriculum as it has been for 20 years. It has been very effective and should be renewed. Since it is an Opt-In curriculum, those parents who choose not to educate their children through the schools, can choose to do their sex education at home, while those parents who choose to use the school's curriculum, can do that without any hindrance. The epitome of school choice for educational advancement.

Thank you. Janice and Patrick Flanagan, Reno NV
89509.

From: Sarah Johns
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 3:11 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Zucker

Annie Zucker is a wonderful candidate. I support whatever the Board decides today.

Would it be possible for the Board to review this policy in the future? I support the committee structure, and I support Board meeting efficiency. However, could the resumes be provided as part of the public records act, and have the candidates' names redacted?

Sarah Johns
President, CEO



From: Share Committee
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 3:14 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Ob/Gyn Physician SUPPORTS SHARE curriculum approval

Thanks,

Kindra



From: Sara Working
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 9:59 PM
To: Share Committee <ShareCommittee@WashoeSchools.net>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Ob/Gyn Physician SUPPORTS SHARE curriculum approval

Dear Washoe County School Board,

I am an Ob/Gyn physician in Reno. I am also a mother to one current and one future child of the Washoe County School District. My career is dedicated to providing care to individuals needing comprehensive Obstetrical and Gynecological care. This includes helping them navigate their sexual and mental health.

Daily, I provide care to prevent unwanted pregnancy, plan desired pregnancy, prevent sexually transmitted diseases, understand physiological processes (such as menstruation and pelvic pain), navigate consent within relationships, and understand sexuality. Teens and young adults will eventually have sex. This is not up for debate by anyone. Sexual attraction and personal gender identity are not characteristics one can choose, no matter how much you may want to believe this. Teens and young adults cannot make healthy decisions when they do not even understand how pregnancy occurs, their own personal anatomy, and how to take charge of their own health. Many parents, feel uncomfortable having these discussions with their children, and vice versa. This conversation needs to start at the 4th and 5th grade level, prior to onset of puberty and menstruation.

Children, teens, and adults deserve medically accurate education on these subjects. This stance is supported by The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, as well as the American Academy of Pediatrics.

While all parents have the right to choose what their children learn, the program should be OPT OUT as the standard.

--

Sara Working, M.D., F.A.C.O.G
Vice President
Ob/Gyn Associates

From: Kenshin
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 3:32 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Sex ed and neut pronouns

I am messaging that I support the sex ed curriculum revision to include gender neutral pronouns, there are a small but prominent amount of people of our younger generation that do identify as non-binary and it is a welcoming thing for them to be more included and recognized in schools where they are supposed to feel safe.

best regards
-Xo (X pronounced as Sh)

From: Ethan Clift
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 3:50 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] I SUPPORT comprehensive and accurate sex education

Hello everyone, I'd like to thank the board for your service, my name is Ethan Clift, and I stand before you today to share my personal experience and voice my unwavering support for the new proposed curriculum that advocates for medically accurate and gender-inclusive sex education.

As a transgender man who navigated the public school system, I can attest to the significant impact that comprehensive and accurate sex education can have on a young person's life. Throughout my own journey, I yearned for a better understanding of who I was, and having access to a curriculum that embraced diversity and inclusivity would have been a tremendous help. Imagine if I had been provided with the knowledge and resources to understand my identity at a younger age, rather than waiting until I was 35.

One crucial aspect of this curriculum is the use of labeled illustrations to explain body parts and their medically accurate names. There is an unfortunate misconception that such essential educational materials are considered inappropriate or even pornographic. But let us be clear: providing students with factual information about their bodies should not be misconstrued as anything but an essential part of their growth and understanding.

Including labeled illustrations empowers students to know their bodies, promoting body positivity, and fostering a sense of self-awareness and acceptance. It's not about promoting explicit content; it's about providing the tools for self-discovery and confidence.

