

**MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 14, 2023  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

November 14, 2023

**1. Opening Items**

**1.01 CALL TO ORDER**

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

**1.02 ROLL CALL**

President Beth Smith and Board Members Jeff Church, Adam Mayberry, Diane Nicolet, Joe Rodriguez, Colleen Westlake, and Alex Woodley were present. Superintendent Susan Enfield and staff were also present.

**1.03 PRESENTATION OF COLORS**

In honor of Veteran's Day, the Washoe County School District Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) Superintendent's Elite Color Guard conducted a presentation of colors. The color guard was led by Cadet Command Sergeant Major Keila Gutierrez and comprised of JROTC students throughout the district, including Brigade Commander Cadet Colonel Isabela Vergara, Cadet Gunnar Friedrikson, Cadet Leilah Mead, Cadet Aden Devera, Cadet Lily Wroldsen, Cadet Angela Eaton, Cadet David Chinas, Cadet Isabell Garcia, Cadet Ronaldo Gonzalez, Cadet Trenton Jackson, Cadet Trace Ward, and Cadet Adamari Cruz.

**1.04 NATIONAL ANTHEM**

The National Anthem was sung by JROTC Cadet Staff Sergeant Lillian Gilpin.

**1.05 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Brigadier General Rodger (Dan) Waters, Nevada National Guard, led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**1.06 LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

President Smith read the land acknowledgement.

#### **4. Items for Presentation, Discussion, Information and/or Action**

##### **4.01 ADOPTION OF WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD RESOLUTION 23-019, A RESOLUTION HONORING VETERANS IN THE WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Chief Warrant Officer Rick Fernandez, JROTC Operations Officer, provided a presentation on JROTC programming in the Washoe County School District. The mission of the JROTC was: "To motivate young people to be citizens of character by instilling in them a sense of personal responsibility, accomplishment and the importance of service their nation and community." The 11 JROTC programs throughout the district served 1,854 cadets, with 8 Army programs, 2 Navy programs, and 1 Air Force program. The curriculum and extra-curricular activities associated with JROTC were reviewed.

Trustees Church, Rodriguez, and Woodley read Board Resolution 23-019, A Resolution honoring Veterans in the Washoe County School District.

Brigadier General Rodger (Dan) Waters, Nevada National Guard, expressed appreciation for the work occurring in the district. He was impressed with the work of the Board and district for providing the opportunities for the youth of the community, some of whom would go on to serve and sacrifice for the country. He noted the Nevada National Guard had many youth programs, in addition to many members of the National Guard who served as JROTC instructors and assistant instructors.

It was moved by Trustee Rodriguez and seconded by Trustee Church that **the Board of Trustees adopts Washoe County School District Board Resolution 23-019, A Resolution honoring Veterans in the Washoe County School District.** The result of the vote was Unanimous: (Yea: Jeff Church, Adam Mayberry, Diane Nicolet, Joe Rodriguez, Beth Smith, Colleen Westlake, and Alex Woodley.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

##### **4.02 PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ON THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE STARBASE PROGRAM AND THEIR PARTNERSHIP WITH THE WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT, INCLUDING HOW THEY SUPPORT STUDENT ACADEMIC SUCCESS**

Brigadier General Rodger (Dan) Waters, Nevada National Guard, and Tiffany Young, STARBASE High Sierra Program Director, provided a presentation on the STARBASE Program. The goal of the STARBASE program was to provide an outstanding and unforgettable Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) educational, hands-on experience on a military installation. The program provided 25 hours of STEM instruction for 5<sup>th</sup> grade students from Title I schools. During the 2022-23 School Year,

over 600 students from 9 schools in the Washoe County School District participated in the program. The Nevada National Guard was looking to expand the program and was working with the Department of Defense on identifying additional classroom space that could be used for the students.

