

**MINUTES OF THE MAY 25, 2021
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

May 25, 2021

1. Opening Items

1.01 CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 2:02 p.m. in the Board Room of the Central Administration Building; 425 East Ninth Street; Reno, Nevada.

1.02 ROLL CALL

President Angela Taylor and Board Members Jacqueline Calvert, Andrew Caudill, Jeff Church, Ellen Minetto, and Diane Nicolet were present. Board Member Kurt Thigpen was present through video conference. Superintendent Kristen McNeill, Student Representative Victoria Gomez, and staff were also present.

1.03 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Trustee Andrew Caudill led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.04 ACTION TO ADOPT THE AGENDA

It was moved by Trustee Caudill and seconded by Trustee Minetto that **the Board of Trustees approves the agenda as presented.** The result of the vote was Unanimous: (Yea: Jacqueline Calvert, Andrew Caudill, Jeff Church, Ellen Minetto, Diane Nicolet, Angela Taylor, and Kurt Thigpen.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

2. Consent Agenda Items

Trustee Church requested Consent Agenda Item 2.07, Approval of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Washoe County School District and the Washoe Education Association, Consent Agenda Item 2.08, Possible Action to approve the Sexuality, Health and Responsibility Education (SHARE) Advisory Committee Reappointments, and Consent Agenda Item 2.09, Approval of the Reappointment of Members to the School Naming Committee, be pulled for additional discussion.

It was moved by Trustee Nicolet and seconded by Trustee Church that **the Board of Trustees approves Consent Agenda Items 2.02 through 2.06 and 2.10**

through 2.20. The result of the vote was Unanimous: (Yea: Jacqueline Calvert, Andrew Caudill, Jeff Church, Ellen Minetto, Diane Nicolet, Angela Taylor, and Kurt Thigpen.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

- 2.02 The Board of Trustees approved the minutes of the January 26, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees.
- 2.03 The Board of Trustees approved the minutes of the January 29, 2021 Work Session of the Board of Trustees.
- 2.04 The Board of Trustees approved the grant application to the Nevada Department of Education, Title IV-B 21st Century Community Learning Center (CCLC) Competitive Grant - Cohort 7 for \$1,478,284.79.
- 2.05 The Board of Trustees approved the grant application to the Nevada Department of Education for the adult high school program for RiSE Academy for Adult Achievement for \$1,307,720.
- 2.06 The Board of Trustees approved the 3-year agreement for Cannon Cochran Management Services, Inc., for third-party administration of the Washoe County School District's Self-insured Workers' Compensation program with a rate of \$98,095/year or \$294,285 for 3 years, beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2024.
- 2.10 The Board of Trustees approved the Authorization to Move Forward with Bid #21-98-B-04-AA Pavement Rehabilitation Projects at Alice Smith Elementary School, Alyce Taylor Elementary School, Lena Juniper Elementary School, Sun Valley Elementary School, and Reno High School, in the estimated total amount of \$1,217,000, with Ratification of the Award of these Projects at a Future Board Meeting.
- 2.11 The Board of Trustees approved the Authorization to Move Forward with Bid #21-99-B-04-AA, Pavement Rehabilitation Project at Esther Bennett Elementary School, in the estimated total amount of \$1,053,000, with Ratification of the Award of this Project at a Future Board Meeting.
- 2.12 The Board of Trustees awarded Bid #21-94-B-04-DA, Roof Replacement on Sections U & V with New Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) Units at Sparks High School, to Western Single Ply for \$350,000.
- 2.13 The Board of Trustees accepted the "Budget Transfer Report" and provided authorization to include budget transfers between functions or programs for a total amount of \$30,367.42 for the period April 1, 2021

through April 30, 2021 in the official Board minutes, as required by Nevada Revised Statute 354.598005.

- 2.14 The Board of Trustees approved the grant application to the U.S. Department of Education for Title VI (Indian Education) grant in the amount of \$188,648.
 - 2.15 The Board of Trustees approved the purchase of curricular materials from The DBQ Project for teacher professional learning from Senate Bill(SB) 314 Financial Literacy funds in the amount of \$190,875.
 - 2.16 The Board of Trustees approved the re-appointments of Justin Ivory, as the Construction Projects and Finance Representative, and Elise Bunkowski, as the General Public Representative, to the Capital Funding Protection Committee and the Oversight Panel for School Facilities for 2-year terms, ending June 30, 2023.
 - 2.17 The Board of Trustees approved the re-appointments to the Student Attendance Advisory Committee of the following members for 2-year terms ending June 30, 2023: Keri Pruitt, Child Welfare Representative; Lacey Keele, Community Services Representative; and Charles Aglubat, At-Large Representative.
 - 2.18 The Board of Trustees approved the Memorandum of Understanding between the Washoe County School District and the Washoe Education Support Professionals for the payment of the employee's contracted hourly rate of pay for summer school 2021 in the total approximate amount of \$270,000.
 - 2.19 The Board of Trustees approved the Memorandum of Understanding between the Washoe County School District and the Washoe Education Association for the payment of daily rate of pay for summer school 2021 in the total approximate amount of \$4,000,000.
 - 2.20 The Board of Trustees approved, pursuant to Nevada Revised Statute 286.523, Nutrition Services Workers and Housekeeping Workers as critical labor shortage areas in order to hire individuals under critical needs status.
- 2.07 **APPROVAL OF A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE WASHOE EDUCATION ASSOCIATION PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF STIPENDS TO SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHERS FOR ADDITIONAL CASE LOAD**

MANAGEMENT, NECESSARY BECAUSE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION VACANCIES, FOR THE 2019-20 AND 2020-21 SCHOOL YEARS, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$30 PER HOUR

Trustee Church requested clarification on why the additional stipend was needed for Special Education teachers. Emily Ellison, Chief Human Resources Officer, explained the additional stipend was necessary to ensure requirements of Individual Education Programs (IEPs) were logged appropriately due to increased caseloads.

Trustee Church asked if the increased caseloads were due to a lack of teachers to fill the positions. Ms. Ellison mentioned the challenges in recruiting teachers, especially Special Education teachers, were not unique to the Washoe County School District. The United States was currently experiencing a national teacher shortage. The agenda item was specific to case management due to vacancies because even if a position was vacant, the requirements of the IEPs still needed to be met and the information logged.

Trustee Church believed the District needed to re-evaluate the recruitment and retention of teachers. He indicated he would approve the agreement, but mentioned that the District would be better served by spending the funds on bringing in experts in recruitment and retention to provide training to staff.

Trustee Calvert wondered what additional training teachers would need to assist in providing services to Special Education students. Ms. Ellison noted there was specialized training that was required for the students to be served. Teachers were able to receive additional certifications in specific Special Education areas. The District did provide options for teachers interested in earning additional certifications to serve students with special needs while remaining in the classroom.

It was moved by Trustee Caudill and seconded by Trustee Calvert that **the Board of Trustees approves the Memorandum of Understanding between the Washoe County School District and the Washoe Education Association for the payment of stipends to Special Education Teachers for additional vacancy case management, in the amount of \$30 per hour.** The result of the vote was Unanimous: (Yea: Jacqueline Calvert, Andrew Caudill, Jeff Church, Ellen Minetto, Diane Nicolet, Angela Taylor, and Kurt Thigpen.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

2.08 POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE SEXUALITY, HEALTH AND RESPONSIBILITY EDUCATION (S.H.A.R.E.) ADVISORY COMMITTEE REAPPOINTMENTS OF SARA SEIBERT AS A PARENT/GUARDIAN REPRESENTATIVE, LYDIA DEFLORIO AS A PARENT/GUARDIAN REPRESENTATIVE, KELLY ROPER AS A PARENT/GUARDIAN REPRESENTATIVE, MANUEL MAGANA AS A COUNSELING

**REPRESENTATIVE, AND RABBI BENJAMIN ZOBBER AS A RELIGION
REPRESENTATIVE, FOR TWO-YEAR TERMS ENDING JUNE 30, 2023**

Trustee Church asked if all members of the community were able to submit an application for the positions. Rochelle Procter, SHARE Coordinator, explained, pursuant to current Board Policy, members of a committee in good standing could be reappointed to the committee without the position being opened to additional applications. The members of the committee seeking reappointment were all members in good standing. There were additional open positions available for members of the community to submit applications for, if they fit into the specific category.

Trustee Church stated he could not support the agenda item because he, as a new Trustee, would be interested in having a larger say in who sat on committees, especially the SHARE Advisory Committee. He would like to send the agenda item back to staff and open the positions to all members of the community and their ability to have their 1st Amendment Free Speech on the committee heard.

Neil Rombardo, Chief General Counsel, cautioned that the ability of a member of the community to serve on a public body was not related to free speech or the 1st Amendment. Board Policy 9100, section 4b, outlined the ability to re-appoint members to committees if they were in good standing. The Board had previously requested the language be included in policy because of challenges recruiting volunteers to serve on committees. It would be important for the Board to consider the language in the Policy when discussing the re-appointment to committees. The intent was to make the re-appointment process as easy as possible because there was such a lack of community volunteers interested in serving.

Trustee Church asked if the Board was obligated to approve the agenda item. Mr. Rombardo stated a Trustee could vote any way they wanted.

Trustee Church remarked that he would prefer the Trustees have the ability to have a say in who served on committees and, since he and some others were new, they deserved the right to select who should sit on the committee.

Trustee Nicolet mentioned she had been a member of various committee in the District for about 20 years so she was familiar with the committee process. In her experience, there had never been a rush for community members to serve on committees because there was a large time commitment, as well as outside work that was needed. She believed that if a member of a committee was in good standing and willing to continue to serve, they should be allowed to continue to serve.

Trustee Church felt that he should be able to reach out to his constituents and that he would be able to get a number of them to apply for the positions so there was community representation.

President Taylor opened the meeting to public comment.

Karen England, Nevada Family Alliance, agreed with Trustee Church's comments. She believed there were a number of people who would be interested in serving on the SHARE Committee and the ultimate responsibility for appointment members was with the Board of Trustees. She mentioned since there was always so much interest in the Committee, if someone wanted to remain on the Committee, they should reapply like everyone else. She felt it was important that the community was represented on the Committee.

It was moved by Trustee Church and seconded by Trustee Caudill that **the Board of Trustees sends the re-appointments back to staff to reopen the positions to all applicants.**

President Taylor opened the motion for discussion.

Trustee Nicolet wondered if the Board was ignoring Board Policy 9100 if they voted to send the item back to staff. Mr. Rombardo indicated it was important to remember everyone who served on any committee was a member of the community, so the community's voice was heard. The intent of Board Policy 9100 was to make the process as simple as possible for members interested in continuing to serve because there was a challenge in recruiting members for committees. If the Board were to send the item back to staff, the process used to recruit members and advertise open positions would need to be followed. It was important to note, since the Board approved the re-appointment process in Board Policy 9100, no re-appointments to committees had ever been sent back to staff.

President Taylor expressed her support for those members of committees interested in continuing to serve. The terms on committees were for 2 years and there were opportunities every year to serve on different committees. She did not want to see members interested in continuing to serve removed, especially if there were open seats available for others in the community.

The result of the vote was 3-4: (Yea: Andrew Caudill, Jeff Church, and Ellen Minetto. Nay: Jacqueline Calvert, Diane Nicolet, Angela Taylor, and Kurt Thigpen.) Final Resolution: Motion Fails.

It was moved by Trustee Nicolet and seconded by Trustee Calvert that **the Board of Trustees approves, for the Sexuality, Health and Responsibility Education**

(S.H.A.R.E.) Advisory Committee, the re-appointment of members Sara Seibert, Lydia DeFlorio, and Kelly Roper as parent/guardian representatives, Manuel Magana as a counseling representative, and Rabbi Benjamin Zober as a religion representative for two-year terms ending June 30, 2023. The result of the vote was 4-3: (Yea: Jacqueline Calvert, Diane Nicolet, Angela Taylor, and Kurt Thigpen. Nay: Andrew Caudill, Jeff Church, and Ellen Minetto.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

2.09 APPROVAL OF THE RE-APPOINTMENT OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL NAMING COMMITTEE FOR TWO YEAR TERMS BEGINNING ON JULY 1, 2021 AND ENDING ON JUNE 30, 2023: LISA LOEDER, TRUSTEE ZONE A REPRESENTATIVE; CHRISTIANA FRANK, TRUSTEE ZONE G REPRESENTATIVE; AND SCOTT BENTON, TRUSTEE ZONE F REPRESENTATIVE

Trustee Church requested additional information on how members of the committee were selected for each of the Trustee Zones and expressed frustration he was not made aware of the appointment for his area. He requested, at least, the proposed member for his area be removed from consideration until he had an opportunity to meet with the individual.

Trustee Caudill asked if the appointments based on the Trustee District to the School Naming Committee were the same as for the Zoning Advisory Committee, where the individual Trustees were involved in the recruitment effort. Michele Anderson, Chief Communications and Community Engagement Officer, explained the various committees had different criteria for membership, which could be based on where someone lived or their relation to the District, such as parents or staff. The individuals included on the agenda item were interested in continuing to serve on the committee and the reappointment process outlined in Board Policy 9100 was followed. It was important to note that the School Naming Committee currently had three vacancies, which had been open since 2020.

Trustee Caudill felt there was value in having the individual Trustee assist in the recruitment and selection of a candidate who represented their individual area.

Trustee Minetto wondered what seats were currently vacant on the Committee. Ms. Anderson noted the seats for Trustee Zones C, E, and G were vacant beginning in June 2020. Samantha Fredrickson, Public Relations Specialist, explained the same process was followed in 2020, but due to COVID and the lack of scheduled meetings for the Committee, there was little interest from the community in serving. In 2021, additional openings on the Committee became available and a total of five open seats remained. The District opened the application period and received five applications, which would be presented to the Board for consideration at a future meeting; however, in order for

all five applicants to be considered, a current member of the Committee needed to be placed in another open seat.

President Taylor mentioned if the Trustees were interested in having greater involvement in the process, then it was important to include that as part of the Policy or Administration Regulation. She could understand the desire of Trustees wanting greater involvement, especially if an individual were representing their district.

Trustee Minetto requested additional clarification on the process used when multiple applications were received for a particular seat. Ms. Anderson remarked the School Naming Committee had not had numerous applications for a single seat, but she knew there was a process other committees used to review applications and interview prospective members. Mr. Rombardo explained the District used standard Human Resources recruiting and interviewing methods as part of the process, if multiple applications were received.

Trustee Nicolet commented that she would prefer not to input in the process to avoid potential conflicts. She trusted those who were doing the work to select the best candidates for committee members. She wondered if part of the challenge for the School Naming Committee was that there was not a lot of work for them to do at the present time.

Trustee Calvert stated she was fine with the current process and appreciated members of the community wanting to be involved in the District.

President Taylor suggested approval of Ms. Frank and Mr. Benton, then have Ms. Loeder come back for consideration as one of the open at-large seat representatives.

Trustee Church felt the Board Policy on School Naming was in conflict with Board Policy 9100 because the Policy on School Naming indicated all names would be brought forth to the Board for consideration.

President Taylor explained the language quoted from the Board Policy on School Naming was related to the proposed names of schools, not committee members.

It was moved by Trustee Caudill and seconded by Trustee Minetto that **the Board of Trustees approves the following re-appointments to the School Naming Committee for terms ending June 30, 2023: Christiana Frank, Trustee Zone G Representative; and Scott Benton, Trustee Zone F Representative; and requests staff bring back the consideration of Lisa Loeder, as an At-Large Representative to a future meeting.** The result of the vote was 6-1: (Yea: Jacqueline Calvert, Andrew Caudill, Jeff Church, Ellen Minetto, Angela Taylor, and Kurt Thigpen. Nay: Diane Nicolet.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

3. General Public Comment

3.01 PUBLIC COMMENT

Gib Patton was a recent resident of the area and had become concerned after hearing that Critical Race Theory could be taught in the schools. He did not believe it was appropriate to ask 5th graders about white male privilege and make them feel guilty for things they could not control. He urged the Board to think about what the curriculum would do to students moving forward.

Don Kennedy was a parent and grandparent in the District. He spoke against Critical Race Theory being taught in the District. He did not believe the Board or anyone in the District knew what Critical Race Theory was nor had they experienced discrimination, like he had as a Catholic boy growing up in Salt Lake City, Utah. He believed the Board was considering teaching white shaming and that those who wrote the Constitution were racist. He mentioned history should be taught from all sides and not a theory based on a political agenda.

William Smith spoke about an incident at Earl Wooster High School with members of the football team. He claimed the female principal came into the boys locker room to check if the students were wearing masks and remained in the room for a few minutes, with the boys in various states of undress. He believed the investigation completed by the District was incomplete and inadequate, which left the boys feeling violated and like the District did not care about them. He urged the Board to look into the matter and take action against the principal.

President Taylor paused the general public comment period.

4. Legislative Items

4.01 PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO PROVIDE DIRECTION RELATED TO CURRENT AND PROPOSED LEGISLATION DURING THE 2021 NEVADA LEGISLATIVE SESSION BASED ON THE APPROVED 2021 WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM, TO INCLUDE SUPPORT OF OPTIMAL K-12 PUBLIC EDUCATION FUNDING, SUPPORT OF STUDENT AND STAFF HEALTH AND SAFETY, PROMOTION OF ACADEMIC SUCCESS AND EQUITY FOR ALL STUDENTS, SUPPORT FOR EDUCATORS, AND PROVIDING A COMMUNITY CENTERED APPROACH TO DECISION-MAKING, AS WELL AS UPDATES TO THE WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT'S LEGISLATION, ASSEMBLY BILL (AB) 57

Lindsay Anderson, Director of Government Affairs, provided an update on the 2021 Nevada Legislative Session. The District's bill, Assembly Bill (AB) 57, was amended in the Senate and the Assembly concurred with the amendment, allowing for final passage and transfer to the Governor's Office for signature. The status of bills the District was in support of was provided. The official K-12 funding legislation, Senate Bill (SB) 458, had been introduced and included the approximate amount the District was expecting.

President Taylor opened the meeting to public comment.

Karen England, Nevada Family Alliance, claimed the Board and District was trying to not only push Critical Race Theory on the District but on the entire state as well through AB261. She did not believe the Board was following what was happening in the Nevada Legislature closely enough or they did not care. She believed the legislation mandated the teaching of Critical Race Theory and LGBTQ+ in the classroom and was frustrated the District spoke in support of the bill, along with the District's student activist group, Washoe County Students for Change. She stated the people of Washoe County did not want Critical Race Theory taught in the schools or anywhere else in Nevada.

Trustee Church requested additional information on AB261, including if the District testified in support of the bill. Ms. Anderson stated AB261 had been approved by both chambers of the Nevada Legislature and was headed to the Governor's desk for signature. District staff had reviewed the bill and did not flag the legislation for any concerns so the District testified in support.

3. General Public Comment

3.01 PUBLIC COMMENT

President Taylor reopened the general public comment period.

Valerie Fiannaca thanked the Board for their work; however, she expressed disappointment in the passage of the legislation related to Critical Race Theory. She believed what was happening currently in the United States was following Saul Alinsky's *Rules for Radicals* and the long-term plan would lead to Communism and Marxism taking root, which would not end well for anyone.

Alan Munson spoke against Critical Race Theory being taught in the schools and expressed disappointment in the passage of Assembly Bill 261. He felt that what was being taught was that blacks were the only one who were able to speak about being oppressed and did not acknowledge the achievements of people like Barrack Obama, Condoleezza Rice, and Dr. Ben Carson. He urged the Board to teach that hard work would lead to success.

Ruth T. expressed concern over the teaching of Critical Race Theory and social justice in the schools because they amounted to the indoctrination of children. She believed Critical Race Theory was the new racism because it taught blacks that they could never succeed based on the color of their skin, which went against the teachings of Martin Luther King, Jr. Additionally, other scholars stated that the intent of Critical Race Theory was to teach non-whites that they could never achieve anything greater than even the poorest of whites and they should look at all whites as oppressors.

Cynthia Miller was a concerned citizen from the area. She believed the community needed to go back to the values she was raised on during the 1960's, because propaganda was not taught in schools, police and firemen were our friends, children were taught to be proud to be Americans, true history was taught in the schools, morals were important, and sex education was not taught in school. She felt children were now being taught LGBTQ+ was the thing to do, biology was about genital manipulation, and students took field trips to participate in riots.

Carol Hoover was a prior elementary school teacher and concerned that teachers were now telling students they should be ashamed and guilty for being white. She claimed students would become confused and disengaged from school. She urged the District to go back to the basics in education and teach American history and civics.

Bruce Parks stated the passage of AB261 did not support the implementation of the proposed Benchmark curriculum the District was considering. He claimed there were members of the Board who were speaking to groups within Washoe County and saying there were groups deliberately spreading misinformation about the proposed curriculum. He felt those who did not believe the proposed curriculum was Critical Race Theory or part of the 1619 Project were either deliberately deceitful or willfully ignorant.

Jon Myers remarked that there were thousands of citizens in Washoe County ready to vote the Trustees out of office if they supported the proposed curriculum. He mentioned if the Board did approve the curriculum, the campaign would be very different in 2 years because the people he spoke to would not support any current member of the Board. He believed the "woke" generation was not educated enough to research history to truly understand what happened in the past.

Robert Heinrich expressed concern over the proposed social justice curriculum because it was indoctrinating children against their families. He did not believe the outcomes for any individual were decided on because of the color of their skin or that an individual's attributes were predetermined. He felt past injustices were promoted in the curriculum and that students were told the injustices continued to exist. He believed the proposed curriculum was a violation of Title VI, and other federal legislation, because it divided people by race and created a racially hostile environment.

Rita Pepi spoke against the proposed curriculum based on Critical Race Theory because it was based on Marxism. She claimed Superintendent McNeill had spoken in support of the proposed curriculum because she wanted to create 62,000 social justice warriors. She indicated the District should focus on the basics and teach that a person should be judged by the content of their character, not the color of their skin.

Superintendent McNeill stated the comment referenced was not something she had ever said and that she had been misquoted. She indicated the quote had been posted on a website and she hoped it had been removed because it was incorrect.

Deena Lane spoke against Critical Race Theory and read from Matthew 18 in the Bible.

Paul White cheered the news that two members of the Board were resigning and urged all other Trustees, except Jeff Church, to resign as well. He believed the time spent on the Board by Trustees Caudill and Thigpen was time wasted because they did not accomplish anything. He claimed the other Trustees ran "for the kids," by they had done nothing to improve the education for the kids.

Hope Backman was the parent of two children in the District. She expressed her disappointment in the actions of the Board and Superintendent McNeill because they were not supporting the students. She claimed Superintendent McNeill was forcing parents to live under her rule and she would work to ensure Superintendent McNeill was not re-elected. She believed students throughout the District were suffering from ringworm on their faces because they were forced to wear masks instead of breathing fresh air.

Janet Butcher expressed frustration over what she believed was an unorganized and confusing meeting at a smaller venue so the Board would discourage parents from attending the meetings. She compared Critical Race Theory to social justice curriculum and claimed the intent of Critical Race Theory was to destroy America through unproved assumptions, conjecture, and conclusions based on guesswork. She believed equity was a Marxist concept that allowed groups the ability to reach the same outcomes, while equality was an American ideal that focused on equal rights of the individual. She urged the Board to get back to basics moving forward.

Shannon Coley spoke against the proposed Benchmark supplemental curriculum because she believed it was based on Marxism and intended to divide society into classes. She felt it was more important to provide the youngest students with various perspectives and not focus on equity but instead equality. She urged the Board to consider curriculum that would teach children to stand out and strive towards achievement. She claimed that only teaching one aspect was indoctrination and did not belong in the schools.

Mark Green expressed concern over the proposed supplemental curriculum. He did not believe the materials were vetted properly through the District's own curriculum adoption standards, to include having teachers and community members meeting to compare notes and thoughts. He mentioned he, and many other community members who had spoken, was concerned with the language and tenor of the proposed supplemental materials because it was so similar to Critical Race Theory. He felt the Board and District were showing a certain level of disdain for the parents and other community members opposed to the materials based on their words and actions. He requested the District provide the community with information on who was involved in selecting the materials and the entire process.

Ciara Pegoda wondered why the Board and District were considering the adoption of a curriculum developed by an advocate of social justice and equity consultant. She felt the proposed materials went beyond the Nevada Academic Content Standards. She believed the District should focus on the current social studies standards that had been vetted and approved by the Nevada Department of Education and the curriculum adopted by the Board. She mentioned the current K-6 social studies curriculum was inclusive and did not disempower anyone. She urged the Board to look at curriculum based on both the current standards and research, not from a consultant.