Moreover, this proposed curriculum respects individual choices by operating on an opt-in basis. Those who don't wish to partake in this education have the freedom not to do so. However, it's essential to emphasize that the absence of support for this curriculum should not be allowed to dictate what other students and advocates receive. Those of us who believe in the power of medically accurate and gender-inclusive sex education deserve to have our voices heard.

In conclusion, I encourage all of you to stand strong in support of this progressive and inclusive curriculum. Let us champion the cause for comprehensive sex education, ensuring that young minds are equipped with accurate information to make informed decisions about their bodies and lives. We can create an educational environment that embraces diversity, understanding, and empowerment.

Thank you.

Ethan Clift (he/him)

Reno, NV

From: Lori Kazmer
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 4:30 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] YES to SHARE

I am in support of the new SHARE program and encourage you to vote YES to pass this program. Since it is an opt-in program, any parents that do not want their children to attend this program do not have to have their children attend.

Again, please vote YES.

Thank you
Lori Kazmer

From: YeVonne Allen
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 4:31 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] 7/25/23 Public Comment - Item 3.04

Hello WCSD Board of Trustees,

Please consider this my Public Comment in SUPPORT of agenda item 3.04.
Our students need inclusive, accurate, and safe SHARE curricula.

Thank you,

YeVonne Allen

From: Ariel Van Cleve
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 4:36 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Reject SHARE Curriculum

Dear Members of the Board,

I urge you to reject the SHARE curriculum being considered today. This curriculum is sexually explicit and inappropriate for young children. Sexual education should be left to parents, and deceptive gender ideologies that confuse children should never come close to the classroom. There are only two genders—male and female; and a person born as one cannot be the other. This is a scientific reality. Please protect our children's innocence. Thank you.

Regards,
Ms. Ariel Van Cleve

From: Emily Freeman
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 4:46 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Item 3.04

To the Trustees,

I'm writing to advocate for the proposed Sexuality curricula. As a gay woman I believe it's imperative this be incorporated in the education of fourth and fifth graders. This is an opt in program that offers important help to many parents who struggle to have comprehensive conversations with their children on these topics and is imperative to help open a dialogue for young people who may struggling with their identity. I was that kid growing up and I so wish there had been inviting openings to have those talks and explore my feelings.

Thank you for your time.

Emily Freeman

Sent from my iPhone

From: Ethan B
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 4:49 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Item 3.04

Why would the concept of "consent" be taught to 4th graders? This idea reduces moral authority to individual will and judgement. These are children, not only do they lack the capacity to make a judgement no single individual has this capacity. An external authority must be appealed to at some point before an action is taken. Removing that authority does not remove it, it simply creates a void inviting any unnamed, unknown influence to take its place. There is NO standard for consent. It's completely detached from morality.

Thank you,
Ethan

From: Grace and Philip Moore
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 4:50 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please Approve SHARE curriculum!

Board of Trustees,

As the proud parent of a transgender daughter, I recognize the critical importance of inclusive language! Our transgender kids are at risk from a higher risk of suicide due to being felt to be unaccepted by their community!

Please approve this science-based curriculum with the inclusive language that is critical to my daughter and other transgender students.

Philip Moore
Reno, NV

Sent from my Emory PC

From: Casey Jayne Cooper
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 4:52 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please vote no on the changes

Please vote no on the proposed changes. Biology is biology. Girls should learn about girls and boys should learn about boys. Keep them separate labeled and protected. Kids don't need to be exposed to such adult concepts that change by the minute

Thank you,
Casey Cooper

From: Cara Dyson
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 4:56 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] NO NO NO

PLEASE VOTE NO on the proposed insane sex Ed curriculum changes. It makes no sense.

Do not advance this broken and perverted sex ed agenda. Stick to the Risk Avoidance Model. Reject in its entirety the Comprehensive Sex Ed Model.

This is not who we are. This does not represent even a small minority.

Do not follow suit with what other school districts are doing out of “tolerance” and “inclusion” and “diversity”.

This actually confuses children.