Tiffany Kaiser, Glenn Duncan Elementary School 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, presented on her students' experiences participating in the STARBASE program. She explained how STEM was integrated into all lessons and how the collaborative experiences helped create improved teamwork throughout the remainder of the school year once the program ended. The students appreciated meeting the service members and being able to interact with them to see how the lessons they were learning translated into various careers.

Trustee Woodley expressed his appreciation for the program serving Title I schools. He understood the challenges many Title I students faced and was pleased to see an opportunity for them to learn about programs that could change their futures.

#### **4.03 ADOPTION OF WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD RESOLUTION 23-020, A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING NOVEMBER 2023 AS NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH**

Fawn Hunter, Program Specialist, Department of Native American Education, provided a presentation on Native American education in the Washoe County School District. The history of Native American Heritage Month and the Native American Culture and Education Program in the district was presented. Some of the programming provided was reviewed, including Paiute language classes, college tours, and cultural opportunities. The program collaborated with the Reno Sparks Indian Colony on classes and other opportunities, such as making ribbon skirts and visiting the basket vault at the Nevada State Museum. Information on the Annual Paiute Language Bowl and a video of the Native American Pow Wow at Natchez Elementary School was provided.

Trustee Mayberry read Board Resolution 23-020, A Resolution recognizing November 2023 as Native American Heritage Month.

President Smith opened the meeting to public comment.

Gracie Dick-Cluette was a Paiute Language Program Specialist. She explained how rewarding it was to work with the students and the team within the Native American Education Department. She urged the Board to look at providing additional funding for programming so more opportunities could be provided to students.

It was moved by Trustee Nicolet and seconded by Trustee Woodley that **the Board of Trustees adopts Washoe County School District Board Resolution 23-020, A Resolution recognizing November 2023 as Native American Heritage Month.**

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

**4.04 ADOPTION OF WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD RESOLUTION 23-021, A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK AND THE IMPORTANCE OF CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

Josh Hartzog, Director of Signature Academies and Career and Technical Education (CTE), provided a presentation on CTE in the Washoe County School District. The resolution aligned with the WCSD Promise and Goal 5 of the strategic plan, Empowering All Learners for their Future. The various CTE apprenticeship programs available throughout the district were reviewed, with close to 1,000 students participating each school year; additionally, the Debbie Smith CTE Academy was scheduled to open for the 2025-26 School Year.

Trustee Nicolet asked if there were any CTE programs the district should be offering but were not currently. Mr. Hartzog indicated the district had a robust offering of programs available, but he was excited for the practical nursing program to come on-line when the Debbie Smith CTE Academy opened.

Brian Prather, President, Building and Construction Trades Council of Northern Nevada, and Rob Benner, Secretary-Treasurer, Building and Construction Trades Council of Northern Nevada, thanked the Board and district for their continued support of construction trades programming. Information on apprenticeship programming was provided, including wages and benefits offered to apprentices. Currently, about 1,000 apprentices worked in Northern Nevada and more were being recruited due to the aging workforce. Local apprentices provided information on their experiences.

President Smith read Board Resolution 23-021, A Resolution recognizing National Apprenticeship Week and the importance of Career and Technical Education.

It was moved by Trustee Rodriguez and seconded by Trustee Mayberry that **the Board of Trustees adopts Washoe County School District Board Resolution 23-021, A Resolution recognizing National Apprenticeship Week and the importance of Career and Technical Education.** The result of the vote was Unanimous: (Yea: Jeff Church, Adam Mayberry, Diane Nicolet, Joe Rodriguez, Beth Smith, Colleen Westlake, and Alex Woodley.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

**2. Consent Agenda Items**

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It was moved by Trustee Mayberry and seconded by Trustee Nicolet that **the Board of Trustees approves Consent Agenda Items 2.02 through 2.08**. The result of the vote was Unanimous: (Yea: Jeff Church, Adam Mayberry, Diane Nicolet, Joe Rodriguez, Beth Smith, Colleen Westlake, and Alex Woodley.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