Linda Park expressed astonishment anyone who was rational would support Critical Race Theory or assorted names it went by because it was racist and Marxist. She urged the Board to educate, not indoctrinate students and that they should not use classrooms as Petri dishes for social experiments. She proclaimed the District should stop harming the children and reconsider the \$5 million already spent on the curriculum. She asserted that the Superintendent McNeill wanted 64,000 social justice warriors and was ignorant of the facts. She urged the Board to provide an education that relied on a good education of fact.

Superintendent McNeill asked where Ms. Park heard the information attributed to her regarding "social justice warriors" because it had brought up before and was not correct information. Ms. Park indicated she had read it in the *Reno Gazette-Journal*.

Maria Skolnick was a parent in the District and the child of immigrants. She stated her parents taught her that through hard work, determination, ambition, and education that she could be whatever she wanted in America. She noted she had seen segregation and faced discrimination while growing up in the South in the 1980s, but it did not lead her to act like a victim. She was frustrated the District had previously omitted Asian Americans from the Board's anti-racism resolution because some in the District felt Asian Americans had not historically been discriminated against, but seemed to forget about Asian Americans being sent to internment camps. She wondered if the push to include a social justice curriculum was really about racism or because, as she believed,

the Biden Administration was issuing \$6 million in competitive grants for school districts across the country to teach Critical Race Theory and the 1619 Project.

Blair Spelth urged the Board to remove the face covering requirement for students because he felt it was emotionally damaging them. He stated his children would not return to the District's schools while "muzzled." He did not believe the District was living up to their motto and that the policy goals of the District to promote equity and diversity were misguided since the goal of the District should be education. He believed the District was controlled by the "radical left" because of the commitment to equity and diversity. He would like to see the District hire the most qualified people and not base the decisions on politics. He spoke against the proposed Benchmark supplemental curriculum for K-5 because it was ugly, divisive, and racist.

Karen England, Nevada Family Alliance, stated that Nevada Family Alliance had been fighting against the "radical and progressive" SHARE curriculum that they believed taught students about anal sex, dental dams, and how to obtain abortions without any parental involvement. They also opposed the recommended resources for families because they felt the material was not appropriate. Nevada Family Alliance also opposed policies that allowed teachers to not provide information to parents on a child's sexual orientation or status. She claimed Empower Nevada Teachers had denigrated Nevada Family Alliance because of their opposition to "pornographic sex-ed." She called on the District to employ the use of body cameras on teachers because that would show the parents and community what was actually being taught in the classrooms.

Dana Fought, Nevada Family Alliance, believed there was a clear agenda on the part of the Board to favor one agenda or one side of the issue, while trying to silence other voices. She played a portion of a prior meeting where a discussion occurred where the Trustees were interested in finding a way for teachers to talk about Black Lives Matter and LGBTQ+ and not talk about Pro-Life or the 2nd Amendment.

President Taylor stated there were additional parts of the conversation from the meeting referenced that were not played that also talked about how teachers could provide balanced discussions in classrooms regarding controversial topics, while also supporting their students.

Jeff Church expressed disappointment in having to provide remarks as part of public comment since it limited the amount of time he had to speak. He urged the Board to move the June 8 meeting because the current venue was not large enough to accommodate all the people he believed were waiting outside or had left. He provided a handout that requested an agenda item that would have the Board determine if Board Reports should be placed back on agendas. He mentioned the Superintendent had refused to meet with him under any circumstances and he believed that was improper.

He stated if he had done something wrong, then the Board should tell him and hold a hearing so he could correct anything. He was concerned that he was not provided an office in the building to conduct his work and manage a \$1 billion budget.

President Taylor clarified that all Trustees had the same opportunity to ask for items to be placed on agendas and all Trustees had the same opportunity to speak at meetings, so there was no different treatment of Trustees at the dais because that would be inappropriate.

Suzanne Welcome and Max Callaghan spoke in support of transgender students and the ability of teachers to support their students especially because transgender students were under enough pressure to just try to be themselves. Ms. Welcome expressed concern for her son who had identified as transgender for a few years because she wanted to ensure he was supported and welcomed when he returned to the classroom for the next school year. She wondered how teachers would be able to address bullying issues surrounding gender identity and expression without explaining to all students what that meant.

Kaylynn Sutton wondered why the Board was making students wear masks if they wanted to protect students. She believed the wearing of masks was what made students sick and would make them pass out. She had two cousins she was concerned about because they had to go to school and wear masks. She felt kids should be allowed to wear face shields instead of masks because the masks contained parasites.

Melanie Sutton thanked Trustee Church since she felt he was the only member of the Board who listened to the people in the community. She did not believe any of the other Trustees were standing up for the children or America. She stated she was a patriot who was in support of the children. She noted she was now homeschooling her children because she refused to allow her children to wear masks. She spoke against Critical Race Theory because it was racist and promoted segregation.

Annie Story stated her grandson had asthma and could not breathe while wearing the masks. She had told him not to wear the mask at school, but the teacher admonished him and told him to put it back on because he was younger than 9. She felt the rules surrounding masks were confusing and needed to be clarified for staff and families. She claimed the Board had become very political and they were exceeding their authority and power by requiring masks. She spoke against the proposed Critical Race Theory because she felt it taught that all whites were white supremacists, which was not true. She did not believe white privilege existed and that anything that taught one race was to blame for the ills of all other races was racist. She stated it was more important for children to learn from the past and that teaching racism to combat racism was not appropriate or acceptable.

Myra Almond spoke against the mask requirement in schools because she believed it amounted to child abuse and they did not work. She did not agree with the teaching of Critical Race Theory or that there should be mandatory vaccines for children.

Kandy Lyons stated Nevada was ranked 35th in the nation in terms of education and that the District needed to get back to teaching the basics in schools, not waste time teaching Critical Race Theory. She mentioned that federal law prohibited school districts from mandating vaccines because they were still considered experimental. She did not want her children to be guinea pigs for the vaccine or have them wear masks that were harmful and did not prevent disease.

President Taylor explained there was no mandatory COVID vaccine in the Washoe County School District and that students were allowed to remove their masks while outdoors.

Mindy Lilyquist was the parent of four children in the District and expressed concern over the continued divisiveness she saw on the Board. She felt the Board and District were in constant turmoil and that the children were the ones suffering. She urged the Board to stop considering controversial topics and focus on the basics. She stated she did not agree with the proposed Benchmark social justice curriculum because she believed it chipped away at the Constitution. She claimed the proposed curriculum was a way to present blame and shame to students and amounted to indoctrination. She mentioned she had heard from some in the community the Wallace Global Foundation was providing the District was a large grant if the proposed curriculum was adopted.

Superintendent McNeill stated the Wallace Foundation was in no way related to the Benchmark curriculum.

Paulina Gersovich was a grandparent in the District. She spoke against the proposed supplemental curriculum. She believed it was important for the District to focus on ensuring students were able to speak and read English and that it was up to the families to teach morals and ethics. She urged the Board to reject Critical Race Theory and social indoctrination and the proposed Sexuality, Health, and Responsibility Education lessons that included information from Planned Parenthood.

Carole Fineberg remarked that she had recently returned from a trip to Salt Lake City and found there were no mask requirements in Utah or the rural Nevada counties. She was concerned over a statement she had heard that the District's requirements were more stringent than both the state and Center for Disease Control (CDC). She spoke against the proposed changes to the Sexuality, Health, and Responsibility Education curriculum because of the references to dental dams, gay sex, and abortion for 6th graders.

Daniel McClure mentioned he had joined the Navy and became a nuclear reactor operator. He noted he learned management and leadership while in the military. He expressed frustration over the District's COVID policies.

Kenji Otto stated he had researched how elected officials could be recalled and was willing to help others begin the efforts. He spoke against Critical Race Theory because he believed it was based on communism. He claimed it was intended to divide the country.

Mark Leonard spoke against the proposed supplemental curriculum and read various quotes from Fredrick Douglas to support his belief. He felt the Board and District were not focused on teaching knowledge but that certain classmates were oppressing them. He believed that since the Board was not trying to educate the children, then they were trying to enslave them. He condemned the actions of all the Trustees, except Jeff Church.

Matt True stated he was against any 1619 and Critical Race Theory lessons being taught in the schools. He mentioned teachers had told him that he was more involved than most parents in the schools and indicated he was frustrated with the continued missteps of the Board and District. He believed the teachings the District was focused on would lead to more violence, not less. He provided examples of what had occurred to his youngest son when he spoke up for what he believed and that his son was ostracized by those who he thought were his friends.

Andrea McVaney was the parent of a kindergartener in the District. She expressed concern over the proposed Benchmark supplemental curriculum and having her student enrolled in a school where it was taught. She believed all people were worthy of respect and that the true history of America needed to be taught; however, she felt it was important to remember people were flawed and it was more important to learn from history than teach it was wrong. She stated she would prefer children be taught sharing and kindness rather than divisiveness.

Roger Edwards mentioned he was a conservative and the leader of a conservative group in the area. He indicated it was important for the Board and District to focus on traditional education and not socialized indoctrination. He did not believe the District should approve the sex ed curriculum or any Critical Race Theory and should instead look at the quality of education. He claimed the District was graduating students that could not read or write because they were no longer part of the curriculum.

Sharon Williams remarked that she grew up in southern Virginia where the schools were segregated until she was a senior in high school. She believed she got a great education because the schools focused on the basics. She expressed concern over the proposed supplemental curriculum and the diversity projects because she believed they

were doing more harm than good in the schools. She urged the Board to teach students perseverance and developing a strong constitution, rather than topics meant to divide people.

John Eppolito, Protect Nevada Children, expressed concerns over the privacy policy of the Benchmark Advanced social justice curriculum. He believed Benchmark could label children as racists starting in kindergarten based on their responses to questions and which lessons they chose to take, and the parents would never know. He was concerned that the data collected would be used against children in the future, which was what Protect Nevada Children had been concerned about for years. He claimed student data that was supposed to be protected by the District had been stolen and sold on the dark web or to the Chinese. He agreed with prior speakers that the proposed curriculum was more indoctrination than education.

Margaret Martini stated that if the Board were to approve the proposed social justice curriculum, they would do more to divide the community than any actions taken previously taken by Superintendent McNeill. She claimed the proposed curriculum was more of an indoctrination than education and read from various lessons included in the curriculum that she believed supported her claims.

Georgette Stormo spoke in support of what many of the parents had said. She mentioned common schools were originally designed to promote citizenship in the United States to create national cohesion, through teaching children to read, write, and speak English. She believed that the schools had been corrupted and were now teaching Marxists beliefs and Critical Race Theory, with students being indoctrinated and not educated.

Paul Larson claimed many present at the meeting speaking out against the proposed curriculum had served the country during the Cold War and were concerned they were seeing what they fought for slip away. He believed the proposed curriculum was based on Marxism and frustrated because the District was teaching the theory to students when so many had fought to escape it.

Bayleigh Grill was a middle school student and frustrated that she and her classmates were required to wear masks throughout the day. She believed wearing the masks all day caused anxiety and that it was difficult to breathe. She urged the Board and District to allow students the opportunity to remove the masks so students could better communicate with each other. She expressed frustration that teachers and other school staff were allowed to remove their masks, but the students would get in trouble if they removed their masks to take a drink or speak louder so another student could hear them.

Jessica Foster was a parent in the District and urged the Board to remove the masks for students. She stated sending her daughter to school everyday with the mask was creating anxiety and depression.

Chris McAvoy spoke against the proposed Benchmark Advanced curriculum because she believed it was based on lies. She felt the curriculum was created based on a single event and labeled individuals based on the color of their skin, not who they were as individuals. She believed the Board was "picking politics" over education and that the Board and Superintendent should be following the District's motto of "Every child by name and face to graduation."

Jaimee Shepler expressed support for Trustee Church and believed the current location of the meeting was a violation of Nevada's Open Meeting Law because it was not large enough to accommodate everyone. She spoke against the proposed Sexuality, Health and Responsibility Education (SHARE) program because she believed it was up to the parents to teach their children about their own sexuality. She believed the proposed Benchmark curriculum was Critical Race Theory was anti-American and perpetuated racism.

Ann Sweder spoke against the proposed curriculum because she believed it was Critical Race Theory and should not be taught in the schools. She claimed Critical Race Theory was a Marxist weapon designed to take control of America and there were few in America that realized what was happening. She wanted to educate parents on the neo-Marxist code words they needed to be aware of, such as equity, oppressed, systemic racism, and social justice, so they could fight against Critical Race Theory in the schools. She urged the Board to only teach the basics in schools.

Paul Solaegui was a grandparent in the District and local business owner. He spoke against any proposed curriculum that sought to undermine the United States Constitution. He was interested in becoming a more involved member of the community because he was concerned about social programs corrupting society.

Kasey Thelander was a parent in the District. He expressed frustration over what he claimed were teachers scolding children for playing tag and requiring social distancing. He believed the District was causing more emotional damage to children than the pandemic. He claimed the principals and area superintendents said they were following the Governor's directives and what others had told them to do, but they would not provide him with the names of those directing them. He did not believe students should have to wear masks and was frustrated the schools were still requiring the masks and social distancing. He remarked that even though the Board would not call the proposed curriculum Critical Race Theory, that it was and the Board should not be teaching it in the schools.

Lonnie Feemster, Reno-Sparks NAACP, mentioned he was present to talk about the proposed social justice curriculum, but that he had spoken with many others present outside and now believed deeper conversations needed to occur. He remarked that there were differences in how people defined terms and that without common understandings of definitions, then there would remain confusion in what was meant by equity, social justice, and Black Lives Matter. He stated that he would no longer use the term Black Lives Matter, but instead say the Black Lives Matter movement for criminal justice reform because the phrase more accurately stated what he meant to convey. He appreciated the conversations he was able to have with those who disagreed with him because the conversations were respectful; however, it was clear there was a lot of confusion and misunderstanding about what was actually occurring in the schools.

Valerie Wade thanked the Board for their work because she believed what they did mattered. She and her family had lived in the area for many years and attended schools in the District. She believed that it was important for the Board and District to support the teaching of social justice because white supremacy, bigotry, and hate could not be tolerated. She spoke about her family coming to the area in the 1950s and their history. She believed minority groups had been silenced from attending the meeting and speaking because of the "Klan-style gathering in front of the building." She felt that when hard history was taught, those threatened responded with anger. She urged the Board and District to provide students with the necessary information and history to understand what was occurring in society and make sense of the images they saw everyday on the internet.

Victoria Miller was from the area and had recently moved back from Southern California with her family. She mentioned many of the friends her children had were black and brown, so she was concerned about a curriculum that would teach them that they were racist because they were white and privileged. She stated she would rather the schools teach students to love each other and not hate based on what someone looked like. She remarked that she appreciated the time Trustee Church had spent with the community and expressed frustration that he was being "shut out."

Cathy Reyes expressed that the only Trustee listening to those at the meeting was Trustee Church and that he was the only one speaking out against Critical Race Theory. She believed the other Trustees were not listening to the constituents and she wondered what the end result of teaching Critical Race Theory was for the District. She claimed the Board was purposefully restricting access to the meeting by holding it in a small room. She spoke against the proposed sex education curriculum because she believed parents should teach that to their children. She remarked that the mask requirement was a joke.

Traci Palone and Emberlynn spoke against the wearing of masks and distance learning. They believed the masks did not work and made it difficult to breathe. Ms. Palone felt the teachers were pressuring students to wear masks and that her daughter should not be afraid of going to school because she might have to share a bathroom or play on sports teams with boys.

Scott Wallace was a pediatrician in Reno. He noted the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) based their decisions on science and research, including the importance of in-person learning for children. He noted in order for in-person learning to occur, it needed to be conducted in a safe environment, which included social distancing and mask wearing. He believed many of the statistics quoted were misinterpreted and taken out of context and that COVID could impact anyone, of any age or health status. He stated masks were important because they protected others around you if you were the one infected. He remarked that it was critical to protect each other so there was not another surge in cases because that would be what could close schools again.

Jonna AuCoin was a principal in the District. She mentioned she was listening to the meeting on her way home and heard so much negativity that she had to come to the meeting to say thank you to the Trustees and Superintendent McNeill. She remarked that she had not always agreed with the decisions made during the pandemic, including the reopening of schools, but it was the correct decision and the students were thriving now that more were back in person. She commented that she was disappointed in how Trustee Church was representing her as a constituent because, in her opinion, it appeared he only wanted to create tension. She noted there were challenges that needed to be addressed in the District and improvement did need to occur, but there were also great things happening in the schools and classrooms. She believed it was important for kindergarteners to learn how to speak up when they did not think a rule was fair because that was where the development of critical thinking skills began.

Beth Martin agreed with the remarks provided by Principal AuCoin. She expressed her support for the proposed supplemental curriculum because it tied into the current Benchmark curriculum that was already being taught. She was frustrated at the misrepresentation occurring because the comments were not based on the materials, just that it was "indoctrination." She stated the proposed lessons aligned with the current standards related to listening, speaking, reading, and writing. She remarked that teachers taught students to analyze historical documents and artifacts, and how to make logical, fact-based arguments based on historical events, which was critical in understanding both the positive and negative aspects of American history. She indicated she was unclear why teaching students to understand how and why race impacted history was threatening to some. She stated Superintendent McNeill was not dividing the community but was one of the most involved superintendents she had work

under over the past 13 year and that she was proud of the work the Superintendent was doing.

Kristen DeHaan mentioned she agreed with Principal AuCoin and Ms. Martin. She noted, as a teacher in the District, that the students did pay attention and that many watched the Board meetings and were frustrated when adults were continuing to say they would not be able to go to college, find a job, or were not being educated. She stated the teachers were teaching reading, writing, math, and history, with many kindergarten students reading by the end of the school year, while some required additional assistance for whatever reason. She mentioned teaching sex education was not new and that when she was in high school the students learned how to put on a condom. She appreciated the in-person meetings by the Board and noted people complained when the meetings were held in larger venues because they said they could not hear.

Joe Morabito was a member of the community. He spoke against the proposed social justice curriculum because he believed it was based on Marxist and Critical Race theories, as well as the 1619 Project, which he felt was revisionist history. He remarked that any curriculum that taught to hate white men, or anyone, and to shame white children because they were "privileged" was against the students' Civil Rights. He indicated he would be working with others to monitor what was occurring in the classrooms and what teachers and school administrators were saying if the proposed curriculum was adopted. He claimed the proposed curriculum would result in civil lawsuits. He stated he was also opposed to any policies that allowed boys to use girls' bathrooms and locker rooms or boys to compete in girls' competitive sports.

Calen Evans, Empower Nevada Teachers, stated the primary focus of the organization was to address educational funding issues in Nevada. He noted the group was comprised of educators and community members throughout Nevada with differing political views and beliefs. He explained the group's social media platforms served to bring people together who supported public education and the views and opinions expressed by members of the group may or may not be the same as the board of directors of Empower Nevada Teachers. He mentioned there were other groups targeting what members of Empower Nevada Teachers had said on the organization's social media pages and cautioned that any post, unless written by the organization's administrators, were the views of the individual and not the organization. He emphasized Empower Nevada Teacher did, and would continue, to support the students, no matter their race, religion, sexual orientation, or color. He believed lies and misinformation were being spread to further a particular political agenda by those who were not involved in education in Nevada and stated Empower Nevada Teachers would not be silent and allow that to occur.

Rachel Fisher was a teacher in the District and part of Rainbow Educators of Nevada, which advocated for inclusivity in the schools. She spoke in support of the proposed updates to the Sexuality, Health and Responsibility Education (SHARE) curriculum. She believed the updates were long overdue. She mentioned the information was medically accurate and important lessons for students. She noted comprehensive sex education did not lead to increased sexual activity but prevented bullying, harassment, abuse, disease, and unintended pregnancy.

YeVonne Allen thanked the Board for listening to members of the community. She urged them all to stand up for equity, diversity, and inclusion and not let hate, bias, and misinformation change their views on what they knew was right. She mentioned she could not believe what many people had stated during public comment and many of the comments showed exactly why critical thinking skills needed to be taught in the schools. She remarked the Trustees were elected to support the entire community and not just a vocal minority that showed up to meetings because the students in the District were very diverse. She also spoke in support of the proposed sex education curriculum because it was inclusive and needed in the schools.

The Board received emailed public comment from the following:

Alex T.	Marika Moore
Maria Skolnick	Anonymous
Eric Rezac	Gladys Krehlik
Drew Tilbrooke	Tami Houston
Ian Corona	Sakara Ferebee
Dinah Maher	Matthew Montognese
Lorna James	Jennifer Young
Julia Rogers	Bill Thibault
Pam Groth	Karl Sweder
Mr. and Mrs. Stan Jolliffe	Angelina Montognese
Steve Winters	Melissa Fitch
Jean Golla	Brittany Bland
Stephanie Jiroch	Mark Story
Joan Rivet	Bernadette Speth
Karen Benna	Brad Kroshus
Doug Flaherty	Dawn Hepner
Lindsey Moser	Lisa Brunelle
Steve and Lindsey Rikalo	Janet Moore
Dan and Kathy Rikalo	Brad Carpenter
Matt and Natalie Newell	Jenny Snaza
Katy McPherson	David Chamberlain
David and Whitney Rikalo	Julie Lee
Patty Fonda	R. Crump
Denise Rikalo	William Barclay

Kimberly Wass

Georgia Russell

7. General Public Comment**7.01 PUBLIC COMMENT**

Brian Gibb was a parent in the District. He explained his son was born with a severe heart defect which put him at a disadvantage with COVID-19. He remarked that he was tired of teachers and school district administrators making decisions without consulting health officials because the decisions were impacting children. He noted the language from the health officials strongly recommended masks be worn in elementary schools because children were not vaccinated. He believed the District made a mistake by removing the mask requirement in elementary schools because there were many students who remained susceptible to COVID.

The Board received comments from the following:

Donald Philips

President Taylor recessed the meeting for 30 minutes.

5. Items for Presentation, Discussion, Information and/or Action**5.01 PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION TO REVIEW KINDERGARTEN UPDATES FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR**

Kacey Edgington, Kindergarten Facilitator, provided the Board with a presentation on the plans for kindergarten for the 2021-22 School Year. The District followed the requirements of Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 392.040, which required the screening of children who did not attend a District or District approved kindergarten program to determine if the child was prepared to enter into the 1st grade. She mentioned 100% of children tested by the District so far were prepared to enter 1st grade, which she knew was a concern of the Board since some families had opted their children out of kindergarten due to the pandemic. Information on the supports provided to students and families was provided. The kindergarten registration for the 2021-22 School Year was at 92% of the expected applications and comparable to the 2018-19 School Year enrollment. Additional information on current legislation being considered by the Nevada Legislature was provided and the events conducted to transition children from PreK to kindergarten.

President Taylor requested clarification on the legislation. Ms. Edgington explained the bill would revise the age at which children would be able to begin kindergarten. Currently the age was based on a date, but the proposed change would state that a child must be 5 years old on or before the start of a school year to enter kindergarten,

which could impact about 100 students annually in the District who started when they were 4 years old who turned 5 within 30 days of the start of school.

Trustee Caudill asked if the District was anticipating an increase in kindergarten registration as the schools opened up more and if there was a decrease in COVID cases. Ms. Edington indicated the District was expecting the enrollment numbers to increase based on current registrations.

Trustee Caudill wondered how many kindergarten students were enrolled at North Star Online. Ms. Edington mentioned that as of May 20, 2021, there were 18 kindergartens registered at North Star Online.

Trustee Minetto recalled that when she was teaching in the elementary schools, there always seemed to be a large influx of kindergarten students through the first month of a new school year. She asked if the District continued to see similar increases. Ms. Edington stated the District was working hard to prevent that from happening because the first few weeks were extremely important in developing a routine, which was one of the reasons for the increased community outreach by the District and individual elementary schools.