From: Robin Turner
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 5:00 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Vote no

Vote no, leave the children alone, you should not be discussing sex with children Robin Turner Sent from my iPhone

From: Therese Class
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 3:21 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Sex ed

We need medically correct and inclusive sex ed in public schools!
Therese and Patrick Class

From: rocco Polito
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 5:15 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Share Curriculum

It is inappropriate for 4th and 5th graders to learn about ejaculation, masturbation and other subjects that should be taught by parents when the student is older.

At the middle school level these subjects are brought up and are kind of appropriate for students at that age. Teach our 4th and 5th graders to read and do math and leave adult subjects to parents or other trusted adults.

We also need to use female and male verbiage instead of the wording in the curriculum.

It is my opinion that this curriculum should be rejected and adjusted to be appropriate to this age group.

Rocky Polito
Sparks resident

Sent from my iPhone

From: Jill Raduziner
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 5:17 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposal 3.04

Thank you for the opportunity to speak on behalf of many who are not speaking.

I do have a speech disorder and tremor so it's extremely difficult for me to present in public opinions that may not be voiced or heard.

Please protect our innocent children from this proposal for change that will create even more confusion during these impressionable years of the developing brain.

We need the appropriate professionals to address these gender issues that are evolving. Children with these concerns should be deferred to their medical care teams and not entrusted to public school officials who are not experts in biology or psychology (or may have discrete biases or personal agendas).

This is a serious proposal that can impact many children's mental health.

Certainly, parents have a decision to give permission for teachers to teach this "new" curriculum.

Unlike the medical professional's oath to do no harm, teachers have no such oath.

Such confusion is creating harm. Not only that, having both GENDERS being taught in the same room, promotes promiscuity.

Gender dysphoria is leading to mental health concerns, creating life-long mental health issues. This can be debated both ways - teach about it or not in the proposed verbiage.

Leave it to the experts. This is a contentious issue that I encourage a "No" vote until more research reveals no further harm is caused to our children.

There is too much ambiguity in this movement to get this passed.

Respectfully, a concern resident.

Jill Raduziner
Reno, NV

Sent from my iPhone

From: K C
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 5:22 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Share Agenda

Hello,

I urge you to vote NO on this agenda. I strongly believe that not only do children deserve the respect to decide for themselves what sexuality they relate to the best but the family deserves the right to be a part of that decision.

By inserting such a strong non-gender agenda into schools at such an early age kids are actually feeling pressured to pick whatever is being pushed at them. There are children that are absolutely in conflict with their hormones and identity, but the majority of kids relate as boy/ girl, male/female. Removing these adjectives from the school curriculum takes away their right to identify the way they feel most comfortable and actually feel pressured to choose a different identity just to fit in with the social and peer pressure. This is bullying! There is such a push to treat everyone as equal and to be respectful to each others gender choice that those who still identify as the "norm" are now being pushed aside, called racist, and are made to feel inferior if they identify with the gender they were assigned at birth, by science.

I also don't believe kids should be taught Sex Ed in a commingled environment. Boys and girls at young ages are shy about their bodies and become embarrassed quite easily with talk and pictures of the human body. If boys and girls were separated when taught sex ed they would be more likely to ask questions and pay attention. Everyone deserves respect and their privacy when it comes to talking about the changes to their bodies as they come into adulthood. The human body should be respected and kept to oneself, not put out there in such an open environment which teaches kids to be nonchalant about their bodies and sexuality and can make them more promiscuous.

There are so many other issues with these transgender agendas that there just isn't time to go into them all, but bathrooms and locker rooms should be kept to the gender that's on their birth certificate. There are too many predators that take advantage of saying they identify as female just to get access to the girls restrooms where attacks have taken place. It's the school board's duty to protect our children and be there to help guide them in circumstances where they are at a lose and to involve the parents so decisions about behavior, religion and sex can be dealt with as a family. It is not the school's responsibility to help children decide if they're male, female, homosexual, heterosexual, binary or non-binary, transgender..... it is their responsibility to bring the issue to the parents.