- 2.02 The Board of Trustees approved the creation, posting, and hiring of the new permanent position of Risk Management Coordinator for an estimated cost of \$117,675.
- 2.03 The Board of Trustees awarded Bid #24-23-B-09-AA, Transformer Electrical Upgrades at Earl Wooster High School, to Meiden Construction LLC in the amount of \$268,500.
- 2.04 The Board of Trustees approved the purchase of 42 operational service & police vehicles through Joinder State of Nevada Vehicle Purchasing Contracts 99SWC-NV21-8811, 99SWC-NV21-8815, 99SWC-NV21-8903, 65DPS-NV20-3728, along with Joinder Sourcewell 031121-DAC.
- 2.05 The Board of Trustees approved Change Order #022 to United Construction Company as the Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) for the Expansion and Renovation of Darrel C. Swope Middle School, CMAR #C-62335A, in the amount of \$25,561.26.
- 2.06 The Board of Trustees approved the 2023-24 Class Size Reduction Plan to be filed with the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.
- 2.07 The Board of Trustees approved the agreement with Lexia Learning Systems, LLC for the Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling (LETRS) program to provide professional learning based in the science of reading using competitive Assembly Bill 495, from the 2021 Nevada Legislative Session, American Rescue Plan (ARP): Addressing the impact of learning loss and closing funding gaps grant funding for \$439,167.
- 2.08 The Board of Trustees approved the renewal agreement between the Washoe County School District and Power Schools in the amount of \$184,914.99.

### **3. Financial Items**

- 3.01 **PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO ACCEPT THE ANNUAL COMPREHENSIVE FINANCIAL REPORT (ACFR) FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023 (FY 2023), AS RECOMMENDED BY THE AUDIT COMMITTEE**

Mark Mathers, Chief Financial Officer, explained the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) was a requirement under Nevada Revised Statutes and consisted of the district's financial statements, notes on the financial statements that provided required disclosures, opinions submitted by the external auditors, and a summary of the financial activities of the year. The ACFR was completed by the October 31 deadline.

Jeff Jensen, Crowe LLC, and Marann Murphy, Crowe LLC, provided a presentation on the ACFR for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023. The ACFR was presented to the Audit Committee on November 9, 2023. The responsibilities of the external auditor were reviewed, which included expressing opinions on the financial statements and federal program compliance and an internal control evaluation. It was noted there were no new accounting standards with a material impact to the district, no corrected or uncorrected misstatements, and no significant or adverse events that required the Board's attention in connection with the completion of the audit. The district received an unmodified, or clean, opinion for both the financial statements and federal compliance and there were no reportable findings. Additional information about the net pension and other postemployment benefits (OPEB) liabilities was provided.

Trustee Church stated he was impressed with the clean audit report. He highlighted that declining enrollment cost the district about \$8 million. He asked if heart and lung liability for School Police was included under the OPEB information. Mr. Mathers mentioned school districts were not required to meet the heart and lung requirement other local governments with law enforcement agencies or fire protection districts were subject to.

Trustee Church wondered where the budget was located in the ACFR. Mr. Mathers explained an aggregate number for the budget was not included in the ACFR but would be included in the popular annual financial report (PAFR) the district would release by December 31.

Trustee Church questioned why the individual school enrollment numbers were no longer included in the ACFR. Mr. Mathers indicated the information was not required to be part of the ACFR and not directly related to the financial activity of the district.