5.02 DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO REVIEW THE COVID-19 CASE COUNTS IN SCHOOLS, ADEQUACY OF STAFFING LEVELS, AND OTHER APPLICABLE FACTORS, AS WELL AS DATA INDICATORS USED TO ASSESS COVID-19 COMMUNITY RISK TO INCLUDE COMPLETED RISK ASSESSMENT FORMS, TEST POSITIVITY, COMMUNITY WIDE CASE RATES AND HOSPITALIZATIONS, AND, IF DATA INDICATORS SUGGEST VERY HIGH RISK OR ABOVE FOR UP TO 7 DAYS, OR THE BOARD DEEMS IT NECESSARY, THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES WILL CONSIDER RELEVANT ACTIONS THAT MAY INCLUDE CHANGES TO IN-PERSON, HYBRID, AND FULL-DISTANCE LEARNING MODELS

Dr. Paul LaMarca, Chief Strategies Officer, provided an update on COVID-19 cases in the community. Information on the collaboration with the Washoe County Health District was presented. Currently, Washoe County was in the "moderate/yellow" range and the average daily cases and test positivity continued to decrease.

President Taylor thanked the members of the Washoe County Health District who were present for the meeting. She appreciated all their work and support through the past year.

President Taylor opened the meeting to public comment. The Board received comments from the following:

Christa Rossi

Marika Moore
Morgan Kolvet
Brian Gibb
Theresa Bohannon
Stephanie Robison
Dr. Steven Althoff
Dr. Kate Pflughoeft
Katania Taylor
Jindrus Stewart
Verna Renshaw
Annie and Mark Story
Marin Pilloud
Delia Paul

Trustee Church mentioned he had visited various schools within his district and saw chaos in terms of students wearing masks and the teachers' ability to enforce the wearing of masks. He would be interested in at least holding a discussion on allowing parents and children to use face shields instead of masks.

It was moved by Trustee Church and seconded by Trustee Caudill that **the Board of Trustees directs the Superintendent to allow the use of face shields in place of face masks at all District schools and facilities.**

President Taylor opened the motion for discussion.

Trustee Nicolet wondered why the original decision was made not to allow the use of face shields. Superintendent McNeill read from the current directive, Governor's Directive 045, Section 4: "Effective immediately, individuals not exempted from Directive 024 and 028, or guidance issued by the Nevada Health Response, shall be required to cover their nose and mouth with a face covering in a manner consistent with guidance issued by the CDC, and any subsequent guidance issued by the CDC..." Based on her reading of the directive, she did not believe a face shield would comply. Dr. LaMarca added there was a time when the District was prepared to allow the use of face shields and had even ordered some for the schools; however, in late July 2020, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) provided guidance that face shields were not appropriate substitutes for face coverings. He noted the CDC had subsequently provided additional guidance on the types of face coverings and materials that were appropriate. There had been exceptions made to allow the use of face shields for students who were physically unable to wear a mask.

Trustee Church believed the information on the CDC website would allow for face shields.

President Taylor requested a representative from the Health District provide their guidance on if face shields were acceptable alternatives. Heather Kerwin, Infectious Disease Epidemiologist, Washoe County Health District, stated that face shields were originally designed for use in medical settings for providers who were conducting procedures where aerosols or bodily fluids could be released. The shields were intended to protect the other personal protective equipment being worn, to include a mask. Because SARS-COVID19 was air borne, particles were released whenever someone breathed, spoke, sang, played an instrument, etc. If the masks were worn tight against the mouth and nose, the more protective it would be because it would not allow as many particles to escape. While there were instances when a face shield was a more appropriate choice, most of the time a mask should be used since it provided the most protection.

Trustee Nicolet remarked that there had already been confusion with the changes for those age 9 and under. She believed, since it was so close to the end of the school year, that the District should not make any additional changes. She understood the concerns raised by parents, but she did not want to create more confusion.

Trustee Calvert commented that the Board had been provided with information that exceptions were provided for students with special needs to use a face shield, but that the mask did offer more protection.

Trustee Caudill wondered if face shields would provide additional flexibility for staff members who were vaccinated.

President Taylor cautioned that the District did not know who was vaccinated and who was not, so it would be challenging to allow the use of face shields for those who were vaccinated without requiring staff to disclose their personal medical information. She indicated that she was hesitant to make any large-scale changes without receiving additional information and feedback from families and staff.

Neil Rombardo, Chief General Counsel, provided the definition of face covering, as anything covering the nose and mouth, including, without limitation, cloth face masks, surgical masks, towels, scarfs, and bandanas. Face shields were not part of face coverings, so the Board and District would be in violation of the Governor's Directive if the motion were approved.

Trustees Church and Caudill withdrew their motion based on the definition provided.

5.03 PRESENTATION, INFORMATION, AND DISCUSSION ON STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE OPENING OF SCHOOL PLANS FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR TO INCLUDE THE FULL RETURN OF STUDENTS TO ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS, MIDDLE SCHOOLS, AND HIGH SCHOOLS

AND TO INCLUDE INFORMATION ON ACADEMICS, OPERATIONS, TRANSPORTATION, NUTRITION SERVICES, HUMAN RESOURCES, MITIGATION SAFETY MEASURES, AND AN UPDATE ON THE PLAN FOR NORTH STAR ONLINE SCHOOL TO SERVE AS THE DISTRICT'S ONLY ONLINE/DISTANCE LEARNING SCHOOL

Superintendent McNeill and members of the District's Leadership Team presented the recommendations for the 2021-22 School Year, including providing information on processes and procedures to be in place for the operational and academic sides of the District.

Pete Etchart, Chief Operating Officer, reviewed the state guidance and local authority plans that were used to determine how the District would proceed in the opening of schools for the 2021-22 School Year. The District would continue to monitor information and guidance released by the state and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) to determine if changes would need to be made prior to the start of school.

Dr. Paul LaMarca, Chief Strategies Officer, presented information on the current mitigation strategies that the District anticipated continuing through the next school year to prevent increased spread of COVID-19, including increased hygiene opportunities, sanitation, and other strategies related to contact tracing. It was important to remember the proposed plans for the 2021-22 School Year were based on what was currently known in terms of guidance and recommendations, but those could change. The District would also be implementing a new pilot program for contact tracing and exclusions for the summer school session. The intent was to avoid the large-scale exclusions of students through the use of seating charts, accurate rosters, and having the materials for contact tracing completed at the start of the school year. The District had not determined how vaccinations would be handled and if someone would need to be excluded if they had been vaccinated.

Trustee Nicolet wondered how the District would be able to allow access to student information, including vaccination status, while maintaining medical privacy requirements. Dr. LaMarca mentioned there were challenges, but the District had been able to maintain confidentiality through the current school year. The entities were able to share information quickly by having some District staff working in the Health District offices.

Trustee Caudill asked how students would be able to keep up academically if they were excluded since the only on-line learning would be through North Star Online and the individual schools would not be providing that as an option. Dr. LaMarca indicated some of that information would be provided later in the presentation. One of the reasons the District wanted to develop a more efficient exclusion process was so that there were not students being excluded for excessive amounts of time.

Superintendent McNeill added that the development of the exclusion process should be considered a “silver lining” because the District would be able to utilize the same process if exclusions were required for other diseases or viruses, such as whooping cough or chicken pox.

Adam Searcy, Chief Facilities Management Officer, presented the operational considerations for the 2021-22 School Year. The District had been able to increase the amount of fresh air being circulated throughout all facilities, as well as ensuring regular cleaning and disinfecting of surfaces.

Trustee Caudill wondered if the District had been able to address the concerns related to the smoke days that had to be called in August 2020. Mr. Searcy noted 2020 was more of an extreme in terms of the intensity and duration of the smoke from the wildfires. The concerns with the smoke were not necessarily related to the air quality in the buildings, but more a concern with students walking to and from school and being exposed. The District would have to weigh any possible change to distance learning due to a natural disaster versus the safety of students and staff getting to and from the buildings.

Trustee Minetto requested clarification on when the air circulation was in effective. Mr. Searcy stated the general time frame was an hour before and after the school day; however, the Facilities Management Department did take into consideration other activities that might be occurring before and after the school day.

President Taylor thanked everyone in Operations for all their work. She indicated there were other school districts across the country looking at what had been done in the Washoe County School District, especially related to circulating the air in the buildings.

Lianka Soliz, Nutrition Services Director, explained how they anticipated streamlining operations to account for the expected growth due to universal free lunches. Nutrition Services wanted to return to pre-COVID operational models and bring back point of service lines in the cafeterias.

Trustee Nicolet requested clarification on point of service. Ms. Soliz remarked that even though there would not be cash exchanged for the meals, the District still needed to conduct a meal count each day.

Trustee Church wondered if there was a plan if the District was not able to fully staff Nutrition Services, such as bringing in outside vendors. Ms. Soliz noted the District would work with the individual school sites before they would bring in outside vendors.

Scott Lee, Assistant Transportation Director, reviewed the current staffing levels in Transportation. The District was about 50 people short on staffing, plus approved leaves of absences, left the District about 23% short on staffing. The District was currently able to meet general education and mandated transportation needs because of distance learning and hybrid, which led to decreased ridership.

Rick Martin, Transportation Director, presented the transportation considerations for the 2021-22 School Year. A return to normal ridership and occupancy levels for the next school year meant that the District would need to implement about 25 driver routes, which equated to 27 of the open driver positions. Possible solutions to the transportation challenges were explained, including double runs for elementary schools and increased walk zones.

Trustee Church remarked that he would like to see the recruiting program revamped because he believed at least 25% - 50% of the personnel challenges could be handled through new and innovative recruiting strategies in the short term.

Trustee Nicolet wondered how many elementary school students walked the 1.25 miles because it was a long way for the younger kids. Mr. Martin indicated the District transported about 1/3 of all District students and the majority of those transported were in elementary school. If the District were to increase the walk zone for elementary schools to 1.5 miles, about 2,000 students would be impacted. Mr. Etchart added that the District would have a short amount of time to let families know about any changes.

Emily Ellison, Chief Human Resources Officer, provided information on the Human Resources considerations for the next school year. The largest challenges were related to recruitment, so the District would be looking at utilizing some of the strategies used in the recruitment of guest teachers during the current school year.

Dr. Troy Parks, Chief Academic Officer, reviewed the academic considerations and how the District would work to support teachers in the classrooms. The District would continue the use of professional learning communities (PLCs) to support high levels of learning for all students in the District. Building learning facilitators would be used in the elementary schools to support the work of the PLCs and provide additional assistance to teachers on how to understand the data, especially related to what should occur when students were not learning. Some of the "silver linings" the District was able to learning throughout the pandemic included the creation of the Distance and Blended Learning Department, more efficient use of time and resources with families, increased on-line collaboration, and higher levels of differentiation to support personalized student learning. Information on how the District would support students who were excluded was highlighted and would included the increased use of laptops for learning.

Jeanna Curtis, Area Superintendent, presented an update on North Star Online Academy, which would be the only distance learning options available to students beginning with the 2021-22 School Year. The District created four "hubs" throughout the community where students and teachers from North Star could go to receive in-person learning and support. North Star Online was prepared to accept up to 2,000 students and currently had 619 students enrolled, with the deadline for applications of May 28, 2021.

President Taylor asked what would happen if someone wanted to change from distance learning and back to their zoned school. Ms. Curtis explained the District was encouraging students to begin at North Star if they had an interest in distance learning because the curriculum was different and it would be difficult to go back and forth between the different curriculum models. It was more difficult to start with in-person learning and move to North Star.

Trustee Caudill wondered why the deadline for applications was May 28, 2021. Ms. Curtis remarked that the enrollment process for North Star Online was different than enrolling in a traditional school. The enrollment process would take a couple of weeks to move through Infinite Campus and then for the student to be registered for the classes by Pearson.

Trustee Nicolet requested additional information on dual credit opportunities, extracurricular activities, and lunches for students enrolled in North Star. Ms. Curtis mentioned lunches were not provided at North Star Online. In terms of extracurricular activities, the teachers at North Star were the advisors for clubs and they would generally meet on Fridays. Athletics and other events, such as dances, were handled through the student's zoned schools. The dual credit program was the same as in other high schools and offered the same opportunities for students interested in the classes.

Rollins Stallworth, Coordinator of Activities and Athletics, reviewed the current directives related to high school athletics. The District recommended coaches, workers, and student athletes get vaccinated, as able, prior to the start of their individual seasons. For the 2021-22 School Year, the District was planning on conducting full athletic seasons, unless told otherwise. Spectators would be allowed in accordance with state and local guidance, to include the use of face coverings.

Trustee Nicolet asked how the District would be providing information to parents regarding vaccines since there were many who remained concerned. Mr. Stallworth explained his intention was to inform parents that vaccines would extend the longevity of a season if an outbreak were to occur at a campus because they would not be excluded if they had received the vaccine.

President Taylor added the language was to recommend vaccines for athletes so parents did have the choice. It was important to share the impacts of what would occur with and without a vaccine and then it would be up to the parents.

Joe Ernst, Lead Area Superintendent, presented the recommendation for the 2021-22 School Year for all elementary schools. The District was recommending full in-person learning for all elementary schools, following all state guidance, with full distance learning options available through North Star Online School.

President Taylor opened the meeting to public comment. The Board received an email from the following:

Sara Smith

It was moved by Trustee Caudill and seconded by Trustee Nicolet that **the Board of Trustees accepts the recommendation to return to full in-person learning for all elementary schools, following all State guidance, for the 2021-22 School Year.** The result of the vote was Unanimous: (Yea: Jacqueline Calvert, Andrew Caudill, Jeff Church, Ellen Minetto, Diane Nicolet, Angela Taylor, and Kurt Thigpen.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

Lauren Ford, Lead Area Superintendent, presented the recommendation for the 2021-22 School Year for all middle schools. The District was recommending full in-person learning for all middle schools, following all state guidance, with full distance learning options available through North Star Online School. No hybrid schedule would be offered for middle schools. Some middle schools had determined they would continue with a block schedule format to allow for extended class times and would no longer provide lockers for improved efficiency in students getting to classes on time. An orientation would be offered at all middle schools for 6th graders, as well as 7th and 8th graders as time allowed.

It was moved by Trustee Caudill and seconded by Trustee Minetto that **the Board of Trustees accepts the recommendation to return to full in-person learning for all middle schools, following all State guidance, for the 2021-22 School Year.** The result of the vote was Unanimous: (Yea: Jacqueline Calvert, Andrew Caudill, Jeff Church, Ellen Minetto, Diane Nicolet, Angela Taylor, and Kurt Thigpen.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

Jeana Curtis, Area Superintendent, presented the recommendation for the 2021-22 School Year for all high schools. The District was recommending full in-person learning for all high schools, following all state guidance, with full distance learning options available through North Star Online School. No hybrid schedule would be offered for high schools. High schools were looking at various options to enhance learning in high school, such as blended learning through Edgenutiy and tutoring opportunities.

It was moved by Trustee Caudill and seconded by Trustee Minetto that **the Board of Trustees accepts the recommendation to return to full in-person learning for all high schools, following all State guidance, for the 2021-22 School Year.**

The result of the vote was Unanimous: (Yea: Jacqueline Calvert, Andrew Caudill, Jeff Church, Ellen Minetto, Diane Nicolet, Angela Taylor, and Kurt Thigpen.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

President Taylor recessed the meeting for 10 minutes.

5.04 DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED SEXUALITY, HEALTH AND RESPONSIBILITY EDUCATION (SHARE) 6th GRADE CURRICULUM, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE SHARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Kindra Fox, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, and Rochelle Procter, SHARE Coordinator, provided a presentation on the development of the Sexuality, Health and Responsibility Education (SHARE) 6th grade curriculum. Background information on the SHARE program, including governing documents, was reviewed. It was emphasized that active parent permission was required for students to participate in the SHARE curriculum and lessons. Permission was provided through the registration process in Infinite Campus. The SHARE Advisory Committee was comprised of 9 individuals and membership was dictated by Nevada Revised Statutes. The District had been working on updating the SHARE curriculum for all grades beginning with high school in 2018 to ensure up-to-date and appropriate information was provided on topics such as consent, setting boundaries, healthy relationships, medically accurate local resources, and that the curriculum met the needs of the diverse student population. The proposed curriculum was available for viewing by the community and included a survey opportunity. The majority of parent respondents were from 5th and 6th grades and expressed their support for the proposed curriculum.

President Taylor requested additional information on who provided the SHARE curriculum in the schools. Ms. Procter noted the curriculum was provided by counselors, science teachers, health teachers, and as part of the JROTC program in high school. She added that if there was a teacher uncomfortable providing the lessons, she would always work with the teacher and present the lessons herself. She remarked she appreciated the opportunities to go into the classrooms because it provided a chance to hear directly from the students and learn firsthand about the questions they were asking.

Ms. Procter presented the community resources provided to students as part of the SHARE curriculum. It was important to note there was no adopted textbook for the SHARE curriculum in the District and that she had only used a definition on consent for

the high school curriculum as part of a book referenced during public comment. The book was also listed as a parent resource on the SHARE website.

President Taylor thanked Ms. Procter for the clarification. She asked why the Crisis Pregnancy Center was not listed as a community resource. Ms. Procter stated the question had previously been raised and she spoke with the medical representative on the SHARE Advisory Committee, who was a certified family nurse practitioner, for a clear and easy to understand reason why the Crisis Pregnancy Center was not listed. The reason why it was not a good choice to provide to students was, "Much of the medical community considers Crisis Pregnancy Centers to be unethical, as often their organizations seek to intercept women with unintended pregnancies to prevent abortions. They often state they are providing 'medical services' and yet they have no licensed medical staff and are not subject to regulatory bodies, licensure, or credentialing. Given that they are not licensed medical clinics, they cannot legally be held to the privacy requirements in the HIPPA Act, which can lead to violations of client privacy, especially surrounding adolescent populations. Often Crisis Pregnancy Centers engage in 'counseling' services that are misleading, false, and not evidenced-based."

Trustee Nicolet wondered if there were other opportunities for students, whose parents had opted them out of the SHARE curriculum, to learn about the basic human sexuality system. Ms. Procter noted if a parent opted their child(ren) out, then they were opted out of all of the SHARE curriculum. In high school, students were required to take a health class where they might learn the basics of human development, but the information was not the same or as extensive as what was provided as part of the SHARE program. The curriculum was available on the District's website if parents were interested in providing the information themselves to their children. Ms. Fox added parents were required to fill out the information whenever they enrolled a student for a new school year, so as children entered into higher grades, parents could change their minds.

Trustee Nicolet asked what was meant by "meet the needs of diverse populations." Ms. Procter commented that it meant the District was meeting the needs of all students in the curriculum, to include the needs of the LGBTQ+ population. The intent was always to have the parents as the first educator at home and that the District was reinforcing or supplementing information. However, it was also important to remember there were some children who were not provided those opportunities. Students needed to know certain information to ensure their own health and safety, which included the correct usage of terminology.

Trustee Church inquired if a parent could attend the SHARE lessons. Ms. Procter cautioned that would not be appropriate for parents to sit in on the lessons because of the conversations that could occur with other students. Additionally, before each SHARE lesson, the students were reminded that the topics that occurred during the

lessons were not to be discussed outside of the lesson, and then only at home with a parent. Index cards were also provided to students at the beginning of each lesson to allow the opportunity to ask anonymous questions.

Trustee Minetto expressed concern that the Crisis Pregnancy Center was still not included because other medical professionals might disagree with the views of the Committee representative. Ms. Procter affirmed that she could not support the inclusion of the organization as a medical resource if they did not have to have a licensed medical professional on staff.

Trustee Caudill mentioned he did not see anything controversial in the lessons and that the District had been providing so many resources and supports to parents. He was concerned with including Planned Parenthood as a resource because they were a public school district.

President Taylor noted it was important to remember that Nevada law required school districts to provide instruction on certain topics and she appreciated there was a complete review occurring of all grades to ensure they were relevant to what was currently occurring.

Trustee Church asked where Planned Parenthood was included as part of the curriculum. Ms. Procter replied that Planned Parenthood was used as a resource in the development of the curriculum, but their information was not provided as part of the 6th grade curriculum.

President Taylor opened the meeting to public comment.

Emily Mimnaugh was a local attorney representing Pacific Justice Institute. She had reviewed the proposed curriculum and believed there were at least two legal objections. She stated she was concerned about parents actually providing informed consent and that resources were provided on certain sectarian groups, while others were left out. She provided examples of where she believed the legal concerns were obvious.

Kristen DeHaan was a teacher in the District. She expressed her support for the proposed curriculum, especially related to social media. She provided information to the Trustees on how social media made adults feel, thus it was critical to educate students so they had a better understanding of how and what they were feeling when they read comments that were unkind or hurtful.

Baillie Stewart was a teacher at a District sponsored charter school, who was responsible for providing the SHARE lessons. She thanked staff and the SHARE Advisory Committee for the proposed curriculum because the current curriculum was the same curriculum she received when she was a 6th grader in the Washoe County

School District. She stated she did not see anything in the curriculum that her students would not understand or were already having quiet conversations about with each other. She believed the new curriculum was more focused and medically driven than the current version.

The Board received comments from the following:

Scott Callaghan

Dr. Sarah Elliott

Sandy Young

Katie Silva

Jerry Clark

Lois Bianchi

Conor McQuivey

Claribel Russell

Alison Gaulden

President Taylor requested Legal address some of the concerns raised during public comment. Neil Rombardo, Chief General Counsel, noted the instructional materials were not required to be available to the public until after the Board had approved the curriculum. It was challenging to address all the concerns raised during public comment without time to research the concerns, but he believed the proposed curriculum met the requirements outline in Nevada Revised Statutes. He would need to conduct some additional research on if counselors were actually teaching the SHARE lessons, but it was the Board's purview to approve the curriculum and the Superintendent's purview on who taught the curriculum.

President Taylor appreciated the information. It was clear the District had to teach SHARE and that it was up to the Board to approve the curriculum, so the one question that would need to be reviewed was for the Superintendent to confirm who could teach the lessons.

Trustee Church requested clarification on the law and if the Board had to approve the teachers who were providing the lessons. Mr. Rombardo noted the law referred to was more a reference to how education professionals were hired in smaller school district across Nevada, which had the Board approve the hiring. The Washoe County School District Board of Trustees had authorized personnel decisions, namely hiring and firing, to the Superintendent.

It was moved by Trustee Thigpen and seconded by Trustee Nicolet that **the Board of Trustees approves the proposed 6th Grade SHARE curriculum, as recommended by the SHARE Advisory Committee.** The result of the vote was 5-2: (Yea: Jacqueline Calvert, Jeff Church, Diane Nicolet, Angela Taylor, and Kurt Thigpen. Nay: Andrew Caudill and Ellen Minetto.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

6. Reports

6.01 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Student Representative Victoria Gomez reported on activities, meetings, and events of the Superintendent's Student Advisory Council.

6.02 SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

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

8. Closing Items

8.01 NEXT MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

The next Regular Meeting would take place on Tuesday, June 8, 2021

8.02 ADJOURN MEETING

There being no further business to come before the members of the Board, President Taylor declared the meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

Angela D. Taylor, President

Ellen Minetto, Clerk

From: A T
Sent: Tuesday, May 18, 2021 2:24 PM
To: Caudill, Andrew B; Batchelder, Jennifer
Cc: Zimmerman, Daniel; kdick@washoecounty.us
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] New Mask Policy

I would like the following statement of concern to be read into the record at the upcoming board meeting:

Dear WCSD Board,

I am the parent of a 3rd grader and a Kindergartner at Incline Elementary.

I am writing to express my utter dismay at the new mask policy which was implemented with approximately 12 hours notice and in violation of CDC guidance.

I understand the science, that children are not driving the pandemic and that cases of covid are down. People are getting vaccines, which is good. But my children do not have access to the vaccines. You have forced my family to make an impossible choice: risking my children's health to send them to interact among large groups of unvaccinated and unmasked people in an indoor setting, or deny them their education.

Your very own health meter describes the risk of covid in the community as "moderate." Why not take every precaution possible, at least through the end of the school year? The children are used to wearing masks at this point.

The long term risks of covid are unknown. I want nothing more than my children to escape this pandemic without ill effect. To me, that means getting them vaccinated and minimizing risk. And your decision to allow unvaccinated people to remove their masks in an indoor setting does exactly the opposite.

This decision violates CDC best practices. Put differently, whatever is driving this decision, it is not guided by science. You should know that you are not just creating unnecessary health risk--but you are taking legal risk too. Should my children contract covid due to your recklessness, I will do everything in my power to hold the school district legally responsible.

Right now there are 7 new cases countywide for 5-10 year olds. More than 1000 children in the age group in the county have already contracted the disease. The foolishness of removing masks from the classroom means those numbers are likely to go up. You are directly responsible for that, but you can change this. I urge you to reconsider. Our children's health--and my vote come November--depend on it.

Alex

On Mon, May 17, 2021 at 11:14 PM Caudill, Andrew B <Andrew.Caudill@washoeschools.net> wrote:

Good evening,
Thank you for your email.