Kids don't need to learn about transgender in the classroom. It is such a huge part of our society that they have or can find all the information they need outside of the classroom.

I apologize for the rushed email but I sincerely hope the vote on this is NO. There are better ways to go about informing our children without infringing on personal or religious rights.

Sincerely,
Kelly

From: Lori Mendez
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 5:25 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public comment

This is not something teachers should be teaching the children. Teacher should be teaching history, math, reading, etc. not this.

Sent from my iPhone

From: M Rajamand
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 6:29 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Sexual health curriculum

Dear Members of the School Board,

I hope this email finds you in good health and spirits. As both a concerned parent of four young children and an Obstetrics and Gynecology (OB/GYN) doctor, I am writing to express my strong support for evidence-based sexual health education in our schools.

As a parent, I believe that providing comprehensive and accurate sexual health education is essential in equipping our children with the knowledge and skills they need to make informed and responsible decisions about their sexual health. Adolescence is a critical period when young individuals undergo physical, emotional, and psychological changes, making it vital to offer them accurate and age-appropriate information about sexual health. Evidence-based sexual health education can help promote healthy relationships, foster respect for one another's boundaries, and empower young people to navigate the complexities of sexuality safely.

As an OB/GYN doctor, I have witnessed firsthand the impact of well-informed and educated individuals on their reproductive and sexual health. Evidence-based sexual health education goes beyond mere abstinence-only approaches; it provides comprehensive information about various contraceptive methods, sexually transmitted infections (STIs), consent, and healthy relationships. This knowledge is crucial in preventing unintended pregnancies, reducing the transmission of STIs, and promoting overall reproductive health.

Effective sexual health education should include the following key components:

- **Medically Accurate Information:** Information provided to students should be based on scientific evidence and reviewed by medical professionals to ensure accuracy and relevance.
- **Age-Appropriate Content:** Sexual health education should be tailored to suit the developmental stage of the students, ensuring that the information is neither too advanced nor too simplistic.
- **Inclusivity and Diversity:** Education should be inclusive of various sexual orientations, gender identities, and cultural backgrounds, promoting understanding and acceptance.
- **Promoting Healthy Relationships:** Teaching students about the importance of consent, communication, and respect in relationships fosters a culture of mutual respect and understanding.
- **Contraceptive Methods:** Providing information about various contraceptive options empowers students to make informed decisions about their reproductive health.
- **STI Prevention:** Educating students about the risks of STIs and how to protect themselves promotes responsible sexual behavior.
- **Open Dialogue:** Encouraging open discussions and answering questions in a non-judgmental and supportive environment can help reduce stigma and misconceptions.

I firmly believe that implementing evidence-based sexual health education in our schools will positively impact the health and well-being of our students, leading to healthier outcomes for our community as a whole.

As a Christian mother, I believe in conservative foundations for my children. As a physician, I have seen first hand the travesty that occurs when we assume all children have a similar household at home. Yes, we want to protect our

children from misinformation, misleading information and any education that could persuade our children to stray from a path that would all them to excel. However, the major point is that this education is not necessarily for the child that has loving, concerned guardians guiding them. It is for the child that is in the dark, alone and relying on their public school education to keep them on a righteous path. They must be educated. They must be given the opportunity to protect their bodies and make informed reproductive decisions. Please give them this opportunity in a way the current curriculum has been robbing them.

I kindly request that you consider the importance of evidence-based sexual health education and take appropriate measures to integrate comprehensive and accurate sexual health curriculum into our schools. I have read and support the proposal the SHARE committee has presented as an option for our Washoe County schools. I am more than willing to offer my expertise and collaborate with educators and the school board to ensure that our children receive the best possible sexual health education, if you ever find this necessary.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to a constructive and meaningful conversation on this crucial matter.