It was moved by Trustee Nicolet and seconded by Trustee Woodley that **the Board of Trustees accepts the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, as recommended by the Audit Committee.**

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

*President Smith recessed the meeting for 12 minutes.*

**4. Items for Presentation, Discussion, Information and/or Action****4.05 PRESENTATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE DEVELOPMENT OF A COMPREHENSIVE VAPING PREVENTION STRATEGY, TO INCLUDE A COST ANALYSIS OF VAPING DETECTION DEVICES, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE SAFE AND HEALTHY SCHOOLS COMMISSION**

Katherine Loudon, Counseling Coordinator, and Scott Benton, Safe and Healthy Schools Commission Chair, provided a presentation on recommendations of the Safe and Healthy Schools Commission (SHSC) to develop a comprehensive vaping prevention strategy. It was important to work with community partners on any strategy because there were behavioral impacts, as well as health impacts, that had to be presented to students and families. They noted vaping had become such a normalized behavior that families and students were requesting it be included in individual education plans (IEPs) as a stress relieving mechanism. Discipline data related to vaping was presented along with Nevada Revised Statutes related to tobacco, vaping, and e-cigarettes and substance abuse and prevention since the vape devices could contain THC or other controlled substances. Prevention strategies and intervention programs currently used in the district were presented. Additional ideas from the SHSC were reviewed on areas that should be researched in the development of a comprehensive prevention strategy.

Superintendent Enfield mentioned the district was currently gathering information on the feasibility of vape detection sensor devices in all middle and high schools that included a cost analysis. She agreed that it would be critical to have a community-wide approach to address the problem.

Trustee Westlake expressed concern over any educational strategy because she believed teens thought they were indestructible so nothing bad would happen to them. She wondered how sensitive the vape detection devices were because she was uneasy that they would not work properly if the area they were placed in, such as a locker room, was too large. Ms. Loudon noted there were different devices with different sensitivities. The question was an area the SHSC could investigate further if that was the desire of the Board.

Trustee Rodriguez asked if there were strategies previously used to address smoking in bathrooms that could be used for vaping prevention. Ms. Loudon remarked there were strategies surrounding prevention. It was by raising awareness through education and prevention that worked to decrease teen smoking several years ago. It was also important to address the addiction aspect and there were community partners who could assist with those efforts. A comprehensive approach to address the problem would be needed because vaping would not decrease only by sensors alone.

Trustee Nicolet believed it was important to address healthy behaviors early, which could include providing health classes in kindergarten or even preK. She agreed it was critical to have a community approach and that additional campus supervisors would provide the additional supervision students needed. She asked what the components were to early identification strategies. Ms. Loudon explained the strategies included providing opportunities to students caught with a vape device to receive education on the dangers of vaping or support services to address addiction instead of suspension, as well as opportunities to have conversations with the family on how to be healthier. Staff could receive information that a student might need help in various ways, such as friends or a teacher.

Trustee Church expressed discomfort in the use of the vape detection devices because he did not believe they were cost effective. He would prefer an educational approach for younger students. He believed it would be more important to train School Police in drug detection and implementing a voluntary drug testing program.

Trustee Westlake reiterated the need for additional campus supervisors to provide supervision. She agreed the students should not be suspended but would like to see the district bring back programs such as detention or Saturday school where the students could receive education on the harmful effects of vaping.

President Smith opened the meeting to public comment.

Valerie Fiannaca agreed with Trustee Westlake on the use of detention. She believed it would be important for the parents to face consequences as well and wondered if there were laws that would hold parents responsible. She was interested in seeing an additional adult presence in the bathrooms or other areas of the school during lunches and passing times because that would help with prevention; though she wondered if teachers were afraid of confronting students because of the increase in violent incidents by students on staff.

Victoria Myer expressed appreciation for having additional supervision of the students and believed parents should also be used to help provide the additional supervision of students. She felt the open bathrooms were contributing to the problem because they were a waste of money and allowed students to hide behind floor to ceiling doors, so no one knew how many people were actually in the stall. She would prefer the district use common sense to solve some of the problems by having the parents help.

The Board received an email from Abbygail Nerger related to this item.

It was moved by Trustee Rodriguez and seconded by Trustee Mayberry that **the Board of Trustees approves the development of a comprehensive vaping prevention**



**strategy, to include a cost analysis of vaping detection devices and implementation plan, as recommended by the Safe and Healthy Schools Commission.**

President Smith opened the motion for discussion.