As you may know, on Sunday evening the Nevada Department of Education issued guidance for school districts across the state regarding the use of masks in our schools and on school buses to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Please see the new guidance below:

- Students who are 9 years of age and younger do not need to wear a face mask when they are inside or outside of

a school building.

- All other students must continue to wear a face mask inside of school buildings but may remove their mask outside during lunch, recess, or PE.
- All students and staff must continue to wear a face mask when they are on a school bus
- All staff must continue to wear a face mask inside school buildings regardless of vaccination status
- Staff who are fully vaccinated do not need to wear a mask when they are outdoors or outside of a school building.

The Washoe County School District has followed Governor Directives and state guidance as we've worked to keep our schools safe throughout this challenging year. I also know that no COVID action we've taken has met the approval of everyone, as this is a very personal, challenging and polarizing issue. As such, I understand that regardless of how hard we try, there are unfortunately no answers today that will please everyone. Some families believe that the NDE moved too quickly. Others believe that this does not go far enough. It's been a real challenge.

For those families who would like the guidelines to go farther and faster, we hear you. We simply asked for your patience as protocols continue to be rolled back safely. For those who believe that these new guidelines go too far, we hear you, too. Please know that this is not a mandate. And we encourage you to make the best decision for your family as it pertains to continuing to wear masks.

Again, thank you for reaching out to voice your concerns. We appreciate hearing from you

Andrew
(On behalf of the Board)

Sincerely,

Andrew B. Caudill
Vice President, Board of Trustees
School Board Trustee
District C (Cold Springs, North Valleys, Spanish Springs, Sun Valley, Gerlach, Wadsworth)



From: A T

Sent: Monday, May 17, 2021 10:21 PM

To: Church, Jeffrey <Jeffrey.Church@WashoeSchools.net>; Minetto, Ellen <EMinetto@washoeschools.net>; Caudill, Andrew B <Andrew.Caudill@WashoeSchools.net>; Thigpen, Kurt L <Kurt.Thigpen@WashoeSchools.net>; Taylor, Angela <ATaylor@WashoeSchools.net>; Calvert, Jacqueline M <Jacqueline.Calvert@WashoeSchools.net>; Nicolet, Diane M <DNicolet@WashoeSchools.net>

Cc: Zimmerman, Daniel <Daniel.Zimmerman@WashoeSchools.net>; kdick@washoecounty.us
<kdick@washoecounty.us>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] New Mask Policy

Dear WCSD Board,

I am the parent of a 3rd grader and a kindergartner at Incline Elementary.

I am writing to express my utter dismay at the new mask policy which was implemented with approximately 12 hours notice.

I understand the science, that children are not driving the pandemic and that cases of covid are down. People are getting vaccines, which is good. But my children do not have access to the vaccines. You have forced my family to make an impossible choice: risking my children's health to send them to interact among large groups of unvaccinated and unmasked people in an indoor setting, or deny them their education.

Your very own health meter describes the risk of covid in the community as "moderate." Why not take every precaution possible, at least through the end of the school year? The children are used to wearing masks at this point.

The long term risks of covid are unknown. I want nothing more than my children to escape this pandemic without ill effect. To me, that means getting them vaccinated and minimizing risk. And your decision to allow unvaccinated people to remove their masks in an indoor setting does exactly the opposite.

Right now there are 7 new cases countywide for 5-10 year olds. More than 1000 children in the age group in the county have already contracted the disease. The foolishness of removing masks from the classroom means those numbers are likely to go up. You are directly responsible for that, but you can change this. I urge you to reconsider. Our children's health--and my vote come November--depend on it.

Alex

From: Maria Skolnick
Sent: Thursday, May 13, 2021 9:01 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] WCSD Social Justice Curriculum

Dear WCSD Board and Administration,

As a parent of two young girls who are multi-racial in your school system, my husband and I oppose the entire supplemental curriculum you are all trying to push. I have read through the majority of the social justice curriculum and find that it causes more division and bias. All the questions that were highlighted cause more friction, segregation, racism with an intended consequence to lead to white guilt. The focus on BIPOC communities seems to be laced with bias and prejudice. The relentless attack on white males in the questions for the 5th grade curriculum is absurd and appalling. You are going to teach our young 5th grade boys that because of the color of their skin they have a "false sense of self"?! What is wrong with judging people by their content and not the color of their skin. We, as parents, strongly believe that these topics should be discussed in the home. We will not allow our children to take these courses while attending school in Washoe Co. Let us parent our children and you all stick to teaching them the basics: math, reading and writing. You are failing at that with Nevada being at the bottom nationally, #49!

The fact that you had prohibited parents from the meetings with public comments is disgraceful and lacks transparency. This is a critical issue that requires in person parent involvement and debate.

Sincerely,

Maria Skolnick

From: Eric Rezac
Sent: Friday, May 14, 2021 12:35 PM
To: Public Comments; Nicolet, Diane M; Thigpen, Kurt L; Taylor, Angela; Calvert, Jacqueline M; Church, Jeffrey; Minetto, Ellen; Caudill, Andrew B
Subject: [EXTERNAL] In Support of Revisions to Policy 4500

To whom it may concern:

I stand in solidarity with Washoe County Students for Change in their support for the proposed revisions of Policy 4500. It is imperative to the safety and success of our community that teachers have the ability to support civil rights for all of their students. Teachers have a unique opportunity to impact their students' understanding of their world. The way teachers address issues like civil rights can impact student wellness and help to control bullying and harassment. It is a logical and important step to support teachers' ability to discuss civil rights as an apolitical action, especially because no party can claim civil rights as its own partisan issue. We implore you to support the revisions as a common-sense action today.

Sincerely,
Eric Rezac

Sent from my iPhone

From: Drew Tilbrooke
Sent: Friday, May 14, 2021 2:19 PM
To: Public Comments; Nicolet, Diane M; Thigpen, Kurt L; Taylor, Angela; Calvert, Jacqueline M; Church, Jeffrey; Minetto, Ellen; Caudill, Andrew B
Subject: [EXTERNAL] In Support of Revisions to Policy 4500

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Sincerely,
Drew Tilbrooke

From: Ian Corona
Sent: Sunday, May 16, 2021 7:10 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Indoctrination is not for public schools

Dear WCSD,

As a concerned and voting citizen, I am repulsed that you are choosing to indoctrinate young children with Critical Race Theory. Perhaps with our states school's ranking in the nation:

Nevada's K-12 education system is now [ranked 35th in the country](#) for academic achievement and has an overall score of D+ on an annual national report.

You should concentrate on your actual job as educators instead of virtue signaling and succumbing to the will of teenagers that have barely learned to drive a car.

This is beyond ridiculous and you should all be thrown from your school board positions. I will in fact be working towards this end.

This is NOT how our tax dollars should be spent when you can't even get beyond a D+ in the academics you are actually mandated to teach. This is moronic and you should all be ashamed of yourselves.

This is far from over.

Thank You,
Ian Corona

From: Christa Cochran-Rossi
Sent: Sunday, May 16, 2021 7:47 PM
To: Public Comments; Taylor, Angela; McNeill, Kristen; BoardMembers; bluecey@washoecounty.us; ahill@washoecounty.us; vhartung@washoecounty.us; jherman@washoecounty.us; mayor@reno.gov; kdick@washoecounty.us; Rossi, Christa; ndeinfo@doe.nv.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Update Mask Guideline

Good evening,

Thank you for taking the time to read this correspondence. As of last week, the CDC has released new guidance regarding those that are vaccinated. "Update that fully vaccinated people no longer need to wear a mask or physically distance in any setting, except where required by federal, state, local, tribal, or territorial laws, rules, and regulations, including local business and workplace guidance" <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated-guidance.html>

On 5/3/21 Governor Sisolak signed emergency directive 045, "which updated the mask and face covering requirements for the State of Nevada to align with the CDC's recommendations on mask usage, including any subsequent guidance issued by the CDC. **As a result, the updated guidance on masks issued today by the CDC is effective immediately in Nevada.**"

My questions still stands, from the last correspondence I sent on 4/27/21, can the mask requirement for teachers be lifted? In addition, will mask requirements for students be removed? Specifically, for children 3-9 (students in pre-k through 3rd grade)? The Governor, in directive 024, stated that children under 9 do not have to wear masks, "*young children between the ages of two and nine are exempt from this requirement*".

While the CDC may *recommend* that those not vaccinated should continue to wear masks (including children), I have to ask if this is the best recommendation that our district continue to enforce when our own Governor never made that a requirement. Children, specifically birth-11 can't control when or if a vaccine will be approved for them to receive. Why should they continue to be forced to wear masks when a *possible* requirement isn't yet achievable? Our county (not just school district), as of 5/16, has 54 active cases in children 0-10. *I have included the 0-4 population as the pre-k classes have students 3-4 years of age.* The total population for that age range is 63,211. This is less than .1%.

There are 31,510 enrolled students in PreK-6th grade. *This number includes some middle schools that have a PreK, 5th or 6th grade on campus. Marvin Picollo's enrollment numbers for PreK-6th grade are also included.* The district website, as of 5/12/21, states that there are 23 active cases in that grade range (PreK-6th). This is similar to the entire county count in that the total of active cases for students in PreK-6th grade is less than 1%.

Why should students in PreK-6th grade continue to be forced to wear masks when the percentage of active cases for that age range is below 1%?

My son attends a strategies PreK in WCSD as a typical peer. Strategies classroom are designed for students with autism. Young students with or without autism learn a great deal in early instruction and intervention classrooms. Language and social development are 2 areas targeted in the classroom he attends. Current guidelines restrict peer interaction and shared materials and are limiting language development. Students are making progress, but not as much in years past. I would know as my daughter also attended this program 2 years ago. Having a mask covering a teacher's face limits a child's ability to see how certain sounds and words are formed. Having a mask cover children's faces limits their willingness to engage with each other and the teacher. Having a mask covering a teacher's and children's faces doesn't allow for children to read facial expressions. All of this delay language development and decrease positive peer interaction and relationships. Limiting interaction by enforcing social distancing, not allowing the use of shared materials, and continuing to enforce mask wearing is detrimental to their growth, relationships, and education.

Teaching Kindergartners, and other grade levels I imagine, with a mask on is difficult. Some students can't hear sounds of letters correctly (vowel sounds are especially difficult). They aren't able to see (behind my mask) the shape my mouth makes to distinguish the sound difference. I have tried the clear mask and they just fog up. Directions are not as clear; my voice has been "lost" many days this year because I'm trying to project my voice.

Again, I ask: have you been able to see a child's face when they are asked a question and are told to "speak louder" or "project their voice"? It's heartbreaking. They may already be unsure of themselves and we are forcing them to speak louder because of masks. This can result in embarrassment or eventually give them anxiety about speaking. Please don't suggest that a child can write a response. In upper grades, that is feasible, not in Kindergarten.

I have read published articles that include a statement from Dr. McNeill saying she is waiting for further guidance from the Nevada Department of Education regarding mask guidelines. Please, to everyone involved, consider changing the mask requirement for students under 9 and vaccinated adults.

Thank you for your time,
Christa Rossi

From: Marika Moore
Sent: Monday, May 17, 2021 12:41 PM
To: Board Policy Committee; Ira.Hansen@sen.state.nv.us; McNeill, Kristen; admin@lcb.state.nv.us; Public Comments; Covington, Tami
Cc: hchlarrison@lcb.state.nv.us
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Important COVID 19 issues and remarks

Gooooood morning to you all!!

I'd just like to commend you so much for the decision to stop the requirement for children who are age nine and under to wear masks. I actually do not believe anyone should be forced to wear masks but that is a great start.

I commend your bravery. It is truly righteous and good will come out of it. There is tremendous support of this for stuff of your decision in the community. God bless you all!

Best regards,

Marika Moore

On Wed, May 12, 2021 at 9:54 AM Marika Moore wrote:

Dear everyone,

First of all I'd like to thank you for the work you do. I appreciate your good intentions and stewardship as guardians to Washoe County's children's education programs. This is a follow up from my commentary at yesterday's School Board Meeting.

I am home and business owner in Washoe county. I graduated from UNR with my Masters degree decades ago, and have substantial roots here. I am also a mom. And a Jesus follower.

I come today to address the ongoing issue COVID 19 responses: specifically the use masks and experimental covid shots.

I have worked for US embassies and schools all over the world. I've seen and been a part of educational, health and safety decisions.

These ones, to enforce masks and COVID shots are destructive to healthy immune systems. If adults choose to partake, fine. But when I hear children begging their to take their masks off because they can't breath, I consider it child abuse and bullying to enforce such protocol. This particular instance happened last week.

Though these protocols may have stemmed from good intentions it is ok to admit this tactic was wrong and move forward towards a rational solution to the fear of COVID 19. No human is perfect, only God is, and mistakes happen. Many other safer and healthier solutions have been presented.

Forcing children into wearing masks is abhorrent. It is loud and clear that it is not necessary to go to these extreme measures. Since last summer complaints about masks have been occurring. Last July local news channel 4 reported on a mom and her son with asthma and another son with his lung collapsed who had recovered just fine from COVID-19. They had worn masks prior and still caught the virus. Again, they are fine. 99% survival rate.

Our bodies were made to “detect and respond to a wide variety of pathogens from viruses to parasite worms.” If we cut off the chance to come in actual contact with pathogens it never learns to recognize and build antibodies to diseases. And injecting experimental poison labeled the COVID vaccine is not the answer. Not only does that negate all the other pathogens in the air that the masks have prevented us from accessing but it is dangerous. If anyone doesn’t get the COVID shot they all 100% guaranteed not to get a negative side effect. There are so many side effects being reported including death and it is your responsibility to listen and respond righteously. If anyone takes some time to research the history of disease like I have you will find out that even Polio was already on it way out by the time the vaccine was created. Lucky for the pharmaceutical companies.

I say no. No to bullying. Right? No child abuse. No masks. No forced “vaccinations”. I hope you make the right decision and agree. Otherwise my children will not be attending public school again in the fall.

O and that critical race theory. Don’t even get me started. It was obviously developed by deranged racists and NO ONE is shoving that garbage in my kids’ heads.

And there may be several class action lawsuits coming at Washoe County School District if the above mentioned implementations move on.

Thank you and God bless you.

Sincerely,

Marika Moore

--

Marika Moore

Owner, Moore Than Locks

Your local locksmith and more

From:
Sent: Monday, May 17, 2021 4:23 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] REBUTTAL

(when my final arguments fall on deaf ears)

If your response to my final arguments was something like “but these changes in education need to be made” or “we need to change the way that people (our children) think about race, gender, etcetera; Members of the Board THAT exceeds your responsibility. We elected you to represent us, not some of us who might agree with your proposals but all of us. Everyone deserves to be heard. You have the responsibility to listen to us and where there is conflict there needs to be a pause by our elected leaders. Schools boards are not, and should never be, the initiators of change.

Unfortunately your constituents, we the people, are often too busy, working, raising our children, living our lives and we have made a mistake in ceding too much power to our elected leaders. But you should never forget that your power is derived from the people, from us. Your obligation is to the adults who entrusted the decision making for our children to you. You can not be led by a vocal minority of children who have been misled and manipulated for your purposes in another version of Lord of the Flies. For you to proceed as you have been doing, without regard to the real values of a vast majority of us, it is a violation of the trust that has been placed in you. We have agreed, for the most part, with your objectives, and, for the most part, we still do. Our error has been that we weren’t paying attention to HOW you are attempting to achieve those objectives. You use our compliance with the objective as carte blanche.

You, members of the board of the Washoe County School District and Superintendent McNeill do not have unconditional authority or full discretionary power to educate our children; regardless of the policies that have been implemented in recent years or future policy priorities of the DOE. We must work together to find a way forward to save public education for every participant. We need to unite not divide.

Thank you,
Dinah Maher

P.S. there is one more thing I would like to add on a personal note. I am here because I believe in public education, I loved teaching as a public school teacher, my daughter received a good public school education; and my desire is to help save public education BUT once public education becomes the arbiter of winners and losers you will not have merely lost my support but you will have gained a formidable enemy in argument and rational thought.

From: L. D. James
Sent: Tuesday, May 18, 2021 12:31 AM
To: 1nevadapatriot@gmail.com; Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] FW: Did you miss this? → The Tyranny of Low Expectations


Another view point ...

The video in the below e-mail certainly deserves serious consideration.

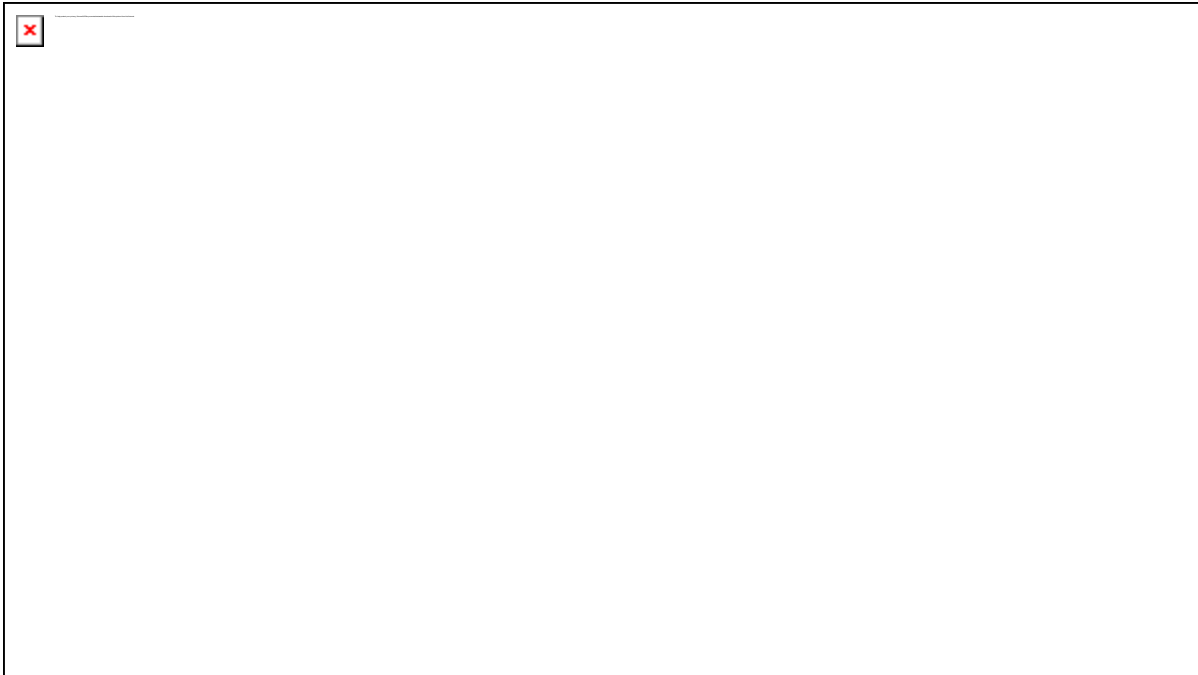
Could it be that the lowering of grading standards by Washoe County School District can be classified as an act of racism?

Sincerely,
Lorna James

From: 1776 Unites <educate@1776unites.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 9, 2021 8:00 AM
To: Lorna <ldjwell@outlook.com>
Subject: Did you miss this? → The Tyranny of Low Expectations



Our latest video has **95K+ views** on [social media](#)
and [YouTube](#). **Will you help us get to 100K**
views?



*The **Tyranny of Low Expectations** for Our Children*

Watch & Share our new video!

Across the nation, schools are lowering standards for students of color in the name of "anti-racism." We reject the message that our children cannot succeed under objective standards!

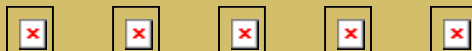
Watch as Black scholars and activists like **Ian Rowe**, **John McWhorter**, **Glenn Loury**, and **Carol Swain** of *1776 Unites* speak out against this Tyranny of Low Expectations. And, ask your kids what their schools are teaching about Black success and resilience — and make sure they know that we can ALL succeed even in the face of hardship.

Our 1776 Unites movement, [including the inspiring curriculum we make available for free](#), speaks the truly empowering message Americans from all walks of life need to hear.

If you agree with our message and want to see us address the real problems our country faces, please consider [investing in our organization](#) with your best tax-deductible contribution.

INVEST in the 1776 Unites Curriculum

*P.S. Keep your ears open! **We are coming out with new curriculum offerings every month.** Have you seen and downloaded our [updated curriculum](#) yet?*



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You are receiving this email because you registered to view our free K-12 curriculum. Thank you!

Our mailing address is:

1625 K Street, NW, Suite 410
Washington, DC 20006

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

From: Morgan Kolvet
Sent: Tuesday, May 18, 2021 7:05 PM
To: Public Comments
Cc: Taylor, Angela; Minetto, Ellen; BoardMembers; andrew.caudill@washoeschools.net
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Unmask ALL KIDS

Good Evening,

There is a lot circulating online showing that Washoe County School District has sent emails as attached; stating that 10 years old and above do not have to wear masks and it will not be enforced if parents do not want them wearing masks any longer.

This should be a choice; it's embarrassing and disappointing seeing the way WCSD does not promote the best interest of the children.

Implementing a mask mandate for some children and not others, is absurd.

ALL children and ALL parents should be able to CHOOSE if they wear a mask at this point. Many are vaccinated, and you have chosen however, to unmask the children not getting the vaccine? (A vaccine children do not need)

I can't possibly imagine that history will reflect fondly on this time due to the absolute moronic decisions of leaders to do things such as unmask some children and not all. As well as not unmask our vaccinated population from a virus that has over a 99% survival rate.

One important lesson to the youth growing through this time is that voting is important from school board members, county officials, state representatives and all the way to the President, but that local elections are just as important!

The "logic" or lack of, is to unmask the children in the age who have the lowest concept of proper hygiene? This just makes you wonder who is at the drawing board in this mess?

Now, do not get me wrong, I am glad our young children are not being imprisoned by your choice of forcing an illegal mask mandate. However, ALL children should be released from the illegal mandate.

I will say that private schools and charter schools have unmasked all children and I am personally in the process of applying to private schools; simply due to the way WCSD has behaved during this "pandemic".

Please stop this nonsense and make masks a choice for the rest of the year! Let your teachers and employees make the same choice!!!!

Sincerely,

A parent trying to stand up for her children!

Office of School Leadership.
All other students must
continue to wear a face mask/
face covering inside of school
buildings but may remove
their face mask/face covering
outside (recess, PE, etc.)
For middle and high school
principals, the Office of
School Leadership sent out
guidance late last week that if
a student comes to school
refusing to wear a face mask/
face covering, schools will
not enforce this regardless of
the age. This guidance
remains in effect.
All students and staff must
continue to wear a face mask/
face covering when they are
on a school bus (regardless
of vaccination status).

****New mask revision begins today-children younger no longer need to wear a mask**

For classrooms that have both vaccinated and unvaccinated students, “it is understood there are classrooms with students who are 9 years of age and 10 years of age. It is not our intent to make the identification of students a management issue for schools. Therefore, students who are 10 years of age or older choose to wear a face mask/face covering, or their parents choose not to want them wearing a face mask/face covering. Schools will not enforce wearing a face mask/face covering.”

From: Rogers, Julia
Sent: Wednesday, May 19, 2021 11:09 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: public comment for 5/25 meeting

I just want to take a moment to thank Dr. McNeil and our school board for all their hard work during this difficult time. You all have been asked to make impossible decisions-- many of which inevitably leave half of the WCSD family dissatisfied. While it is impossible to please everyone, it pains me that we live in a particularly polarized time. As a teacher whose job it is to foster critical thinking skills and media literacy amongst our students, it alarms me that so many are falling victim to disinformation. I hope the Board will remain steadfast in their stewardship of the health and well-being of our students by continuing to provide guidelines and regulations that are supported by science and our great nation's top experts.

Thank you again for all you do. Do not lose hope.