Sincerely,

Mariko Rajamand, DO, FACOG
Board Certified OBGYN
Owner FEM Women's Wellness
Mother of Layla, Roya, Zareen, and Cyrus Rajamand

From: Scot Krause
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 6:34 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] please adopt the proposed SHARE curriculum

I am a resident of Washoe County as well as a teacher for the district and I support this curriculum. These are important lessons that our students need to learn from.

I understand that the loudest voices you often hear from do not want these lessons approved, but remember that their views do not represent the views of the majority of Washoe County residents. Trustee Joe Rodriguez beating Melanie Sutton, Trustee Elizabeth Smith beating Edgard Hitti and Jeff Baclet, and Trustee Adam Mayberry beating Graeme Reid proves that this community is more progressive than these loud "MAGA" voices would want you to believe. Please vote accordingly.

Scot Krause

From: g russell
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 7:04 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Asking the one POC to sit down

Hi there, I have been watching the meeting online. I have noticed several people - who were next in line and who weren't - standing against the wall behind the speaker. The first time a woman of color stood there she was asked to sit down. She had to disclose her disability to justify standing there, even then you prioritized the comfort of the white speaker over the woman of color.
Please take some time to reflect on why you thought to ask Felicia to sit down but not the many white people who stood there.

Thank you

From: Yolanda Ortega-Gammill
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 7:06 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SHARE

I am very much in support of the adoption of the Washoe Schools SHARE program for grades 4/5.

Trustee Westlake, there are people in this world who have a vulva who do not identify as female. Hence, "females and PERSONS with a vulva". There are people in this world who have a penis who do not identify as male. Hence, "males and PERSONS with a penis". Please refrain from speaking on behalf of healthcare professionals.

Yolanda Ortega-Gammill RDN, CDCES
Pediatric Endocrinology

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From: tanya coleman
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 10:55 PM
To: Public Comments; Enfield, Susan
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SHARE post meeting comment

Good evening,

I am a 3rd grade teacher at Echo Loder. USAF Vet. Disabled. My young Grandson is a WCSD student. I've just finished watching tonight's meeting in its entirety. My sincerest gratitude for the work you are all doing. I can't imagine what it must be like to persevere through all of the emotionality of tonight while at the same time remaining courteous and professional.

Dr. Enfield, Thank you for suggesting to the Board that the revised SHARE program be submitted to staff for review.

Personally, I was hoping there would be vetted revisions made prior to the Board vote (breasts-apples-melons for example). Most importantly, I ask that the Board consider not combining 4th grade boys and girls and 5th grade boys and girls.

I thought the public brought up a lot of good ideas to ensure we are presenting a developmentally appropriate sexual health and responsibility education to 9 and 10 year old children. As a teacher who is very much an ally with our most vulnerable youth and the LGBTQIA community I was uncomfortable with how another vulnerable group was treated tonight--our elders.

The beginning of the meeting started with the most beautiful opening that included recognizing the wisdom of a tribal elder, but by the end I felt there were elders who gave public comment tonight who were disregarded. devalued, and disrespected.

Respectfully,
Agnes

If you stumble make it part of the dance.

From: Katie Rihn
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 11:01 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SHARE curriculum

Hi,

I support the proposed SHARE curriculum.

Thank you,
Katie Rihn
Sparks, 89431

Sent from my iPhone

From: Ellen Marston
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 11:58 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL]

I am in support of the adoption of the Washoe Schools' Share program for grades 4-5.

From: laurafreed
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 1:00 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item 3.04 on July 25 Board of Trustees agenda -- SUPPORT

Good afternoon members of the Board of Trustees,

I write to support the adoption of new S.H.A.R.E curriculum as proposed by the S.H.A.R.E. advisory committee on today's agenda. It is long past time that sex education is updated and this is a reasonable proposal. All the folks writing in opposition are choosing to ignore that parents have ultimate choice by opting out of this curriculum. It's as if certain community members don't want our young people to be educated about their bodies and start to develop a mature understanding of human sexuality.