Trustee Nicolet asked if the motion included the policy development and other items discussed.

President Smith believed it did because the policy development and other items were included in the presentation as part of the comprehensive prevention strategy.

Trustee Church disagreed and believed the motion only covered a cost analysis of vaping detection devices. He disagreed with the utilization of the devices and would prefer other strategies to be investigated. He stated he would be voting "no" on the motion for that reason.

President Smith countered that her belief was that the motion included the various strategies discussed during the presentation to be reviewed as part of the development of the overall prevention strategy, which would also include a cost analysis since the SHSC could not direct staff to conduct that on their own. The motion would authorize staff to develop the comprehensive strategy that would be presented to the SHSC for their thorough review.

Trustee Nicolet remarked she would be voting "no" because she believed the motion did not include policy development and other strategies.

President Smith asked if the maker of the motion would accept a friendly amendment to include additional language regarding policy development and outreach campaigns.

Trustee Rodriguez stated he would not because he believed the language was already included in the motion.

The result of the vote was 5-2: (Yea: Adam Mayberry, Joe Rodriguez, Beth Smith, Colleen Westlake, and Alex Woodley. Nay: Jeff Church and Diane Nicolet.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

**4.06 APPROVAL TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE SINGLE POINT OF ENTRY AND SECURE PERIMETER PILOT PROJECTS AT ROBERT MCQUEEN HIGH SCHOOL, DAMONTE RANCH HIGH SCHOOL, AND SPARKS HIGH SCHOOL AND THE PROJECT TO INSTALL SECURITY FILM ON ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL MAIN ENTRY WINDOWS, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE SAFE AND HEALTHY SCHOOLS COMMISSION**

Tami Zimmerman, Chief Facilities Management Officer, provided a presentation on the proposed pilot projects for single point of entry and secure perimeters at high schools. The projects would be completed at three high schools to determine challenges and opportunities, as well as include conversations with students and staff on the implementation of the projects. The desire was to have the projects completed by the start of the 2024-25 School Year, depending on construction availability. The agenda item also included the installation of security film on windows at all elementary schools, middle schools, and Procter R. Hug High School.

Trustee Church asked where the funding would come from. Ms. Zimmerman indicated funding would come from the Capital Renewal Program. The total cost had not been determined, but the projects would be brought to the Board for approval like all construction bids.

President Smith opened the meeting to public comment.

The Board received an email from Freeman Holbrook, Principal, Robert McQueen High School.

Trustee Rodriguez wondered why only three high schools were being considered. Lauren Ford, Associate Chief of Secondary Education, explained it would be important for the district to determine how the projects would work for different school designs. The process was similar to what was used when single point entries were installed at older elementary and middle schools. The three schools included had expressed a desire to be part of the pilot program and were eager to see the conversations with students, staff, and families on the process. Once the projects were completed, the district would incorporate the lessons learned on future high school single point of entry projects.

Trustee Rodriguez expressed frustration over how much time it was taking to implement single point of entry when discussions had been occurring on the topic for a few years. He asked if conversations would also be occurring with other principals on how to implement single point of entry at their schools. Ms. Ford remarked the Office of Teaching, Learning and Leadership was excited that the projects were moving forward. The associate chiefs conducted weekly conversations with principals and the projects continued to be raised by all parties so there was an interest in seeing how successful the pilot programs were.

Trustee Mayberry inquired why all high schools could not be completed at the same time. Ms. Ford mentioned it was important to have a pilot program so any challenges could be quickly addressed at one school before installation occurred at another school.

Trustee Westlake wondered if there were ways to speed up the process of the projects. Ms. Zimmerman stated once construction began on the three pilot projects, the design and planning for other schools would begin. The district bid out the projects as a whole project so it would need to be completed before work could begin elsewhere.