Sincerely,
Julia Rogers
Proud WCSD Teacher

Julia Rogers
Social Studies Teacher
Academy of Art, Careers, and Technology

From: Briant Gibb
Sent: Wednesday, May 19, 2021 5:19 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment for Trustee Board Meeting Wed, 5/26

Welcome to the wild west of gamblers, prostitutes, cowboys, and rogue superintendents. In the final three weeks of an untoward school year, Superintendent McNeil makes a unilateral decision to rescind the mask requirement for children ages 9 years old and younger in the Washoe County School District. McNeil, who has previously exuded favoritism towards a vociferous minority of facebook friends demanding personal freedoms, has once again taken an audacious, forceful move that has left many stakeholders aghast of what to do. Her decision was so slapdash that the principal of my child's elementary school was not even aware of the district policy until she checked her phone the next morning with no lead up that this was going to occur. According to the state superintendent, Jhone Ebert, the NDE guidance was to keep masks in place for the remainder of the school year and to consult with local health authorities before dropping masking. The RGJ reached out to the health district and their response was that superintendent McNeil did not reach out to them and that they would urge her to keep having children wearing masks at least until the end of the school year. The CDC is recommending that children in public schools should still be wearing masks to protect them from variants of COVID that are more contagious. So what would prompt McNeil to inform parents on a Sunday night that WCSD would be making a drastic policy change with no warning? I have yet to see a coherent or responsible explanation.

When I contacted Trustee Thigpen of the board of trustees, he purported that due to the 'drastic' change of mask requirements by the CDC and Nevada Department of Education, the board relinquished the sole decision powers to the superintendent. So what are parents who are not comfortable with this drastic shift supposed to do? What choices have been afforded to them? From the calls and emails that I have made, none so far. Unfortunately this action reflects deeply on the character and thought process of superintendent McNeil who needs to be held accountable for unilateral decisions that impact families. Will the school board be willing to do this? This is not the wild west anymore and thankfully we do have health officials and scientific experts to turn to in these unusual times. I'm tired of witnessing people in a highly advanced and industrialized city, act like it is the days of gunslinging and stagecoach rides across the desert.

Briant Gibb

From: Theresa Bohannon
Sent: Thursday, May 20, 2021 7:30 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment - May 25th Meeting

Board of Trustees,

I am submitting public comment in lieu of attending the meeting. It was beyond irresponsible for the Superintendent to make a sudden, rash decision to allow children 9 years and younger to no longer wear masks in the classroom. Parents, teachers, and administrators were informed late on Sunday night before the start of a school week. What compelled the Superintendent to make such a call is unknown. Her answers have been incoherent and she seems to be hanging it all on the Governor's directive. If you look at the language from the directive, it "strongly encourages" children 2 - 9 to continue to wear masks. The only reasonable explanation for her unilateral decision was to give into a loud group who has been calling for this for months. Why is WCSD giving into an anti-science, anti-intellectual group? While these people may have the time to show up to meetings at 2 pm during the week, do not assume they are the only ones who pay attention and can get vocal.

The role of this board is not to relinquish their power to a Superintendent but to hold them accountable for their actions. I believe it is time to reign in the Superintendent and not to allow one person to make such an important decision unilaterally without input from ALL stakeholders. I never saw the trustees vote on masks and this came without any warning with only 3 weeks left. You as a board have a responsibility to ensure that the least among us are safe in schools.

Because of the Superintendent's political decision, I removed my child out of his school and do not anticipate him returning to WCSD in the 2021-2022 school year. The school was not able to accommodate equal access to in-person learning. My son has an underlying health condition that puts him at risk. While the Superintendent may not care about children with special needs, you should. The Superintendent's policy change has left the WCSD open to violating children with disabilities rights by refusing to accommodate a safe learning environment. I reached out to many at the WCSD and no one responded. This decision has also left children vulnerable to illness and school outbreaks. Let's hope that all children remain safe and healthy over the next 3 weeks. But all you have now is hope because the most important mitigation strategy is now gone.

I have always been an advocate for public education but this experience has made me question that support.

--

Theresa L. Bohannon, MPH

From:
Sent: Thursday, May 20, 2021 10:40 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Critical Race Theory

I am a taxpayer in the State of Nevada and I am against CRT. I am fully capable of teaching my children and grandchildren how to treat people of all races! They are respectable human beings and I do not need Nevada schools to teach them CRT. Therefore, I am steadfastly against AB261. Pam Groth Sparks, NV.

Sent from my Galaxy

From: Stanley Jolliffe
Sent: Thursday, May 20, 2021 11:24 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] AB261

Critical Race Theory & LGBTQ activism does not belong in our education system. We do not want our tax dollars indoctrinating our children to despise their country, heritage and family values.

We need to go back to the 1950s platform where you say the 10 Commandments and Pledge of Allegiance and learn the Constitution and basic reading, writing and arithmetic and sewing, cooking, woodshop, mechanics.

Bring back notebooks and throw out the computers!!

Mr. & Mrs. Stan Jolliffe

From: Stephanie Robison
Sent: Thursday, May 20, 2021 12:19 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Masks

- #1 CDC still recommends masks in schools for 2 and up
#2 The NDE and Governor recommends masks in schools
#3 You didn't talk to the Health Department first.
#4 The Governor message about no masks for under 10 in Nevada was in place in August, what changed?
#5 We just increased capacity in schools and desks are 3 feet apart. Students are supposed to be 6 feet apart when they take their masks off. How can you expect students to follow both rules at the same time?
#6 As we are lifting regulations, we are seeing an increase in the number of kids catching Covid - 19. Article from NPR.org: [Children Now Account For 22% Of New U.S. COVID Cases. Why Is That?](#)
#7 You say I can still have my kid wear a mask, but all year we keep being told that in order for masks to really work, it is more important for the infected person needs to wear one, not the person who doesn't want to catch it
#8 At my child's school, the teachers are reminding kids they don't have to wear a mask if they bring it with them to school and put it on. I tell my kids to listen to their teachers. Now I have to tell them to only listen to me instead and that is confusing to a kindergartener
#9 Washoe Covid numbers are about the same as there were last spring, and I can't find any scientific evidence to support removing masks. When I emailed the board, I was told, everyone else is doing it, so we are going to do it too. Clark County is not doing it, and all the other districts have always had lower Covid numbers than us.
#10 Yes, lots of places are lifting regulations, but lots of places are seeing a surge in Covid numbers.

The Superintendent was given power to make decisions in a hurry as needed. Why did this need to be in a hurry? Because it had been a month since we changed the rules and we needed one more before the school year ended?

Thank you for listening.

From: Steve Winters
Sent: Thursday, May 20, 2021 7:01 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL]

NO CRITICAL RACE BS IN OUR SCHOOLS.STOP THE LIBERAL NARRATIVE OF PROPAGANDA OF BIAS NON TRUTHS AND AGENDAISM!!!.STEVE

From: JACK GOLLA
Sent: Thursday, May 20, 2021 7:07 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Critical Race Theory

Begin forwarded message:

From: JACK GOLLA
Subject: Critical Race Theory
Date: May 20, 2021 at 3:57:30 PM PDT
To:

I see WCSC is attempting to put Critical Race Theory into the K-5 curricula. I am very opposed to inserting this into our schools. I don't feel that is the right thing for WCSC schools to be putting this into our children's minds. Instead of adding false teachings to curricula, you should be focusing on giving our children access to academic excellence so they can compete in the work place and be prepared for collage.

I strongly oppose the Critical Race Theory. Please DO NOT approve this change to the curricula.

I will be letting the people I know that you are attempting to make this change that is not what we need for are children to be learning in school.

Sincerely,
Jean Golla

From: Steve Althoff
Sent: Friday, May 21, 2021 6:43 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Masks for children under 9

To Whom it May Concern,

My name is Dr. Steven Althoff. I have been a practicing pediatrician in Reno, NV for 20 years. I have about 30 years of combined experience teaching students at the University of Illinois, the Mayo Clinic (Rochester, MN), and the University of Nevada (Reno).

Recently a letter to the WCSD signed by 33 local pediatricians and pediatric sub specialists was published in the RGJ criticizing the decision to allow children under the age of 9 to attend schools without masks. I would like the board to recognize that I and many other physicians purposefully did not sign that letter.

While it can be argued that the timing (with only a few weeks left in the school year) was ill-advised, it cannot be argued that there is clear data to support that the wearing of masks by this age group prevents deaths due to Covid19. Specifically due to the lack of data, the WHO recommendation provides a great deal of latitude in this regard.

In short, for clinicians to publicly criticize the WCSD for this decision in particular was a gross over reaction. Pediatricians and the WCSD should be working together to care for our community of children. In my opinion the WCSD has done an admirable job of walking the "mine field" of decision's to be made over the past year.

Please do call or email with any questions.
Sincerely,

Steven M. Althoff, MD, PhD
Practicing Partner, Pediatric Associates

From: Stephanie Jiroch
Sent: Friday, May 21, 2021 6:59 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] I support the upcoming multicultural initiatives

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Stephanie and my oldest daughter started public school (Kindergarten) this year at Poulakidas Elementary School. I am a Reno native, white, and identity as female. My husband, the father of my children, is a Black African French immigrant. Our children are mixed race. We celebrate many African, French and American holidays. My first daughter was born in Paris and my second in Singapore.

We have lived in six different countries over the past 7 years: France, Germany, Mauritius, Singapore, China, and The United States. My children speak three languages (French, English, and Mandarin). They consider China their first home.

We are as multicultural as you can get and yet we have found, since moving here to Reno, a serious lack in the acceptance of "other" people. It's disheartening. My daughter was told only white kids should be in her class. We attempt, every day, to keep our daughters' minds open to other cultures, languages, and customs. We go out of our way to make friends with a variety of diverse individuals.

My hope is that Washoe County can adopt the multicultural initiatives laid out in order to stop the bigotry found in this city (and state). And I get it, I was raised in an all-white Republican household that spoke negatively of the Latin and Hispanic communities. I am a third generation Nevadan and I understand the small mindset.

But there is so much more in this world! There is so much beauty and joy to share. An open mind and heart has led me to live in some of the most fascinating countries of the world. I have known what it is like to be in the minority and yet to be treated with kindness. I have been exposed to anti-American hate and it is crushing.

The programs outlined and hopefully approved would be a step towards ending the multi-generational learned hate. Exposure to more than one way to live life is so, so valuable.

I know you all are experiencing horrible pressure from groups that do not support these initiatives. I know it's not easy to stand up to these levels of hate. But if you do, generations of children will have opportunities to go beyond their family conditioning, to go beyond the limited thinking of others, and see the world - and its people - through eyes of kindness and acceptance.

Sincerely,
Stephanie Jiroch

From: Rivet, Joan M. (SPARKS,NEVADA) <
Sent: Friday, May 21, 2021 7:32 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] critical race theory

I have two children that will be attending Washoe County 2nd grade at Jessie Beck. I do not want my children to be taught this. I want them removed from the classroom while this is being taught. Please advise how I can be accommodated.

Thank you
Joan Rivet

Sent from my iPhone

From: Karen Benna
Sent: Saturday, May 22, 2021 2:10 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Critical Race Theory

Keep this Marxist racist propaganda out our schools. The parents dont want this. You are paid by us. We will fire you or vote you out of office if you dont listen to the people.

Thank you
Karen

Sent from my iPhone

From: Doug Flaherty
Sent: Sunday, May 23, 2021 8:29 AM
To: BoardMembers; Public Comments; Rombardo, Neil; Reich, Chris; Montalvo, Sara
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Written Public Comment Agenda Item #3 - For Tuesday, May 25, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Attachments: Washoe County Schools Intent To Sell Letter Sept 14 20.pdf; Escrow Instructions Purchase of Old Incline Elementary School.pdf; Escrow Instructions Purchase of Old Incline Elementary School.pdf

To: Washoe County School District Board of Trustees and Legal Counsel for Washoe County School District

RE: Objection To Draft PURCHASE AND SALE AGREEMENT AND ESCROW INSTRUCTIONS Old Incline Elementary School - WCSD Sale To TTD

Please make this written public comment part of the minutes in connection with Agenda Item #3 - for the tuesday, May 25, 2021 regular meeting of the WCSD Board of Trustees.

Be advised, as a taxpayer of Washoe County, I object to the Draft **PURCHASE AND SALE AGREEMENT AND ESCROW INSTRUCTIONS** as drafted (and attached) which will eventually complete the sale of the Old Incline Village Elementary School located at 771 Southwood Blvd, Incline Village NV to the Tahoe Transportation District (TTD).

The reason for this objection is as follows:

Currently, **condition # 4** of Page 1 of the WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD RESOLUTION 20-009 (attached) - i.e A resolution of intent to sell a 6.41-acre parcel located at 771 Southwood Boulevard in Incline Village, NV to the Tahoe Transportation District for \$2.35 million in accordance with Nevada Revised Statutes 277.050, states "**The transaction must close as soon as reasonably possible after all**

approvals by the Washoe County School District and the Tahoe Transportation District are complete and legally valid."

I believe that Items 9.5 and 9.6 of the attached Draft **PURCHASE AND SALE AGREEMENT AND ESCROW INSTRUCTIONS** (attached) obtained by a public records request from the Tahoe Transportation District (Agenda Item VII.A ATTACHMENT D of TTD Board Agenda Packet of March 12, 2021, Pages 70 and 71) By and between SELLER: Washoe County School District and BUYER: **Tahoe Transportation District** **are not valid** and **misrepresent Sellers (WCSD) knowledge** of the location and nature of any underground storage activities, buried foreign materials and fill areas and further, **misrepresent the Seller's knowledge** with regard to any use, placement, storage, discharge or release of any hazardous materials or other toxic waste substances as defined or regulated under federal, state, or local laws **as well as misrepresentation** of any hazardous substances at any time being used, placed, stored, discharged, or released on the subject real property by Seller.

Items 9, 9.5 and 9.6 of the Draft **PURCHASE AND SALE AGREEMENT AND ESCROW INSTRUCTIONS** state:

9. SELLER REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES.

Seller makes the following representations and warranties to the best of Seller's actual knowledge,
and agrees to the following covenants and obligations for the benefit of Buyer.

9.5 Seller has no knowledge of the location and nature of any underground storage activities, buried trash or foreign materials, fill and disposal areas or other sites of this sort on the subject real property, whether these sites are visible from the surface of the land or not.

9.6 Seller represents and warrants that it has no knowledge of any use, placement, storage, discharge or release of any hazardous or toxic wastes or substances as defined or regulated under federal, state, or local laws ("Hazardous Substances") on the subject real property nor, to the best of Seller's

knowledge, except as specified in this subsection, have any Hazardous Substances at any time been used,

placed, stored, discharged, or released on the subject real property by Seller or any third party.

I hereby allege that the Washoe County School District knows or should have known about:

- The history of the property's 10,000 gallon underground petroleum oil storage tank (UST).
- Past sample findings of Oil and Grease on the property referred to in a report by Western Environmental Testing Laboratory dated 5/4/2011.
- Significant and existing presence of asbestos as well as potential public contamination and exposure over the life of the school, connected with building construction materials within the existing school buildings, now abandoned and currently existing as a health hazard and a public nuisance.
- Past information that may have indicated the possibility of Toluene and Benzene migration and potential public contamination and exposure migrating from the refueling service station BMP vault across hwy 28 via a drainage route directly impacting the school property site and the Stream Environment Zone known as Burnt Cedar Creek (SEZ).

WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD RESOLUTION 20-009

A resolution of intent to sell a 6.41-acre parcel located at 771 Southwood Boulevard in Incline Village, NV to the Tahoe Transportation District for \$2.35 million in accordance with Nevada Revised Statutes 277.050.

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Washoe County School District has determined that the sale of the hereinafter described real property belonging to the School District is in the best interest of the Washoe County School District, the subject property as described as follows; and;

DESCRIPTION

Situated in the County of Washoe, State of Nevada as follows, to wit:

6.41-acre parcel
771 Southwood Boulevard
Incline Village, NV 89451
Assessor's Parcel Number: 132-201-02

WHEREAS, the said Board of Trustees considers the value provided by the current appraisal of \$2.35 million to be reasonable;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees gives due notice of its intention to sell said property for **\$2,350,000.00 to the Tahoe Transportation District** to include the following conditions:

- 1. Property is being sold as-is, with no warranties expressed or implied. All due diligence is the sole responsibility of the Tahoe Transportation District.**
- 2. Escrow, if any, shall be processed through Ticor Title Company, 5441 Kietzke Ln #100, Reno, NV 89511, to the attention of Luann Barnes.**
- 3. The Washoe County School District and the Tahoe Transportation District shall agree on the method of property transfer whether through a Quit Claim Deed or any manner of Purchase and Sale Agreement or Grant, Bargain, and Sale Deed.**
- 4. The transaction must close as soon as reasonably possible after all approvals by the Washoe County School District and the Tahoe Transportation District are complete and legally valid.**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a public meeting will be held **in the Theater of Robert McQueen High School located at 6055 Lancer Street, Reno, Nevada on Tuesday, September 22, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. or later, Pacific Daylight Time**, to receive any public comments or objections to the sale as required by Nevada Revised Statutes 277.050.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of said Board of Trustees publish and post notice of the adoption of this Resolution in accordance with Section 277.050 (6.), Nevada Revised Statutes.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Andrew Caudill, Clerk

To be published in the:
Reno Gazette Journal
September 14, 2020
and **September 15, 2020**

To be posted at:
Administration Building-Washoe County School District
Sparks City Hall
Reno City Hall

**PURCHASE AND SALE AGREEMENT
AND ESCROW INSTRUCTIONS**

By and between

SELLER:

Washoe County School District

BUYER:

Tahoe Transportation District

PURCHASE AND SALE AGREEMENT AND ESCROW INSTRUCTIONS

THIS AGREEMENT is made and entered into by and between Washoe County School District, herein referred to as “Seller”; and Tahoe Transportation District, hereinafter referred to as “Buyer”. The effective date of this Agreement shall be the date of the last signature hereto.

1. GENERAL.

1.1 Seller is the owner of that certain real property (the “subject real property”) consisting of approximately 6.41 acres located at 771 Southwood Boulevard in Incline Village, Washoe County, Nevada, known as Assessor’s Parcel Number 132-201-02 and further identified as the Incline Village Elementary School Site.

1.2 Buyer wishes to purchase the subject real property.

2. PURCHASE AND SALE OF REAL PROPERTY.

2.1 Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, Seller hereby agrees to sell and Buyer hereby agrees to purchase the subject real property together with all of Seller's right, title and interest herein.

3. PURCHASE PRICE.

3.1 The purchase price for the subject real property shall be the amount of Two Million Three Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$2,350,000) (the “Purchase Price”). Buyer shall deposit full purchase price, plus buyer’s portion of closing costs at close of escrow.

4. WATER RIGHTS/MINERAL RIGHTS.

4.1 This Agreement includes all Seller’s right, title or interest to appropriated or unappropriated groundwater lying underneath the surface of the subject real property and any right of Seller to surface water appurtenant or otherwise found on the subject real property.

4.2 The subject real property includes all right, title and interest of Seller, if any, in and to all aggregates, minerals, gas, oil, coal, hydrocarbon, shale, steam, geothermal and other subterranean rights in the land, of whatever nature, upon or under the subject real property.

5. ESCROW AND CLOSING.

5.1 The consummation of the purchase and sale contemplated by this Agreement shall take place through an escrow at Ticor Title Company, Attn: Luann Barnes hereinafter referred to as “Escrow Holder” or “Title Company”.

5.2 Consummation of this escrow shall be in accordance with the following terms and conditions.

- (A) A fully executed copy of this Agreement shall be deposited with Escrow Holder as escrow instructions, with any amendments or additional instructions which may be needed from time to time by Escrow Holder for purposes of performing its functions under this Agreement. Escrow Holder is hereby appointed and designated to act as such and is authorized and instructed to deliver, pursuant to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, the documents and money to be deposited into escrow as hereinafter provided, with the terms and conditions continued herein to apply to such escrow. Seller and Buyer hereby agree that each shall, during the escrow period, execute any and all documents and perform any and all acts reasonably necessary or appropriate to consummate the purchase and sale pursuant to the terms set forth in this Agreement.
- (B) Seller shall deposit into escrow, on or before close of escrow for each closing:
 - (i) An executed Grant, Bargain and Sale Deed ("Deed") in recordable form conveying the subject real property purchased and sold hereunder; and
 - (ii) Executed FIRPTA certificate.
- (C) Escrow Holder shall cause to be drafted any other documents to be recorded or signed by the parties.

5.3 Buyer shall cause Escrow Holder to supply Buyer a preliminary title report on the subject real property within five (5) days of the date of execution hereof, including copies of the documents giving rise to the items of exceptions thereto. Within twenty (20) days of the date of execution hereof, Buyer shall object to any item contained in said preliminary title report and the failure to do so shall constitute Buyer's acceptance that the subject real property shall be conveyed in accordance with the preliminary title report subject to that item. In the event that Buyer objects to any item contained in the preliminary title report, Seller shall have twenty (20) days in which to discharge or arrange for the discharge of said item from record title. If Seller cannot or will not discharge the item, in Seller's sole discretion, and Buyer will not waive its objection, Seller or Buyer may terminate this Agreement and the earnest money deposit together with the interest earned thereon shall be refunded to Buyer.

In the event of such termination, neither party shall have a claim for damages against the other party. Seller agrees to convey the property free and clear of all liens and encumbrances, save and except those exceptions contained in the preliminary title report to which Buyer has agreed. If Buyer fails to terminate this Agreement as specified in Subsection 8.3 of this Agreement prior to the satisfaction of any conditions or provisions contained in this Subsection, Buyer shall be deemed to have waived them.

5.4 Buyer shall cause a policy of standard title insurance to be issued at closing issued by First American Title insuring title on the subject real property conveyed, subject only to matters of record appearing on the preliminary title report which are not disapproved by Buyer. The title policy shall have liability limits of not less than the Purchase Price.

6. **ESCROW CHARGES.**

6.1 Escrow Holder shall charge and collect from the Seller the following at each closing:

- (A) The cost of the title insurance for a customary ALTA standard coverage title policy, however, if Buyer requires an ALTA extended coverage policy of title insurance, any costs in excess of those set forth in this subsection shall be borne by Buyer;
- (B) One-half of the escrow charges;
- (C) One-half of the tax on the transfer of real property provided for in Sections 375.010 through 375.110 of the Nevada Revised Statutes, as amended; and
- (D) Any taxes for the current fiscal year, which taxes shall be pro-rated between the Seller and the Buyer as of the date of the close of escrow.
- (E) \$3,500 for the cost of the April, 2019 appraisal performed by Johnson-Perkins and Associates and reviewed by Carter-Ott, with credit for same amount issued to Buyer.
- (F) \$2,500.00 for the cost of the October 2020 Phase 1 Environmental Assessment performed by Converse Consulting, with credit for same amount issued to Buyer.

6.2 Escrow Holder shall charge and collect from the Buyer the following at each closing:

- (A) The remaining cost of the title insurance, survey required by the title company and/or desired by Buyer and additional title endorsements, if any;
- (B) One-half of the escrow charges, together with charges, if any, for investing the earnest money deposit;
- (C) One-half of the tax on the transfer of real property provided for in Sections 375.010 through 375.110 of the Nevada Revised Statutes, as amended;
- (D) The cost of recording the Deed; and
- (E) Any taxes for the current fiscal year, which taxes shall be pro-rated between the Seller and the Buyer as of the date of close of escrow.
- (F) The Washoe County School District is exempt from taxes. A credit shall be issued by the title company at closing for any taxes charged to the District; OR a letter from the title company to the Washoe County Treasurer shall be issued requesting a refund to the Washoe County School District for any taxes paid as a part of this transaction.

6.3 Seller and Buyer hereby authorize Escrow Holder to insert the date of close of escrow as the recordation date of each deed. The Escrow Holder is further authorized to insert the date of close of escrow and to fill in the blank spaces in any and all documents and instruments delivered to it, so long as it is done in conformity with this Agreement.

6.4 At each closing as hereinafter defined, Escrow Holder shall:

- (A) Cause the Deed to be recorded in the office of the County Recorder of Washoe County, Nevada;

(B) Deliver to Buyer a copy of the recorded Deed, the original FIRPTA certificate signed by Seller, and the title policy as provided herein and other instruments conveying title to the real property; and

(C) Deliver to Seller the payment specified in Section 3 above.

7. CLOSE OF ESCROW.

7.1 Close of escrow shall occur on or before forty (40) days from the execution date hereof. If escrow does not close in a timely manner, this Agreement shall be terminated.

8. DUE DILIGENCE.

8.1 Buyer shall have thirty (30) days from the date of execution to conduct such due diligence investigations as Buyer, in Buyer's sole discretion, deems necessary to determine the feasibility, economic or otherwise, of its intended development. Buyer shall pay all costs and expenses incurred to conduct the investigation and studies.

8.2 Buyer shall have thirty (30) days from the date of execution to obtain formal approval of this purchase from Board of Trustees.