I urge the Board of Trustees to ignore a vocal minority and vote to approve this revised curriculum.

Thank you,
Laura Freed

Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.

From: Dr. Troy Ross
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 2:04 PM
To: Public Comments
Cc: Church, Jeffrey; Westlake, Colleen M; Rodriguez, Joseph M; Smith, Elizabeth A; Woodley, Alex; Mayberry, Adam
Subject: [EXTERNAL] public comment for the record

I am writing to provide public comment, in regard to Item 3.04 on the 7/24 board of trustee meeting. Please provide the following to the members of the Board:

I oppose the adoption of the proposed 4th and 5th grade SHARE curriculum. There are several items that are problematic, that the Trustees need to be aware of.

1. in the videos and slides, which present reproductive anatomy, the anus is illustrated and discussed. The anus is NOT a part of reproductive anatomy.
2. In the video cartoon, addressing pregnancy, the sperm is sitting in a bar waiting for the egg. That is absolutely inappropriate at any level of education as it connects sex leading to pregnancy being linked to inebriated states.
3. In the section on communication and sexual consent a scenario with two children, Sam and Max, is presented. The visual on the slide clearly shows two girls holding hands - the sex of Sam and Max is left ambiguous. This again is inappropriate for primary education.
4. Throughout the curriculum there are references to bodies with a vulva, a person whose biological sex is male, most people have internal and external parts. This is using tortured and convoluted language that is confusing.
5. In the video for boys' anatomy the terms Balls, precum, and bone are used. Yet in the teaching section it is specifically noted that slang should not be use.
6. All of the videos refer children to amaze.org for additional information. Videos on that website are inappropriate for 4th and 5th graders, yet the school implicitly endorses that content. As an side, when I tried to go to amaze.org, my work computer security settings blocked my access.

I urge you to not endorse those proposed changes.

Troy Ross, MD, MPH
Preventive Medicine
Reno, NV

Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.

From: Vivian Leal
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 4:50 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Sex Ed in our county schools

Nevada's young people deserve accurate information not perilous ignorance.

I grew up in religious communities who prided themselves on their compassion and educational opportunities. However, information about our bodies, our reproductive systems, contraception or what consent means were systematically kept from us, especially the girls, under the guise of protecting our virtue. True virtue is when you make good choices based on your values. **What they did is keep us ignorant and make us victims of those who would gladly provide a so-called "education" to young girls.**

As teens we searched for information amongst each other, in the library encyclopedias and from people we should never have trusted. Some of my friends became pregnant, some sick. My husband and I raised five children, now wonderful adults. Age-appropriate information and judgement-free access to contraception, for those that were choosing it, was their shield from the worst of what impetuous teens are exposed to in our Reno Tahoe community. But so many young people in NV still do not have either. Let's set aside Nevada's shameful teen pregnancies for girls aged 15-19. They are in fact exceeded by our stunning Nevada STD numbers. The chlamydia and gonorrhea numbers in the 15 to 19 year old group are tragic. And worse though trafficking has become a much publicized concern, the very folks that repeatedly return to this subject, many in this room, no matter the actual topic of a meeting, want to keep kids in the dark, and in effect, vulnerable.

Clearly, we have a problem. With appropriate information our young adults can have bright futures, promising careers, nurturing relationships and responsibly-planned families. I understand some families do not wish their children to participate in sex-ed classes, often in the ill-informed belief that the information would encourage promiscuity (it won't) or affect their sexual identity (it can't). Reality proves it, join us here in the real world. Instead of taboo subjects, let's empower kids with a shared curriculum of good information they can trust and which they can collectively reference as a community--peers matter most to young people.

Ultimately, Parents legally may choose to keep their own children ignorant, but the state and our county educational system should not. For Washoe, age appropriate, scientifically accurate, inclusive Sex Ed must be opt out, not opt-in because ignorance cannot be Washoe's choice for all our children.

Vivian Leal
Reno, Nevada