Trustee Woodley appreciated the information and agreed the projects needed to occur one at a time to address any hiccups quickly.

It was moved by Trustee Woodley and seconded by Trustee Nicolet that **the Board of Trustees approves the recommendations from the Safe and Healthy Schools Commission related to single point of entry and secure perimeter high school pilot projects at Robert McQueen High School, Damonte Ranch High School, and Sparks High School and security film at elementary and middle schools.**

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

#### **4.07 APPROVAL AND ADOPTION OF CHANGES TO THE OFFICE OF TALENT AND PROFESSIONAL GROWTH SYSTEMS, IN THE ESTIMATED TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$330,293, ASSOCIATED WITH THE CHANGES DESIGNED TO IMPROVE SERVICES TO SCHOOLS**

Dr. Kristina Mason, Chief Talent Officer, presented the proposed reorganization of the Office of Talent and Professional Growth Systems (TPGS). The reorganization would redesign the department to provide comprehensive wraparound services to the schools. The proposed changes included the reclassification or conversion of current roles, as well as new positions in other areas to provide greater supports to TPGS and schools. The opportunities school leaders would experience with the reorganization included highly personalized supports, a single district office point of contact, and content-area experts in talent recruitment and retention. Current Washoe County School District team members would experience improved consistency in payroll processes, increased support in navigating our system, and high-quality screening and hiring processes. Finally, the reorganization would lead to more stability in school and department staffing for more consistent experiences for our staff and students in their schools and classrooms.

Superintendent Enfield highlighted how the proposed changes reflected a fundamental shift in how central office provided services and supports to schools.

Trustee Church questioned the number of non-teaching staffing increases occurring when the district continued to see declining enrollment. He also wondered what the new investigator positions would investigate for the district. Dr. Mason explained they would be part of the Office of the General Counsel and conduct administrative investigations.

Sara Montalvo, Deputy Chief General Counsel, provided additional information on the role of administrative investigators in the district.

Trustee Nicolet asked what the total impact, in terms of positions, was for the reorganization. Dr. Mason noted three new positions were the total impact: one new director in TPGS and two new payroll technicians in the Office of Business and Finance.

It was moved by Trustee Woodley and seconded by Trustee Rodriguez that **the Board of Trustees approves and adopts the Talent & Professional Growth Systems New Org Chart and costs associated with the changes.** The result of the vote was Unanimous: (Yea: Jeff Church, Adam Mayberry, Diane Nicolet, Joe Rodriguez, Beth Smith, Colleen Westlake, and Alex Woodley.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

## **5. Reports**

### **5.01 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT**

This item was not heard.

### **5.02 BOARD REPORTS**

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

### **5.03 SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

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

## **6. Closing Items**

### **6.01 PUBLIC COMMENT**

Roger Edwards questioned how the district continued to celebrate all the accomplishments but continued to lose students and have what he claimed were the worst graduation rates in the country. He was frustrated there were no items on the agenda related to the quality of education in the district. He appreciated the Board had approved raises for teachers and School Police, but he wondered why there were not additional officers and teachers available to address the behavioral problems in the schools.

Valerie Fiannaca thanked the three veterans serving on the Board and all Trustees for their service to the community. She wondered why the Board had approved a 40% raise

for the superintendent. She believed the superintendent should donate the raise to a program within the district. She was frustrated that her grandson in the 4<sup>th</sup> grade had never been placed in a general education classroom because the district did not have enough aides.

Kathleen Evenson was a resident of Sparks. She hoped the Board would be able to help her address issues she had with Edward C. Reed High School. She was concerned the school was doing nothing to address the fights and thefts occurring at the Smith's grocery store during school hours by students. She claimed many senior citizens were no longer willing to shop during school hours because they were afraid. She requested the Reed High School campus be closed to address the issues.