8.3 If Buyer fails to obtain approval from the Board of Trustees and/or determines within this due diligence period that Buyer's intended development is not feasible, Buyer shall so notify Seller in writing and this Agreement shall be immediately terminated. If Buyer fails to so notify Seller within this due diligence period, Buyer shall be deemed to have waived its right to so terminate and the due diligence period shall have expired.

8.4 The subject property is being sold "as is", "where is" and "with all faults" as of closing, without any representation or warranty whatsoever as to its condition, fitness for any particular purpose, merchantability or any other warranty, express or implied other than those listed herein. Buyer acknowledges that Buyer is purchasing the property based solely upon Buyer's own independent inspections, investigations and findings and not in reliance upon any information provided by Seller or Seller's agents. Buyer acknowledges that the zoning of the subject real property may not meet Buyer's requirements for development ("Buyer's Intended Use"). Seller makes no representations and warranties in this regard, or with regard to any other issue of the feasibility of developability of the subject real property for Buyer's Intended Use (including Buyer's ability to acquire any permits required by government entities, or any agreements with government entities). It is the intent of the parties that Buyer shall independently verify and satisfy itself on all issues of development feasibility during the due diligence period without reliance on any representation of Seller (or Seller's representatives), and that Buyer's sole remedy in the event any aspect of Buyer's development feasibility expectations are not satisfied, in Buyer's sole discretion, is to terminate this Agreement pursuant to Subsection 8.3.

9. SELLER REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES.

Seller makes the following representations and warranties to the best of Seller's actual knowledge, and agrees to the following covenants and obligations for the benefit of Buyer.

9.1 Seller shall not cause title to the subject real property to become further encumbered or clouded after the date of this Agreement by any voluntary act of Seller.

9.2 Seller warrants that there are no known, threatened or pending annexations, condemnations, or other proceedings or litigation against or affecting any part of the subject real property.

9.3 Seller shall not commit or suffer to be committed any waste in or upon the subject real property. Waste shall include, but not be limited to, any injury to the subject real property which renders it in a condition materially different from its condition at the date of this Agreement.

9.4 Seller represents and warrants that the subject real property will not at the close of escrow be encumbered by any obligation, written or oral, to pay or reimburse any party for the design, analysis, engineering, testing, legal fees, or construction of improvements for the benefit of the subject real property which Seller has incurred prior to the date of this Agreement, and Seller agrees properly to pay all consultants so retained by Seller.

9.5 Seller has no knowledge of the location and nature of any underground storage activities, buried trash or foreign materials, fill and disposal areas or other sites of this sort on the subject real property, whether these sites are visible from the surface of the land or not.

9.6 Seller represents and warrants that it has no knowledge of any use, placement, storage, discharge or release of any hazardous or toxic wastes or substances as defined or regulated under federal, state, or local laws ("Hazardous Substances") on the subject real property nor, to the best of Seller's knowledge, except as specified in this subsection, have any Hazardous Substances at any time been used, placed, stored, discharged, or released on the subject real property by Seller or any third party.

9.7 Seller represents and warrants to Buyer that Seller is not, and will not be at the time of close of escrow, a foreign person as defined in Section 1445 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and agrees prior to close of escrow to execute a non-foreign person affidavit.

10. RESPONSIBILITY FOR IMPROVEMENTS.

10.1 After Escrow and Closing, Buyer shall be obligated to pay any fees imposed by any governmental agencies and to perform all site preparation work for construction, if applicable, on the subject real property within the subject real property boundaries and when required by the applicable governmental agencies.

10.2 The subject real property shall be sold by Seller to Buyer "as is" "where is", without any obligation or duty of Seller to construct off-site streets, utilities or other infrastructure to the subject real property.

11. AGENCY REPRESENTATION AND BROKERAGE FEE.

11.1 The Seller and Buyer acknowledge that neither party shall be responsible for any brokerage fees in this transaction. Each party shall indemnify the other for any other claims for real estate commission or finder's fees in connection with this transaction. The Buyer reserves the right to retain a broker representative for this transaction. Buyer will be solely responsible for any fees or commissions to said representative. Seller hereby discloses that one or more of its members are licensed real estate brokers/agents.

12. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.

12.1 **Time is of the Essence.** Time is of the essence of this Agreement.

12.2 **Notice.** Any notices, requests or instruction deemed by either Buyer or Seller to be delivered to the other, as follows:

SELLER:

Washoe County School District
Attn: Pete Etchart, Chief Operating Officer
14101 Old Virginia Road
Reno, NV 89511
(P) 775-789-3838
(F) 775-851-5658
(E) petchart@washoeschools.net

BUYER:

Tahoe Transportation District
Attn: Carl Hasty, District Manager
128 Market Street, Ste. 3F
Stateline, NV 89449
PO Box 499 Zephyr Cove, NV 89448
(P) 775-589-5501
(C) 775-230-4469
(E) chasty@tahoetransportation.org

Any party may change its address by prior written notice to the other party.

12.3 **Service of Notice.** All notices, requests, demands or other communications required under this Agreement or given pursuant to this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be deemed given and duly delivered: (i) upon personal delivery; or (ii) if delivered by overnight express carrier, upon the next business day following delivery to said carrier; or (iii) as of the second day following the day deposited in the United States mail with postage prepaid and properly addressed to the appropriate party at its address set forth in preceding Subsection above, or at such other place as such party from time-to-time hereafter designates to each other party in writing.

All such notices, requests, demands or other communications may also be given by telecopier, telex, telegram, or cable provided the same shall be confirmed by letter dispatched on the same date in accordance with the requirements described above. In such event, such notices, requests, demands or other communications shall be deemed given upon actual transmission to the recipient party of the telex, telegram or cable.

12.4 **Entire Agreement.** This Agreement contains the entire agreement between the parties hereto and supersedes any and all prior agreements, arrangements or understandings regarding the same subject matter as this Agreement, which are null and void.

12.5 **Survival of Escrow.** The representations, covenants, agreements and warranties contained herein shall not be discharged or dissolved upon close of escrow, but shall survive the same.

12.6 **Choice of Law.** This Agreement shall be construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Nevada and venue for any such action shall be in Washoe County, Nevada.

12.7 **Written Amendments.** This Agreement may not be modified, amended, altered or changed in any respect whatsoever except by further agreement in writing, duly executed by both parties. No oral statements or representations subsequent to the execution hereof by either party are binding on the other party, and neither party shall have the right to rely on such oral statements or representations.

12.8 **Successors.** This Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties hereto and their respective heirs, successors, subcontractors, personal representatives, and assigns.

12.9 **No Recordation.** Neither this Agreement nor any notice thereof shall be recorded.

12.10 **Future Cooperation.** Each party shall, at the request of the other, at any time execute

and deliver to the requesting party all such further instruments as may be reasonably necessary or appropriate in order to effectuate the purpose and intent of this Agreement.

12.11 **Use of Gender.** As used in this Agreement, the masculine, feminine, or neuter gender, or the singular or plural number, shall each be considered to include the others whenever the context so indicates.

12.12 **Access and Possession.** Possession shall be given at close of escrow. However, after execution hereof, Buyer may enter upon the subject real property for the purpose of performing any engineering, surveying, environmental investigations, studies, soils testing, or other physical investigation of the land. Buyer agrees to indemnify and hold Seller harmless from all liability, claims, cost, and expense, except such as might accrue from the mere discovery of Hazardous Substances, resulting from Buyer's activities on the subject real property prior to close of escrow. Buyer agrees to recontour, revegetate and otherwise restore the property after any ground-disturbing activity.

12.13 **No Other Commissions.** Except as specified herein, the parties represent to each other that they have not used the services of any real estate broker or person who may claim a commission or finder's fee with respect to this transaction, and each agrees to indemnify, defend and hold the other harmless from broker compensation claims or finder's fees arising from allegations of an agreement with the indemnifying party.

12.14 **Calculation of Time.** All periods of time referred to in this Agreement shall include all Saturdays, Sundays, and state or national holidays, unless the period of time specifies business days, provided that if the date to perform any act or give any notice with respect to this Agreement shall fall on a Saturday, Sunday or state or national holiday, such act or notice may be timely performed or given on the next succeeding day which is not a Saturday, Sunday, state or national holiday.

12.15 **Interpretation.** The parties hereto acknowledge and agree that each has been given the opportunity to review this Agreement with legal counsel independently. The parties have equal bargaining power and intend the plain meaning of the provisions herein.

12.16 **Authority.** Any corporation, partnership, limited liability company or other entity signing this Agreement, and each agent, officer, member, partner, representative, director, or employee signing on behalf of such a corporation, represents and warrants that said Agreement is duly authorized by and binding upon said entity.

12.17 **Headings.** Headings used in this Agreement are used for reference purposes only and do not constitute substantive matter to be considered in construing the terms of this Agreement.

12.18 **Not a Partnership.** The provisions of this Agreement are not intended to create, nor shall they be in any way interpreted or construed to create, a joint venture, partnership, or any other similar relationship between the parties.

12.19 **Third Party Beneficiary Rights.** This Agreement is not intended to create, nor shall it be in any way interpreted or construed to create, any third party beneficiary rights in any person not a party hereto.

12.20 **Assignment.** Buyer shall not assign any rights or obligations under this Agreement prior to close of escrow without the prior written consent of Seller, in Seller's sole discretion; provided Buyer may assign this Agreement to an entity in which Buyer or Buyer's members own at least 51% of the equity, or in which Buyer has control of the entity.

12.21 **Signature Of Second Party.** The second party to execute this Agreement must sign, and deliver to the other party an executed copy hereof, within five (5) days of the date of the signature of the first party to sign, or this Agreement shall be null and void.

12.22 **Professional Fees.** If either party commences an action against the other to interpret or enforce any of the terms of this Agreement or because of the breach by the other party of any of the terms hereof, the losing party shall pay to the prevailing party reasonable attorneys' fees, costs and expenses incurred in connection with the prosecution or defense of such action, whether or not the action is prosecuted to a final judgment. For the purpose of this Agreement, the terms "attorneys' fees" or "costs and expenses" shall mean the fees and expenses of counsel to the parties hereto, which may include printing, Photostating, duplicating and other expenses, air freight charges, and fees billed for law clerks, paralegals, librarians and others not admitted to the bar but performing services under the supervision of an attorney. The terms "attorneys' fees" or "attorneys' fees and costs" shall also include, without limitation, all such fees and expenses incurred with respect to appeals, arbitration's and bankruptcy proceedings, and whether or not any action or proceeding is brought with respect to the matter for which said fees and expenses were incurred. The term "attorney" shall have the same meaning as the term "counsel."

12.23 **Tax Free Exchange.** Buyer or Seller may wish to use the subject real property as a part of a tax free exchange of property with a third party. If Buyer or Seller have in good faith entered into an agreement for such exchange, then Buyer or Seller shall have the right to assign its interest in this Agreement to the third party participating in such exchange. If Buyer or Seller assigns its interest in this Agreement to effectuate a tax free exchange as aforesaid, then said party shall promptly so notify the other party and shall deliver to other party, a copy of the relevant assignment or assignments. Either party shall thereafter cooperate to effectuate such tax free exchange. The exchanging party shall pay any additional transfer taxes, recording fees or similar closing costs resulting from such tax free exchange. Buyer and Seller hereby agree to indemnify, defend and save the other party harmless from and against any additional claims or liabilities arising as a result of participation in such tax free exchange.

12.24 **Counterparts.** This Agreement may be executed in counterpart original documents.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement on the day and year
last written below.

BUYER:
TAHOE TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT

By: _____

Date: _____

SELLER:
WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

By: _____

By: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____

DRAFT

WHEN RECORDED MAIL TO:
Grantee:

MAIL TAX STATEMENTS TO:
Same As Above

Escrow No. 1902948-CD

The undersigned hereby affirms that this document
submitted for recording does not contain the social
security number of any person or persons.
(Pursuant to NRS 239b.030)

APN No.: 132-201-02

R.P.T.T. \$ 0.00

SPACE ABOVE FOR RECORDER'S USE ONLY

GRANT, BARGAIN, SALE DEED

THIS INDENTURE WITNESSETH: That

Washoe County School District

**FOR A VALUABLE CONSIDERATION, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, do/does hereby
Grant, Bargain, Sell and Convey to**

Tahoe Transportation District

all that real property situated in the County of Washoe, State of Nevada, described as follows:

SEE EXHIBIT "A" ATTACHED HERETO AND BY REFERENCE MADE A PART HEREOF

**Together with all and singular the tenements, hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging
or in anywise appertaining.**

Signature and notary acknowledgement on page two.

Washoe County School District

By: _____
Name:
Its:

STATE OF NEVADA
COUNTY OF WASHOE } ss:

This instrument was acknowledged before me on , _____, 2020
by _____.

NOTARY PUBLIC

This Notary Acknowledgement is attached to that certain Grant, Bargain, Sale Deed under escrow No. 01902948.

Escrow No. 1902948-CD

**EXHIBIT A
LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

All that certain real property situate in the County of Washoe, State of Nevada, described as follows:

All that portion of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 16, Township 16 North, Range 18 East, M.D.B.&M., being more particularly described as follows:

Commencing at the most Northerly corner of Lot 18, Block F, as said Lot and Block are shown on the map of Lakeview Subdivision, Tract Map No. 689, Washoe County, Nevada, filed in the office of the County Recorder of Washoe County, State of Nevada, on February 27, 1961;
Thence North 71°54'00" East 20.00 feet to the TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING;

Thence North 18°06'00" West, 50.00 feet;

Thence North 71°54'00" East, 57.66 feet;

Thence North 27°37'39" East, 340.82 feet to the Southern line of Central Parkway;

Thence South 81°04'53" East, along the last mentioned line 317.80 feet;

Thence Easterly, Southeasterly and Southerly, on the arc of a curve to the right with a radius of 30.00 feet, a central angle of 96°52'47", an arc distance of 50.73 feet, to the Western line of Southwood Drive;

Thence along said Western line of Southwood Drive, the two following courses and distances:

- 1) South 15°47'54" West, 302.49 feet and
- 2) Southwesterly, Southerly and Southeasterly, on the arc of a curve to the left with a radius of 490.00 feet, a central angle of 36°01'03", an arc distance of 308.03 feet;

Thence South 75°38'18" West, 380.05 feet;

Thence North 21°37'00" East, 54.49 feet;

Thence North 18°06'00" West, 375.71 feet to the TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING.

APN: 132-201-02

Document No. 365988 is provided pursuant to the requirements of Section 6.NRS 111.312.

From: Lindsey Moser
Sent: Sunday, May 23, 2021 11:09 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] No on Social Justice Curriculum in Nevada Schools

In the USA public education ranks BEHIND 25 other nations

In the USA Nevada schools rank almost LAST among other states.

It has NOTHING to do with funding. There is plenty of money to work with. \$9,400 per pupil per year. Other States spend less and rank much higher than Nevada. Our teachers and Superintendent rank ahead in pay. Our students rank BEHIND almost every state in WHAT THEY LEARN. How do Americans and Nevadans expect to compete if our next generation is not educated.

IT IS TIME to focus on providing REAL academic information and skills that prepare our children for life.

NO on politicized curriculum including BLM poison, CRT, the 1619 Project and the SHARE curriculum.

GET BACK TO THE BASICS.

From: Kate Pflughoeft
Sent: Sunday, May 23, 2021 2:29 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL]

WCSD Board of Trustees,

Thank you for taking the time to hear public comment from families in the district and considering some of the tough issues that we face as a community. That said, there have been recent issues for which the board and/or Superintendent has acted without seeming to consider the evidence. In particular I am deeply concerned about Superintendent McNeill's decision to remove the mask requirements in schools. As a scientist I know that it is critical to consider the evidence before making a decision. In the case of masks it has been reported that the county health officials were not consulted and national public health expert recommendations were not followed. The decision to remove mask requirements not only came at a time that it was not necessary, it came directly after leaders in public health specifically spelled out that unvaccinated kids should continue to wear masks in schools. Kids under 12 do not have access to SARS-CoV-2 vaccines, therefore it is not possible that they could be vaccinated, leaving them at risk to contract Covid. While some guidance from the CDC in the past year has been confusing, this recommendation - that fully vaccinated people could interact both indoors and outdoors without a mask is not confusing. Please, set a good example for our kids and reinstate the mask mandate for ALL unvaccinated people in school buildings. Such a mandate should remain in place until all children in the district have the opportunity to become fully vaccinated.

Thank you,
Kathryn Pflughoeft, Ph.D.
Microbiologist

From: Lindsey Rikalo
Sent: Monday, May 24, 2021 10:46 AM
To: Public Comments; Steve Rikalo
Subject: [EXTERNAL] CRT Implementation

Dear Washoe County School Board Members,

My husband and I are the parents of three children in the Washoe County School District. We love the kids in our schools, our teachers, and our faculty members! We love our community!

We are writing to you today to discourage the implementation of CRT in our schools. My wife and I are members of a multicultural church in Reno, and my wife is MSW and works with a diverse population of our community. We wholeheartedly disagree with any form of racism or inequality, but we both have reviewed the Critical Race Theory and believe that this specific curriculum will only further or create new problems for our children and our schools. We are asking you to strongly consider **NOT** implementing this particular curriculum into our schools.

We as parents, educators, and members of a society must continue to encourage our children to celebrate our differences, encourage kindness, and show respect for others in ALL circumstances.

Thank you for your consideration,

Steve Rikalo
Mechanical Engineer for Sierra Nevada Corporation

Lindsey Rikalo
MSW and Home Study Contractor

From: Kathy Rikalo
Sent: Monday, May 24, 2021 11:50 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] CRT

Dear Board Members of the Washoe County School District,

My husband and I have raised our 4 children here in N Nevada, and now our 4 of our 5 grandchildren are students of the Washoe County Schools. After reviewing the Critical Race Theory, we are saddened to see this type of curriculum even being discussed as an option in the schools. While our society must continue to inspire kindness and respect to others, no matter their differences, the CRT is very negative and demeaning for all.

Please do not implement this curriculum in the schools.

Respectfully-

Dan & Kathy Rikalo

From: Scott Callaghan
Sent: Monday, May 24, 2021 1:58 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Updates to 6th grade S.H.A.R.E curriculum

Dear WCSD board,

As a WCSD parent, I am writing to encourage you to support the proposed changes to the 6th grade S.H.A.R.E. curriculum. It is past time for this to be updated, and I am glad to see a more modern approach to discussing HIV/AIDS and social media. Please vote to approve the updated curriculum. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Scott Callaghan

From: Matt Newell
Sent: Monday, May 24, 2021 2:10 PM
To: Public Comments
Cc: Natalie Newell
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Critical Race Theory = Racism and Segregation

"I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character." MLK Jr

Trying to understand the cause and effect of socio-economic disparities is a complex problem that no civilization can claim to have solved. Critical Race Theory over-simplifies these complex issues by pointing the finger at whites and asians. CRT gives up on judging people by the content of their character and seeks to judge in broad, sweeping strokes purely by the color of a person's skin. CRT is the definition of racism. CRT is backwards! CRT promotes segregation!

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness, only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate, only love can do that." MLK Jr

CRT sows bitterness and resentment between races. It teaches one race to hate another race and define them as "oppressors". It teaches one race to feel shame for "oppressing" the other. Teaching hatred and shame is trying to drive out darkness with darkness. Racism is horrible and we should absolutely teach our kids to judge people based on their character and nothing else. This theory is toxic and should not be allowed anywhere in WCSD's curriculum.

Matt and Natalie Newell (parents of 4 kids in WCSD)

From: slhsmith926
Sent: Monday, May 24, 2021 2:50 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] 2021-22 school year

Greetings board members,

Question: seeing as Dr. McNeill removed the ability to enforce the mask mandates, how do schools intend to keep children safe and socially distanced, if school resumes full-time in August? My child is going to middle school in August, but will not be eligible for the vaccine until the fall.

Kind regards,
Sara Smith

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device

From: Katy McPherson
Sent: Monday, May 24, 2021 3:01 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] "Culturally Relevant" Lessons

Greetings President Taylor and Board of Trustees,

Please advise President Taylor to stop telling parents the new K-12 social justice curricula does not teach critical race theory. The K-5 Benchmark Advance Teaching Tolerance ELA lessons absolutely do contain aspects of critical pedagogy. To claim otherwise reveals ignorance about a subject President Taylor and the Board should understand, or makes you appear to be telling flat-out falsehoods to the community you were elected to serve.

As a parent of a WCSD student, let me be perfectly clear.

Whatever President Taylor or the district decides to call the new social justice curriculum going into our children's classrooms, this community will not stand our children being taught one race is inherently superior to another race.

This community will not allow any teacher, text, or lesson to tell our kids the United States of America is fundamentally racist.

This community stands opposed to any instruction that teaches an individual, by virtue of his or her race, is inherently racist or oppressive, whether consciously or unconsciously.

We denounce any classroom exercise that teaches an individual should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment solely or partly because of his or her race.

We condemn any teaching that tells children an individual's moral character is necessarily determined by his or her race.

By no means will we sanction school lessons that suggest an individual, by virtue of his or her race, bears responsibility for actions committed in the past by other members of the same race.

At no time in a school setting should any individual feel discomfort, guilt, anguish, or any other form of psychological distress on account of his or her race.

This community opposes any teaching that meritocracy, or traits such as a hard work ethic are racist, or were created by a particular race to oppress another race.

WCSD families stand against race stereotyping. Ascribing character traits, values, moral and ethical codes, privileges, status, or beliefs to a race, or to an individual because of his or her race, is ALWAYS inappropriate.

Likewise, we SAY NO to race scapegoating. Assigning fault, blame, or bias to a race, or to members of a race because of their race, is NEVER appropriate. This encompasses any claim that, consciously or unconsciously, and by virtue of his or her race, members of any race are inherently racist or are inherently inclined to oppress others.

These types of "culturally relevant," anti-racist" lessons and employee trainings are spreading through our nation like a virus. I can tell you for a fact that THIS community will do whatever it takes to "stop the spread."

Not our schools. Not our kids.

Please take corrective action now.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Katy McPherson

WCSD Mom

From: Dave Rikalo
Sent: Monday, May 24, 2021 4:03 PM
To: Public Comments; Bride
Subject: [EXTERNAL] CRT Curriculum Comment

Dear Washoe County School Board Members,

My wife and I are parents to two wonderful children ages 6 and 3 in Washoe County. We have many family and friends who share our love for Northern Nevada, we hope to raise our children here and take pride in being born/raised in the great Silver State. We have friends and neighbors who are teachers and admin in WCSD who we love and respect.

We've reviewed the proposed CRT curriculum and are very concerned with the direction of our childrens' education. **I urge you to decide AGAINST approving this curriculum into our schools.** The teaching of Critical Race Theory will lead to even more toxic divisions in our society. We must both recognize and celebrate our differences in heritage and ethnicity while guiding our children to respecting each other, loving each other, and accepting each other. To impose the CRT curriculum on these young minds will lay a foundation for future inequality and division, and take a significant step backwards from the progress of Martin Luther King Jr.

Please, for the sake of the next generation, set politics aside and seek to educate our children in core schooling instead of perpetuating a social agenda.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

David and Whitney Rikalo

From: Katania Taylor
Sent: Monday, May 24, 2021 4:33 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Masks

I just want you to know that if our children are still masked after June 9, 2021, you will have law suits and much more to deal with. Don't even consider masking them next school year.

Thank you,
Katania Taylor

From: Jindruš Stewart
Sent: Monday, May 24, 2021 5:43 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Unmask children

I'd like to let you know I'm against masking our kids!!! Also, I'm against any mandated COVID vaccinations!!! We the parents decide what goes into our children's' bodies!! Not you!!

Jindruš Stewart
Sent from my iPhone

From: Patty Fonda
Sent: Monday, May 24, 2021 6:48 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] CRT No!

It is not nessary in any form and morally wrong to any implementation!

From: Denise Rikalo
Sent: Monday, May 24, 2021 11:28 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] No to CRT

Dear Washoe County School Board Members,

I do not yet have children of my own, but I do have nieces and nephews who attend school in the Washoe County School District and want to advocate on their behalf, as well as the other young minds who are shaped by the ideas presented and taught in these classrooms on a daily basis. I grew up attending public school and highly value the service provided by the public school system.

However, I am writing to you today to discourage the implementation of CRT in our schools. I have reviewed the Critical Race Theory and strongly disagree with the ideas presented and I believe that this curriculum will only further divide our community and has the high potential and likelihood to both create new problems for our children and our schools, as well as worsen existing problems. I am against racism and/or inequality in any form, and I do NOT believe that implementing Critical Race Theory is a good choice. I am asking you to strongly consider **NOT** implementing this particular curriculum into our schools.

Whether we have children of our own, or not, the children in our lives and in our community depend on adults to speak on their behalf. May we not forget the responsibility we have to lead them well. My hope and prayer is that Washoe County will hold strong as the tides turn in this nation. May we be known as a community that fights to find similarities and commonalities, rather than search for reasons to divide our communities, starting with the youngest and most vulnerable, our children. Please do NOT implement this harmful curriculum. Please help protect our children and this community.

Thank you for your consideration,

Denise Rikalo
Registered Nurse for A Plus Hospice Care

May 25, 2021

Comments to the Washoe County Board of Trustees

Dear Trustees,

May I first say that your service on the Board during this difficult time is commendable. The task is especially grueling considering the difficult decisions made concerning COVID-19 restrictions on the following:

1. 30% distance learning on 62,000 students equates to 43,400 in class learning students. (If NICHE Washoe County School District data is used 67,113 students are in grade PK, K-12 with a student-teacher ratio of 18 to 1. This calculates to approximately 3,729 teachers.)
2. Facemask wearing requirements for children.

In pointing out that the WCSD **current number** of reported active cases of COVID-19 is **25** across attending students equals .06% of all physically attending students in the school district. *One* case of COVID-19 in staff. Or .03% of staff.

As of today, the 26 cases in the school district are approximately .0000056 or .0006% of the population of Washoe County's 465,735 residents. (Proposed population of 485,849 for the year 2021 according to the World Population Review.) Currently there are 357,214 adults of which 72,890 are seniors in Washoe County.

Using the statistics of .001 mean statistics of the number of IFR= Covid deaths/Covid Infections for 5-9 and 10-14 year old's and .003 for 15-19 year old. Note: 1.075 for 65-69 year old, 1.674 for age group 70-74, 3.203 for 75-79 year olds, and 8.292 infection death rates for those adults over 80. These statistics are available from an article COVID Infection Fatality Rates by Sex and Age by Alex Berezhov, PhD, November 18, 2020. This indicates that the virus discriminates attacking and killing those in the age groups 65+, 107 times more often than those in the age group of 5-14 year olds.

To generate the best estimates possible, a team of scientists led by Megan O'Driscoll and Henrik Salje collected data on COVID 19 deaths. Observations worth noting are, "people of college age and younger are very unlikely to die. The 5-9 and 10-14 age groups are the least likely to die. Those in the 0-4 and 15-19 age groups are three times likelier to die than the 5-9 and 10-14 age groups, but the risk is still exceedingly small at .003% or 3 deaths for every 100,000 infected." Since only 4,614 total cases of students and staff infections of COVID-19

have been reported in the WCSD, this is a total ratio of 7% infection rate. Calculating 4614 WCSD infections /220124 confirmed cases for the state of Nevada, the rate of 2% of the WCSD/total State of Nevada confirmed cases.

Based upon the percentages, .00001 or .001% (1 out of 100,000) of the 34,133 5-10 year olds, and .003 (3 out of 100,000) 11-18 year olds of 50,920 (Population of the age groups per WCSD website, the total of 85,053 is still less than 100,000 and therefore, zero deaths for WCSD have been calculated and zero deaths have been recorded.

In the US., just over 100 children under the age of 15 have died from COVID-10 in 2020 per TIME article, "Fewer Children Died in 2020. Despite the Pandemic, Experts are Trying to Figure Out Why." By Emily Barone, January 14, 2021. COVID is amounting to 100 out of 26,000 deaths in children. This is .5% of all children's deaths." Citing US Data, Dr. Perri E Klass, a New York pediatrician and author of the 2020 book, A Good Time to be Born: How Science and Public Health Gave Children a Future, "most child deaths are in the first month of life, and they are linked to premature gestation and reasons that are connected to the circumstances right around their birth. Indeed, the leading cause of childhood mortality in the U.S., after the newborn stage is unintentional injury, things like drownings, car accidents, pedestrian fatalities and accidental suffocations."

While it is possible that the wearing of facemasks have kept children from getting ill, researchers found that influenza, respiratory syncytial virus and other common respiratory viruses died out quickly in response to lockdown measures designed to target COVID-19 such as mask wearing and washing hands. These prevented COVID-19 as well as the other viruses. Unfortunately, the lockdowns may have contributed to a lessening of prenatal care for the unborn.

It appears from the data that the risk of infection and death in the attending students of Washoe County School District is low and could be considered nominal. While everyone's reaction is different and those with underlying conditions are more at risk, most cases are mild to moderate. Are we subjecting our children and students to unnecessary and trivial requirements of "distance learning" and wearing of facemasks in lieu of a providing quality education.

We can try to protect our children but to what cost? Lack of quality education, mental health issues, confidence issues, and unreported childhood abuse and neglect are the issues that are the flip side of our protecting them from COVID-19.

Best Regards,

Verna Renshaw

From: Pamela Annie Story
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 1:45 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comment for meeting 5/25

Good afternoon board members.

Yesterday, Monday 5/24, my Grandson did not wear a mask to school because he can hardly breathe, his mother and I, told him not to wear this mask, and in your recent email to teacher's it was stated that they should not force a child. My grandson goes to Mendive Middle School, his teacher, **Ms. Franz**, told him to put the mask BACK ON, and that he was required to wear it.

So which is it board members? Is it decided by each teacher what they choose to do? WHICH IS IT?

Your rules and explanations are confusing, changing, and discriminatory by age.. Without any Scientific proof that children are even at risk of the virus to an extent to even require masks.

This board is showing signs of being very political when it comes to this overreach of rules and power. We all want what is best for the children, we want them to breathe,, and NOT to live in fear, or succumb to depression. As adults, and as a board, we are supposed to protect the children from the politics of the adult world.

All students should have been in school full time, for a long time now, and masks should have never been required, science and many doctors stand behind this, and so does the data. You share with the media that 33 local doctors wrote a letter supporting masks, but you neglected to share that MANY local doctors refused to sign this letter.

Now, For this board to even consider adopting curriculum that is based on social justice, 1619, Critical race Theory, more appropriately called Critical Conspiracy Theory, IS NOT GOOD FOR OUR CHILDREN.

It is a racist ideology, that believes that a majority of the USA that are white, are White Supremacists, with White Privilege, an ideology that bases our countries founding on this conspiracy theory.

It teaches hate, and racism.

Any program that teaches that one race is to blame for all bad, and should be treated less than other races, is RACIST.

Our family will never apologize for being white. But wait, by not having white guilt, apparently we are racist, IF you follow the social justice curriculum.

If we change history to satisfy a political agenda or ideology, then we will never learn from our past.

Teaching racism, to supposedly combat racism, is an oxymoron, **I believe that we are better than that as a people, and we love each other as American's, no matter what color or creed, we are ALL equal.**

As for allowing BLM posters in classrooms, this is not acceptable. Everyone on this board would have to have been living under a rock if they don't see that BLM has become nothing but a political sword to divide people, and we must not allow that in our schools. STOP THE HATE & DIVISION.

We also believe that if you are a Teacher in any school, and your students know exactly what your political affiliations are, THEN YOU HAVE FAILED AS A TEACHER.

Sincerely,
Annie and Mark Story

From: Marika Moore
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 6:03 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] WCSD Public Comment 5/24/21: IMPERATIVE!!!

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen Trustees for the Washoe County School Board,

I am a mother of two young children, a business owner and property owner in Washoe County. I appreciate what you do and the concepts of safety and inclusion that are being emphasized lately. However, I strongly oppose some of the tactics that have been placed upon the community's children in the past year and some of the ones that are being planned now. They hurt our children. They are the direct opposite of what the terms intend: dangerous and exclusive. Physically and mentally. I am writing regarding masks, the proposed mandatory vaccines, the social justice (disguised critical race theory) and SHARE program.

The methods that the school board has used to protect our children are hurting them. Specifically masks. Many of us seriously asked for them to be removed at the last meeting. For whatever reason you removed the requirement for kids nine and under. Good start. What about everyone else? Please remove the requirement for everyone else. Today. You can do it. Don't hide behind one man who happens to be the Governor, for now.

And for my other concerns, first of all as I mentioned before, there is discussion of mandatory vaccines (especially the experimental poison labeled the covid vaccine). I hope that evil idea vanishes quickly before lawsuits become a common practice as they have already begun to formulate. Absolutely no need for these overdone extreme measures with a 99% survival rate!!!

Thank God my kids have been in preschool but kindergarten starts in the fall. And I will NOT expose my children to corrupted, outrageous, irrational regulations and curriculum. That leads me to my next points.

AB261. I hope you make the right and righteous decision and shred it and it's hidden platform of mental segregation. There is an incredible amount of opposition among the public to the bill. Anyone who is properly educated to its contents would oppose it too. AB261 and the social justice curriculum (CRT) was sneaked in right under the parents noses on last Friday, May 21st, while we were picking up our kids from school or brushing their teeth, etc. I am fed up. Over the rampant corruption! The Nevada legislature voted it in along party lines. Why are they so ignorantly divided I do not know but you don't have to be. It will take integrity and strong spines (bravery :)) but you can say no.

While the bill appears to have valid points, it creates strong and immediate division laced with sentiments of hate among people. I read through the curriculum. It will go viral and will be explained to the public along with it if this keeps moving forward. Children should be taught to love one another as who they are along with objective facts. That's the bottom line. They should be taught to be kind to

each other. They should not be filled with misdirected beliefs from people who seem to have personal vendettas.

An argument among some of the school teachers seems to be that the curriculum needs to be updated. Of course it does! Valid point! But it does not need to be updated with the misdirected evil beliefs in critical race theory. REDRAFT and RENAME it and include people with integrity when doing so. Positions of authority are temporary and change. If the authorities in control now do not start making better decisions they will be voted out. We will exercise our civil rights and replace illegitimate leaders with righteous ones. In addition, I believe there are several class action lawsuits been formulated now as well. Fines and prison will be the next step if they do not back off.

Ideas and personal beliefs are powerful and sneaky. Plenty of them have been introduced and have concepts that appear to be valid. For example, self-helpism, naturalism, skepticism, postmodernism, moral relativism, emotionalism, pluralism, new spirituality, Marxism, feminism, progressive Christianity. None of these should be systematized either. Incorporate financial literacy and many other real life skills for a start. I could go on but this is not the right place or time.

And now for SHARE: No!!! It is like exposing innocent children to an R rated movie before they learn any basics about life! Teach them the truth. Ie. Teach them about the purpose of deodorant and scientifically why they need it around a certain age. DO not give them the option to change their biochemistry before they can even vote or drink alcohol! You are confusing them!!! You don't see it but it is destroying the youth! It's destroying their innocence and free will with imposed beliefs and confusing their feeling and emotions in a very delicate time. Slash it too. The old curriculum needs to be updated too but not with this. O where do I start with the infinite examples happening in my community? I hope you are educated enough to know and have already decided to make vote it out and redraft. You will be "training" my children's peers and any aware parent would as I do oppose the program as is.

In addition, apparently there are some twisted folks out there who immaturely decided to stoop to the low level of name calling. That is shameful and pathetic. I've heard terms as racist, homophobic, far right, and who knows what other types of evil lies are being thrown around. Pathetic. Slander. These people who have sacrilegious characters are desperately holding onto the same evil I refuse to dump on my children. Running and hiding behind their social media platforms and calling us a "small faction" who used "scary intimidation tactics". Lies. Shame on you know who you are and I kick myself for voting for you. I was fooled but the truth is out and NO ONE in their right righteous mind would put up with it anymore. They should be immediately discredited.

Thank you for your time and I hope to hear back from you. I sincerely hope you make the right decision and respond to the abundant amount of other parents who agree with me immediately. We are educated and filled with honest, good intentions and hope you are too. Stand up for our children and our community. Thank you and God bless you!

Sincerely,

Marika Moore

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Marika Moore

Owner, Moore Than Locks

Your local locksmith and more

From: spectralviolet
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 7:19 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for new SHARE curriculum

Dear Washoe Board members,

I am a mother of a soon to be 2nd grader and a future kindergarten in NW Reno.

I am in FULL support of having medically accurate information, lessons on consent, and curriculum that is inclusive of the LGBTQ+ community, and I hope you will vote to accept the new SHARE curriculum.

Research has shown again and again the children are more capable of protecting themselves from sexual predators when they have clear, concise, and ACCURATE information regarding sex and sexuality.

Given the progress in biological and psychological research the past 18 years, its past time to update our curriculum to teach more factual, science based information.

Thank you for your hard work.
Sarah Elliott, Ph.D.

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy Note9, an AT&T 5G Evolution capable smartphone

From:
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 7:56 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL]

Dear Nevada Educators,

I am reaching out to you as a caring and concerned member of the community in response to the school curriculum for our children.

I believe there is a trend of using modern mores as a template for distorting the fruits of our Western civilization. Throughout my life I have seen the slow evaporation of classical education in the public school realm. I ask that your efforts do not contribute to the loss of the traditional jewels in our society.

From: Marin Pilloud
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 8:16 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Washoe County School District mask guidance

I am writing this email to express my concern with the decision to allow students aged 9 and under to not wear masks in schools. This decision is particularly troubling on many levels, to include:

- 1) Parents were not consulted and the decision to remove masks was literally communicated to parents 12 hours before the new rule would go into effect. Such an expeditious decision did not seem to be in the best interest of the children or their community.
- 2) The Washoe County Health district was not consulted and they are against this decision.
- 3) The CDC still recommends that school-age children continue to wear masks until the end of the school year, as not a single child under the age of 16 will be fully vaccinated by the end of the school year.
- 4) The governor's guidance still requires individuals who are not fully vaccinated to continue to wear masks, which is every child under the age of 16. I see no way that this new policy is in line with state guidelines and have asked repeatedly of the Board of Trustees to show me how allowing children under the age of 10 to go without masks is in accordance with state guidelines.
- 5) Local pediatricians are also against this decision and have been publicly voicing their concerns.

I have yet to hear any good reason to allow children under the age of 10 to go without masks in school. Everyone's number one priority should be the health and safety of these children and their families. Wearing a mask protects unvaccinated children and their families who may be unvaccinated. And, it further serves to keep those who are immunocompromised in our community safe. I can see no reason to make this decision in the last several weeks of the school other than for political expediency. I urge the superintendent and the Board of Trustees to reverse this decision and illustrate that they care about science and that they care about the children who they are meant to serve.

Regards,
Dr. Pilloud
Mother of two children in the WCSD

From: Sandy Young
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 9:09 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL]

Please vote to approve the suggested updates in the SHARE sex curriculum. The existing program is severely outdated; it is critical our youth receive the information needed to make their own sexual life decisions. VOTE to approve, please.

From: Katie Silva
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 10:06 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: In Support of SHARE Curriculum

I am writing in support of approving the much-needed proposed updates to the WCSD sixth grade S.H.A.R.E curriculum. There is no question that our schools provide both mental and physical health services for our students, and sexual health education is vital to ensuring that our students have the accurate knowledge that they need to make healthy and informed decisions as they grow into young adults. The current materials have not seen an update for over eighteen years. In that time there has been huge leaps in the understanding and science of sexual health, disease prevention, consent, and matters regarding gender and sexual orientation—which currently WCSD is failing in making sure that our students receive this up-to-date and medically accurate information. Not keeping our sexual health curriculum modern and up-to-date with the most accurate information will have dire consequences for the entire community of Washoe County as the lack of appropriate sexual health education only leads to an increase in the spread of STDs, unwanted pregnancies, sexual abuse, and bullying and harassment of LGBTQIA+ youth. As a school district our goal should be to empower our students with the education and information they need to protect the health and well-being of themselves—and of others—while also promoting the understanding and inclusiveness of our diverse student body that reflects the diversity of our expanding global community.

Approving these updates will provide our students with the knowledge required to be healthy, thriving, and caring community members. Best, Katie Silva Huffaker parents and PTA board member

From: Delia Marie Paul
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 10:07 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Our children have lost enough!

Dear School Board,

I am a parent of a 12 year old in this district.

I am against these school children being required to wear masks, it's not healthy.
There is not even scientific data that can even support this!

My son has also suffered with not having full time school, he is depressed, and his grades have dropped because of this.

I am also against any type of social justice or critical race theory indoctrination in our school district.
It is not ok to act like you are fighting racism, by teaching racism.
You work for the people, so please act like it.

Sincerely,

Ms. Paul
Concerned Parent

From: Gladys Krehlik
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 10:18 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] English Language Arts

As a grandmother, I “disapprove” of the WCSD indoctrinating our young children with the divisive and politicized English Language Arts curriculum. Please vote NO on this program. Thank you.

Gladys Krehlik
Reno Resident

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: T. H.
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 11:06 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Masks and Critical Race Theory

I am so disappointed in the Principals and Teachers in the middle and high schools. The parents and students are all aware that there were emails and an article in the RGJ regarding masks for those 10 and above, which they specifically tried to hide from the students. My children chose not to wear masks last week when this came out and one got bullied by a teacher to put the mask back on and the other got shamed by a teacher to put the mask back on. These teachers knew full well that the students did not need to wear masks anymore. Implementing a mask mandate for some age groups and not others is completely ridiculous. Now we continue to get messages from the schools saying they need to wear the masks. It should be a choice at this point! If some parents are so scared and believe in the mask then make your kids wear masks or do distance learning, but don't place your fear upon everyone else. There is literally no scientific evidence that masks work. No studies that prove they work, but there sure are studies proving they don't work.

Critical Race Theory is indoctrinating our children and teaching them racism. I do not want my tax dollars going to a program that teaches our children to hate each other and to hate their country. I strongly oppose CRT, it should absolutely not be taught in our schools.

Thank you,
Tami Houston

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: Sakara Ferebee
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 11:32 AM
To: Public Comments
Cc: BoardMembers; Jennifer Young; sakarascircle
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comments - Meeting on 05.25.2021

Good afternoon to whom this may concern,

This email is in reference to the new curriculum. I am concerned about what we are bringing our focus and our attention to. Children do not see color or bias, as we all know these prejudices are taught. Although this is a big issue, it concerns me that a school is teaching this matter to children as young as Kindergarten to see differences and color. This is devastating as I would never want a child to be told what and who they are; especially from a school teacher. As a mixed-race child, I was raised to embrace everyone and didn't truly see color until my first grade teacher had us make dolls of our family. I picked out brown yarn for my hair and pale yarn for my skin tone. Then I went to create my mother; yellow yarn for her blonde hair and pale yarn for her skin tone. My teacher threw away my doll and told me that I must use black yarn because I was "Black". It was devastating to my little mind and I felt shattered. I went home and cried to my mom about how she threw away my doll and scoffed saying it looked nothing like me. The entire classroom was now more focused on my racial background than the harmless art project this should have been. My mother again reiterated about my family and to embrace my culture and to feel proud that I am of a mixed race. She began to explain how unfortunate it was this teacher was very misguided in her teaching methodology. She explained that this private matter regarding family roots was something that should be taught to children by a parent or extended family member regarding their heritage and family history, so a child can feel a sense of pride and not to be ridiculed by a teacher that apparently didn't know her place and had overstepped her authority.

Being called "Black" is a derogatory term when you are in fact an African American. To be a mixed race and to have to pick one race to identify with is earth shattering when in the comfort of your home you are taught to embrace both or multiple (as I have many). To give teachers and the school system the power to teach children that it is acceptable for all minority groups of color should be grouped together as one acronym is insulting and very derogatory, as "Black" is not the correct term. WE are AFRICAN AMERICAN. BIPOC is dumbing us down to one acronym. You are communicating that each individual people of color aren't even worth our own word now. When each race has their own stand alone strengths and struggles. This is obviously a misguided and uneducated decision to create this term in the first place. Children should not be subjected to your social experiment. It isn't for a school to "teach" in topics such as race, gender, religion, or social classes, as there is separation of church and state in place for a reason. For any teacher to try to teach me my "differences" and who I am is frightening. My parents educated me on my history from the caucasian female activists, to my American war hero grandparents, our foregien roots, and about my mixed great-grandmother who was a slave. You can't tell us why there is pride in our differences because that's not within your scope or your story to tell.

Privilege is another issue that is not for a school to teach. This ideology is a victim mindset that will result in plaguing young minds into believing in false barriers and wrongfully setting expectations that there are roadblocks that cannot be overcome due to circumstance or due to the color of their skin. This is detrimental to their growth and success as the right mindset must be instilled at an early age. It is not the school's business or responsibility to teach these skills. My mother was a teen mom who had a minority child, so I was a major statistic and it was brought to everyone's attention during SHARE class at my middle school. The teacher said how single teen moms don't give the best possible life to their children, their children are most likely to get pregnant younger and to not go further than graduating High School or getting their GED. My mother has a master's degree and has always been gainfully employed. In high school, I struggled with math and told my counselor as I was seeking resources and support. I had just lost my grandfather that year and was struggling with my focus. Instead of doing his job to help me find the educational support I had requested, he told me to drop out as soon as I could. Then suggested I enroll in beauty school. All of these instances ruined my mindset

towards school, as I no longer cared and hated how everyone told me how I was a statistic. The Washoe County School District failed me in every phase. My mother pushed me and told me I WOULD be someone in this world. At 20 years old, I became VP of Marketing at a Consulting Firm, all while taking five college courses at a time in College and making the Dean's List. If I had let the school system tell me how I was just a statistic and that I didn't have the same privileges as a caucasian male with both parents, I wouldn't be the successful business woman I have become. Teaching the victim mindset to young minds is damaging. Teaching a child they are privileged due to their skin color, gender, social status, or household dynamic is not what a school has the responsibility to teach.

If you wish to implement change into our school system then the history books need to be updated with accurate information based on fact not opinions or led by politically charged agendas. Go back to the basics.... reading, writing, and arithmetic. That is the scope of the teacher's duty to educate our youth. Take the personal opinions and social identifications out of it. We as a community have the right to speak for our younger siblings and future children. You alone hold no authority without our votes and support to keep you employed, so do as you are paid to do and educate our children with accurate information and stop forcing your personal agendas. If you do not choose to revise the curriculum as we are requesting then please do your community a favor and resign because we will continue to fight the injustices you are trying to impose on the children in our community.

Sincerely,

Sakara Ferebee

From: Matthew Montognese
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 11:54 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Curriculum

Hello esteemed officials,

I am confounded at the thought that some have, thinking we must force an idea or curriculum that is not fully endorsed by the people it is said to protect or represent .

I will continue to do my part in the community to teach what is right and wrong. I will follow the late great Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in what he clearly stated, and what is still clearly understood. "I am waiting for a time where people will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character." Character is the matter at hand, we can not esteem, abuse or coddle a person by outward appearance or group, but by character alone.

Thank you,

Concerned Citizen

Matthew Montognese

Sent from my iPhone

From: William Thibault
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 12:04 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Teaching or Indoctrinating?

Hello-, isn't that the eternal question? Name for me a country that does NOT teach Civics-a history of their own founding, in a positive light? A successful country...I can think of none. You only teach a negative view of your nation if you wish to Undermine it!

I have a question: when it comes to "sex-ed" how many of your lessons to the children end with "...and your parents don't have to know!" You do realize that you are undermining the Nuclear Family structure by doing this, right? Of course, You Do! It's one of the things that Black Lives Matter stands for, the destruction of the nuclear family! After open slavery was abolished, many blacks found themselves a key to staying intact. Collectively, they had come from an era where if the Master decided to sell their teenaged son to another plantation owner, most likely a Democrat-President Polk, I believe was a Plantation Owner. There was nothing the parents of the child could do. They would probably never see that child again. So they understood that Family equaled Strength! Eventually, the Welfare act in the 60s made it more convenient for the man to be gone from the family structure as there wouldn't be any payments if he was there.

Let me present a scenario for you: if my family and I were to move next door to you and you noticed that we all went out early Sunday morning to go to church, with our children, that just happened to be the same age as your children. And my kids were playing with your kids, and invited them to a church function, would you be comfortable if the conversation concluded with "...and your parents don't have to know!" Of course, you wouldn't! So why do you think that we should be cool when you say the same thing about sexual information passed along to our children?