Victoria Myer remarked there were so many problems occurring that she was not sure what to address first. She spoke of the obscenity and pornography in the school libraries and urged the Board to do something to protect the children. She believed the district was infringing on parents' rights by not informing them of a child's gender identity. She hoped at least two Trustees would be willing to bring such a discussion on a future agenda.

#### **6.02 NEXT MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT**

The next Regular Meeting would take place on Tuesday, November 28, 2023.

#### **6.03 ADJOURN MEETING**

There being no further business to come before the members of the Board, President Smith declared the meeting adjourned at 6:12 p.m.

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**Elizabeth Smith, President**

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**Joseph Rodriguez, Clerk**

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**From:** Abbygail Nerger  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 8, 2023 10:25 PM  
**To:** Public Comments  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Public Comment

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Hello again.

I may have been a bit too satirical in my last letter, so may I be so straightforward to say that the district needs to fund security for older schools such as Reed High School.

I am disappointed to hear that the bathrooms at Reed high school have become closed yet again. Although this is the action of the school administrative staff, it is a necessary action due to the lack of cameras or smoke and vape detectors, which is the complete fault of this school district's board of directors.

I find it quite disturbing that all the teachers at Reed have gotten new giant screens for their classrooms, and yet the security of the school has not made any improvements.

The website, NICHE.com (referenced below) allows students to rank their school and provide feedback. Seven months ago, a student left a three star review explaining, *"Most of the teachers that I've had these past 4 years have been really helpful and helped me succeed. The school itself is old and there's too many students for the small school. It's one of the older schools but, it's definitely time for an upgrade on some stuff. The safety of the school is terrible, anyone could just walk in."* This statement shows that cameras and security measures go beyond restrooms. Cameras would benefit the overall safety of the school. Even the best reviews still had some students complaining about the school's bathroom problem, *"Reed has a lot of really great qualities in spite of its few shortcomings. The leadership program is very impressive and works hard to ensure a fun atmosphere. The arts program is well funded and an active part of school life. The only real flaw with this school is the vandalism in the bathrooms."* This five star review was turned in from a senior only a month ago. Even a parent reported, *"Both my daughters have spent 4 years at Reed High School and have good memories of the experience. Great teachers, excellent football team and involved counselors. The building is very dated and could use updates, especially in the gym and bathrooms."* (July, 2019) Clearly Reed has the potential to be an outstanding school if only the security were to be improved.

This has been a long standing problem that the Washoe County Board of Directors keeps brushing under the rug. However, they will only get away with it, as long as they can count on non-violence. With acts of gun violence on the rise after the isolation from covid, I would not invest in giant screens, but rather security.

I understand that the intent of the screens is to better the quality of education through technology, but such technology is useless for the students' education if they must first address PTSD from a traumatic event that could have been avoided, had security been improved.

Once again, I urge you to protect the kids at Reed High School and fix this now before it's too late.

Respectfully,

Abbygail Nerger

Reference link:

<https://www.niche.com/k12/edward-c-reed-high-school-sparks-nv/reviews/>

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**From:** Holbrook, Freeman  
**Sent:** Monday, November 13, 2023 12:30 PM  
**To:** Public Comments  
**Subject:** McQueen HS Single Point of Entry

President Smith and Board of Trustee Members-

As a site principal the most important part of our job is the safety and security of every student and staff member that shows up each day to learn and teach. For that reason, we fully support the implementation of a single point of entry at McQueen HS. As the idea came to me, I met with staff and explained the reasoning/timeframe and then asked for any questions or input. The response was overwhelming excitement for the project with the understanding that we will be ready for the adjustments and any training necessary to make sure everything goes as smoothly as possible.

We look forward to making our campus a single point of entry next year and working with the students, staff, and community to make sure it is aesthetically pleasing while allowing the best learning environment possible. At McQueen we are ready to support whatever is needed to keep our family safe so please let us know how else we can help.

Sincerely,

Principal Holbrook  
McQueen High School