What exactly is a full day of curriculum for a student? I remember English, Maths, Science, Biology, American History, Civics, phys ed, elective language, but No Pop Culture! No creative ways to enjoy nonvaginal sex, or the latest theories from Marx and Lenin. No, most of that was for college. Now we have a situation where high school students have to go back and take the remedial courses during their first year at a Community College! Not all, but some. I just read a news item of a 45-year-old mother whose son went all four years to his Baltimore high school, but couldn't graduate with his class because his grade point average was 1.6! This mother was outraged to discover that after 4 years, only one teacher requested a meeting with her about her son, a message she never received. So what is an 18-year-old black kid to do, when his mother is working 3 jobs just so they can support themselves? We keep putting money into schools, per your request, but we get results like this? How about the story of the mother who saw her daughter's phone and decided, since she was only 15, to scroll through it. Imagine her surprise to find a video of her daughter, naked on the bed with 3 boys, all naked, ages 14-16! She called the cops! The cops arrested her daughter for "child Porn." Is that the result of teaching hyper sex-ed to the kids in your care? Or are you waiting for society to "catch up" to progressive thinking?

OK, on this proposed curriculum, you say it isn't "Critical Racial Thinking!" That poses a question: how is it different?

Yours,

Bill Thibault

From: Jennifer Young
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 12:39 PM
To: Public Comments
Cc: BoardMembers
Subject: [EXTERNAL] WCSD Curriculum - Community Member Statement

Hello board members,

The purpose of this email is to address the proposed curriculum for the upcoming school year and the decisions being imposed on our children in the Washoe County School District.

I am personally astounded by the arrogance of this board to try to implement a curriculum that focuses on social issues and politically charged agendas. Educators should never bring gender classification, religion, race identification, or social issues to a young child's classroom. We are all different and have a belief system based on background, family, and experience, and it should not be the focus of our children's learning at school.

I have grown up in this community and attended Washoe County Schools. The state of Nevada is almost at the bottom as far as the quality of education in comparison to the rest of the United States when it comes to test scores and graduation statistics. The first thing I learned from a profound professor in college was to drop everything at the door I had learned from the remedial "education" I had received because all of the history I had learned was inaccurate and I would relearn the truth and how to conduct scholarly research and access information while acquiring my degree. That was a very insightful experience for me. There is clearly room for improvement of classroom educational standards just for the core subjects. Let's not try to reinvent the wheel before the existing areas that are in devastation are revamped and improved upon.

The Basic fundamentals of learning need to be focused on such as: Math, English, Social Studies, Health, History, Foreign Language, Art, Music, Sports, Technology are the main subjects. There is a need at the national level to update the inaccuracies in the literature, tools, books, and resources being used to provide information to our school systems and should be your focus. The information and data is incorrect and that needs to be corrected before our educational system can be properly revamped. It is common knowledge the way our history books were written are in favor of controlling certain information, and censoring the truth being accessed in order to control the general public's belief system and how history actually occurred. There is a vital need for our books and literature to be accurately updated to reflect facts, accurate timelines, and dates (and to leave out personal opinions and political interference).

The Critical Race Theory and Equity (vs Equality) targets races, creates division, teaches hate, and plagues young minds with political opinions. The direct result of instilling this derogatory terminology will diminish free thinking and target certain racial groups. There is a responsibility to assess the age appropriateness and level of understanding for some of those topics and cannot properly be understood in elementary school aged children. Families have the right to privacy and have the right to explain social issues, race, belief systems, religion to their own children. The school has no right and no business getting involved in these discussions.

Furthermore, I am absolutely disgusted that the board continues to try to violate the civil and human rights of our children by forcing masks and to try to implement a requirement that enrolled students must be subjected to an experimental poison (being marketed as a vaccine) in order to attend school. It is unacceptable for these agendas to be forced on our children.

Growing up in this community I have always been disappointed in our school system, not only going to these schools myself but as I am raising bi-racial children. Opinions and social issues that we as a nation are struggling with have no

room to be placed in the classrooms as we haven't even properly handled these existing issues as adults. Now you want to create more adversity in our classrooms for our children as well? Your curriculum will only create more hate, violence, and teach victim and/or superior race mentalities. This is unacceptable.

Our demands:

- Restore the educational standards to focus on core subjects.
- Allow parents to be involved in approving the proposed curriculum being taught to our children, or all the very least have access to the information.
- Grade and age appropriate: Teach both sides and all sides of issues and to not shame a race or to not further create division.

There is a huge disconnect in what the school board's agenda is and what the people within this community want. That is a problem. Our opinions matter, as we are funding the education system and the ability to have the board positions to be held. If you ignore our statements, we will continue to fight until you all have resigned or are dismissed from your public service positions. We will continue to gather community support and stand in alliance to protect our children from your politically charged agendas.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Young

From: Karl Sweder
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 12:40 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Social Justice Curriculum

We have been continuously told that Critical Race Theory is not being pushed by the School Board. Instead, it appears that you are pushing it but calling it by a different name. Social Justice Curriculum contains the same Leftist Socialist content. The majority of Washoe County citizens do not want their children to suffer through this indoctrination. Instead, require your teachers to teach students the basics ie English, Math, Science, History, and Government. Let the parents teach their children morals.

Karl Sweder
Sparks NV

From: Angelina Montognese
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 12:27 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] CRT

I am completely disgusted that Washoe would even consider forcing this one sided often bias agenda on our children. We are to teach children the core subjects and not put in our own political or biased agenda. Our children need to learn for themselves and not be forced to think one way. There is so much wrong with CRT to even consider having that in our schools is ludicrous to me.

Thank you
Sent from my iPhone

From: Melissa Fitch
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 12:50 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment 5/25/2021

Good Morning to you all, Washoe County School Board members,

I am writing to you as a mother of 2 young children, an independent contractor, and tax paying, native Nevadan.

First, I would like to thank each of you for your decision allowing our children to attend school, without wearing masks. While I support any parent who choses to still mask their child, I must applaud all of you for giving the decision back to the parents who do not want their children masked.

Next up, AB261 aka, Critical Race Theory. The Nevada Legislature voted on, and passed this bill last Friday. You, as trusted leaders in our community, must not allow this radical proposed training to enter into any of the curriculum taught in Washoe County schools. The color of our children's skin does not determine whether they are a victim or an oppressor. I must take a stand and demand that the county teaches core subjects and that educational standards be restored. Critical Race Theory is anti-American, anti-law enforcement, anti-white, and unconstitutional. As a taxpayer, I will not allow my children to be indoctrinated with these false notions that America was founded on slavery and racism,

Every single classroom in the district needs to be made available for parents and/or guardians to monitor. Additionally, all of the curriculum taught in every single classroom needs to be made readily available to any and all concerned parents and/or guardians. Our children are our most precious assets. We entrust their safety and education to our valued teachers each day. The safety of all teachers and wellbeing of all students are crucial.

We all come from different countries, backgrounds and religions. This is what makes America the land of equal opportunity, *not* the land of equal results.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Your responsibilities must not be taken lightly. Please consider the mental and emotional damage that will be inflicted on our children if they are indoctrinated with self hatred and racism instead of educated with love and respect for all of our diversities.

Sincerely and respectfully,

Melissa Fitch

Reno, NV 89509

From: Jerry Clark
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 1:31 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Concerned parent

I have 2 children in the WCSD under the age of 10 and I do not approve of the curriculum for teaching them Social Justice, Critical Race Theory, and any of the S.H.A.R.E principles for sexual education. Please consider removing these things from the curriculum.

Thank you,
A concerned parent

From: Brittany Bland
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 1:50 PM
To: Public Comments
Cc: BoardMembers
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Critical Race Theory/Social Justice Curriculum

Dear Washoe County Board of Trustees-

I am writing today to ask that you to not approve the current Critical Race Theory and Social Justice Curriculum to be taught for Kindergarten to 5th grade. These ideas of oppression and systemic racism come from a Marxist doctrine called "critical theory". You can call it whatever you want and deny these are the proposed teachings, but I know what these lessons include. I have read through this proposed curriculum and its entirety. I passed it to everyone I could, of all ethnicity and ages. I want to know everyone's opinion on educating our future and I am trying to get more parents involved. While there are some lessons I do agree with, there are some I whole heartily disagree with, that make me absolutely sick to my stomach. I am also aware you passed this curriculum to the middle and high schools without public approval. So now my niece and nephews, without our approval, are already being indoctrinated currently with this nonsense curriculum. You just snuck it right in under our noses. I also am aware the Board wanted to withhold these lesson plans from the public from Kinder to 5th grade. Why is that?

I have lived in Reno since I was 4 years old. I received all of my education from elementary to high school, through the WCSD. I received a wonderful education and graduated top of my class, with NO help from my parents. I have two young daughters who have just begun their education through you. I expect them to receive the same, if not better education from you. But unfortunately, with all this new proposed curriculum and the social divide you are subliminally teaching them, their education will not be what mine was. I fear it will engrave permanent hate and systemic racism among our youth, when we are supposed to be teaching them to love and respect one another. These lessons do not even empower one minority voice. The lessons lower expectations for EVERYONE.

While I do like the idea of questioning rules and laws, because these ideologies indeed throw a red flag up to everyone of authority, including you. We should all be questioning everything we are told today, because something is just not right. Basic morals and ethics are being thrown out the door and we seem to be focusing on the bad and negative instead of the positive and how far this country has come. Martin Luther King, Jr., would be rolling over in his grave today at all this hate in the media and now by you, the school board.

These lessons go against Washoe County School Districts "Notice of Non-Discrimination". Let me reiterate exactly what your website says:

"The Washoe County School District prohibits bullying, cyber-bullying, harassment, sexual harassment, and/or discrimination based on an individual's actual or perceived race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy), national origin, age, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, genetic information, veterans or military status, marital status, political affiliation, or the presence of any sensory, physical or mental disability in any of its educational programs/activities, employment or employment opportunities, or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The District prohibits discrimination against any youth group listed in Title 36, as a patriotic society, (i.e. Boy Scouts of America) from access to public school facilities use."

Race and color discrimination are riddled all over these lesson plans. You are 110% pointing out our children's skin color and race differences. It is being magnified in a terrible horrible way. These words are just lies on your website. There is nothing positive in these lessons, they make everyone feel badly about themselves and you are pointing out the differences and making children feel sorry for certain children of minority. Is that what we want? Is that the goal? Should we just give everyone A's because that is fair? Should you all share your salaries with each other, put them into on big pot and evenly disperse it, because that's fair?

These past two years have been the worst in our country's history. The hate and divide amongst everyone is growing thicker each day, because we are focusing on our differences. With this curriculum, you will only create this divide earlier in life and it will tarnish our youth. It is a time to come together, heal and celebrate our differences do not throw them under a microscope and take it be the only thing we identify with.

We are not where we came from. We are who we make ourselves to be. We cannot be held down by our past and feel guilty about being successful. You get what you work for, that's basic psychology 101. You are taking away achievements from our youth and expecting it to be passed around amongst everyone and to be disbursed evenly. Wrong. You either first Place, or you lose. Not all should receive participation awards. You have to earn that. And if you do lose there's a life lesson within that. In order to be successful we must fail, brush our knees off, stand up and try again. Without this thought NONE of you would be where you are. Our stories make us the strong people we are today. Change and growth happen with adversity.

Is my struggle not real because of my skin tone? You have no idea of the abusive cycles I broke free of, to be the mom, wife, friend and business owner I am today. If these lessons are true, that I should identify with the community I came from and I should feel ashamed of my success, because I didn't share it with everyone, I should be a drug popping, absent alcoholic parent. But I'm not. My pendulum swung the opposite direction because I refused to give up. I work every day to make my demons lay low, they are not my crutch, they are my savior because I choose to be good and do better. My story is real and so is everyone else's. I would not be able to write this here today, if I did not bust through my chains and break free.

We should not be held down by skin color or our community we came from. We should use that to become better, stronger and resilient, to fight and work harder every day. We need to learn from our past and the past of our country. Right now, more than ever we come together as a community and give children hope that they too can break the chains and not make they feel obligated to be oppressed because of their backgrounds. I am begging you to please look at this from a parental standpoint and the future of our country. The lessons need to be rewritten, they are old and outdated but can we please bring some positivity into it? and celebrate our differences? We need to give our children hope that THEY can make their lives better and they do not need to repeat the cycles of their parents or grandparents.

You are creating systemic racism and hate for one another. I don't believe any of you have a child enrolled in our system here, currently. I do not believe it is ethically moral for you to be passing education guidelines when nothing applies to you. This is not your battle; you should not have the last say so. Please do not silence our voices that truly matter. I do not want to continue to homeschool my children. I want them to experience life with their peers. It develops them and prepares them for their future. It is so important for them to be social and deal with conflict. This cannot continue. We cannot keep pulling all of our children out of your school system, but we will if things do not change. We should judge others based on their heart and content of character.

Thank you,

Brittany Bland

From: Lois Bianchi
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 2:00 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Supporting the updates of S.H.A.R.E. curriculum

I am writing you today in support of approving the much-needed proposed updates to the WCSD sixth grade S.H.A.R.E curriculum. There is no question that our schools provide both mental and physical health services for our students, and sexual health education is vital to ensuring that our students have the accurate knowledge that they need to make healthy and informed decisions as they grow into young adults. The current materials have not seen an update for over eighteen years. In that time there has been huge leaps in the understanding and science of sexual health, disease prevention, consent, and matters regarding gender and sexual orientation—which currently WCSD is failing in making sure that our students receive this up-to-date and medically accurate information. Not keeping our sexual health curriculum modern and up-to-date with the most accurate information will have dire consequences for the entire community of Washoe County as the lack of appropriate sexual health education only leads to an increase in the spread of STDs, unwanted pregnancies, sexual abuse, and bullying and harassment of LGBTQIA+ youth. As a school district our goal should be to empower our students with the education and information they need to protect the health and well-being of themselves—and of others—while also promoting the understanding and inclusiveness of our diverse student body that reflects the diversity of our expanding global community. Approving these updates will provide our students with the knowledge required to be healthy, thriving, and caring community members.

Sincerely, Lois Bianchi

Reno, Nv 89503
Retired teacher

From: Mark Story
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 2:40 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public comment for the board

Good afternoon board members.

Yesterday, Monday 5/24, my Grandson did not wear a mask to school because he can hardly breathe, his mother and I, told him not to wear this mask, and in your recent email to teacher's it was stated that they should not force a child. My grandson goes to Mendive Middle School, his teacher, **Ms. Franz**, told him to put the mask BACK ON, and that he was required to wear it.

So which is it board members? Is it decided by each teacher what they choose to do? WHICH IS IT?
Your rules and explanations are confusing, changing, and discriminatory by age.. Without any Scientific proof that children are even at risk of the virus to an extent to even require masks.

This board is showing signs of being very political when it comes to this overreach of rules and power. We all want what is best for the children, we want them to breathe,, and NOT to live in fear, or succumb to depression. As adults, and as a board, we are supposed to protect the children from the politics of the adult world.

All students should have been in school full time, for a long time now, and masks should have never been required, science and many doctors stand behind this, and so does the data. You share with the media that 33 local doctors wrote a letter supporting masks, but you neglected to share that MANY local doctors refused to sign this letter.

Now, For this board to even consider adopting curriculum that is based on social justice, 1619, Critical race Theory, more appropriately called Critical Conspiracy Theory, IS NOT GOOD FOR OUR CHILDREN.

It is a racist ideology, that believes that a majority of the USA that are white, are White Supremacists, with White Privilege, an ideology that bases our countries founding on this conspiracy theory.

It teaches hate, and racism.

Any program that teaches that one race is to blame for all bad, and should be treated less than other races, is RACIST.

Our family will never apologize for being white. But wait, by not having white guilt, apparently we are racist, IF you follow the social justice curriculum.

If we change history to satisfy a political agenda or ideology, then we will never learn from our past.

Teaching racism, to supposedly combat racism, is an oxymoron, **I believe that we are better than that as a people, and we love each other as American's, no matter what color or creed, we are ALL equal.**

As for allowing BLM posters in classrooms, this is not acceptable. Everyone on this board would have to have been living under a rock if they don't see that BLM has become nothing but a political sword to divide people, and we must not allow that in our schools. STOP THE HATE & DIVISION.

We also believe that if you are a Teacher in any school, and your students know exactly what your political affiliations are, THEN YOU HAVE FAILED AS A TEACHER.

Sincerely,
Mark Story

From: Bernadette Speth
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 3:06 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Masks and pushing critical

Take masks off our children. My children will not be attending Washoe County school districts while the masks are mandatory! The other issue I have is against passing critical race theory! It is Ridiculous to even to push this on our children!! Our kids like others for their kindness not their color or race! Our family is against this issue if it passes and may not put our kids back in Wcsd. Bernadette Speth

Sent from my iPhone

From: Brad Kroshus
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 3:13 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Critical Race Theory

I am writing you in objection to the implementation of Critical Race Theory (CRT) curriculum. CRT curriculum has been exposed to be a social indoctrination campaign of our children to push radical ideals and push a political agenda and the parents of Washoe County WILL NOT stand for such radicalization of our children. Instead WCSD should be finding ways to not consistently be ranked at the bottom of national education statistics and not be wasting time and money on racial indoctrination. If CRT is implemented we will work relentlessly to have EVERY single of of you replaced!

Brad Kroshus

From: Dawn Hepner
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 3:09 PM
To: Public Comments; BoardMembers; McNeill, Kristen
Subject: [EXTERNAL] curriculum reform

Dear board members,

I am writing to express my extreme disappointment in the direction this board and our teachers are taking this school district. The focus of our children's education is to remain simple - educate them on reading, writing, social studies/history, etc - all the while teaching CRITICAL THINKING.

Our school district needs to focus on education for our children. These topics being brought into our schools is completely inappropriate. There are other ways to reform curriculum without teaching our children topics that are absolutely not age appropriate. Additionally, parents do choose when to allow their children to be removed from certain topics. I have always been a strong advocate for my child and will not hesitate to drive to the office to remove him at any time I need to in order to protect his childhood and innocence. He doesn't need to be forced to feel a certain way about who he is based on the color of his skin. Therefore, I have instructed my own child that if any such topics are discussed in class, he is to ask to be excused for his own protection. If the SHARE program or social justice curriculum begins to involve topics that are not age appropriate or involve propaganda, parents will either start pulling their kids from public schools OR pull them from being involved in these topics of discussion.

I also do not appreciate being referred to as a bigot or racist by some organizations as a result of my opposition. I was raised in downtown Long Beach, California and was raised among a strong, diverse community. Never at any time did I feel I was better than any of them based on my skin color - and this was 30 years ago. We have come so far even since that time!

These topics, although maybe intended to help, will only further divide our country and even worse - our community, which is actually pretty unified! This curriculum will ruin that unification, drive separation between all of us, and drive hate into many. Please consider how your decisions impact our children and our community.

Thank you,
Dawn Hepner

From: Conor McQuivey
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 3:23 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Supporting inclusive sex education

I am disheartened at the public expressions of hate and discrimination I've seen regarding equality and LGBTQ issues. Apparently the new concern is that updated SHARE curriculum acknowledges the existence and issues of LGBTQ students?

Our schools have a RESPONSIBILITY to provide comprehensive, inclusive sexual and health education to our students. Do not let a small group of loud bigots and homophobes deny our children their right to a health education that will actually help them stay healthy.

Simple as that. Do what's right. Thank you.

-Conor McQuivey

Sent from my iPhone

From: Lisa Brunelle
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 3:51 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment for 5/25 Board Meeting

I'm writing in to comment on a few things.

1) Thank you for following the Governor's directives on removing the mask mandate for kids 9 and below. I don't believe that anyone should be mandated to wear masks, as this is against our personal freedom and the science seems to be ever changing on whether these are effective or not.

2) I read through the 3 lessons proposed by SHARE. Is there more curriculum not included in the board meeting's supplemental materials that the SHARE committee is trying to push through? Reading their goals, they state that "sexuality education" includes education on gender identity, which I completely disagree with. Even the term "sexuality education" seems like they put more focus on what a person chooses rather than on the biology that creates sex. I am not in favor of SHARE's proposed curriculum update.

3) I am also not in favor of the social justice curriculum that was proposed and will be attending the June 8 meeting to speak out against that.

Thanks,
Lisa Brunelle
Parent of 2 WCSD children



NOTICE FOR EMPLOYERS, UNIVERSITIES AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS MANDATING COVID-19 MASKS

April 26, 2021

This serves as notice that the mandate for any individual to wear a mask against COVID-19 for employment or attendance at a university or other institution violates federal law. All [COVID-19 masks](#), whether surgical, N95 or other respirators, are authorized, not approved or licensed, by the federal government; they are Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) only. They merely “may be effective.” Federal law states:

Title [21 U.S.C. § 360bbb-3\(e\)\(1\)\(A\)\(ii\)\(I-III\)](#) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FD&C Act) states:

individuals to whom the product is administered are informed—

- (I)** that the Secretary has authorized the emergency use of the product;
- (II)** of the significant known and potential benefits and risks of such use, and of the extent to which such benefits and risks are unknown; and
- (III) of the option to accept or refuse administration of the product**, of the consequences, if any, of refusing administration of the product, and of the alternatives to the product that are available and of their benefits and risks.

EUA products are by definition experimental and thus require the right to refuse. Under the Nuremberg Code, the foundation of ethical medicine, no one may be coerced to participate in a medical experiment. Consent of the individual is “absolutely essential.” A federal court held that even the U.S. military could not mandate EUA vaccines to soldiers. *Doe #1 v. Rumsfeld*, 297 F.Supp.2d 119 (2003).

In a [letter](#) dated April 24, 2020, the Food and Drug Administration stated that authorized face masks must be labelled accurately and may not be labeled in a way that misrepresents the product’s intended use as “source control to help prevent the spread of SARS-CoV-2.” The letter specifies that the labeling “may not state or imply that the product is intended for antimicrobial or antiviral protection or related uses or is for use such as infection prevention or reduction.” Any EUA mandate requiring individuals to wear face masks conflicts with Section 360bbb-3(e)(1)(A)(ii)(I-III), which provides that the person must be informed of the option to refuse to wear the device.

Liability for forced participation in a medical experiment, including possible injury, may be incalculable. Children’s Health Defense urges U.S. employers, universities and other institutions to respect and uphold the rights of individuals to refuse to wear EUA masks.

From: Brad Carpenter
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 4:05 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees - 5/25/21

I have four children who attend Washoe County schools.

As resilient as children are, they are extremely impressionable. To tell a child they are of worth, that they matter, that they can make a difference in the world is a gift that will bless them and those around them throughout life. On the other hand, to abuse them by saying they are racist, that they cannot change, that they cannot succeed without harming others is a punishment that will cause irreparable harm.

Schools should focus on math, science, reading, technology, and all things that are edifying. Instead, Washoe County is seeking to adopt the radical political philosophies of a noisy minority.

Let this be a matter for the home. Let schools be a place where people unify in learning instead of training activists that only seek to divide.

Brad Carpenter

From: Jenny Snaza
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 4:07 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for ELA and SHARE curriculum

Dear Trustees,

I am a parent in the WCSD and wanted to express my sincere support for the inclusive ELA curriculum and updated SHARE curriculum. **Thank you for your work on these important updates** that will benefit the mass majority of students in the WCSD. Even though it's just an email, I do believe that my voice and children should be included while weighing the tough decisions ahead of you.

I also want to express my condolences to the majority of the board for the barrage of comments that you receive that funnel passions and beliefs away from facts. Many display a lack of compassion and knowledge of the hard work and dedication that our teachers and administrators do on a daily basis, as well as the hard work and collaborative efforts that are behind the proposed curriculums. I hope that you can continue to work together to do the important work that our community so desperately needs at this time.

Best,

Jenny Snaza (WCSD parent)

From: D C
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 4:07 PM
To: Church, Jeffrey; Minetto, Ellen; Caudill, Andrew B; Thigpen, Kurt L; Taylor, Angela; Calvert, Jacqueline M; Nicolet, Diane M; BoardMembers
Cc: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] 25MAY21 WCDSD Comment: NO CRITICAL RACE THEORY, NO SHARE

State after state is outlawing the teaching of critical race theory or whatever label you want to give it, yet this body of REPRESENTATIVES is seriously considering approval of an English Language Arts curriculum that begins the brainwashing of students from kindergarten and up. You are facilitating the BRAINWASHING and INDOCTRINATION of our children, so they can become YOUR social justice warriors promoting your Leftist, Socialist, Marxist political agendas.

Let me say it straight. OUR CHILDREN are not your puppets to weaponize and use politically. You know that your job is to educate, to teach students HOW to think - not WHAT to think.

This board, the teachers, and the teachers' union need to know that the public, the taxpayers and parents who pay your salaries, finally see that you DON'T have our children's best interests in mind. Your political agendas are your first priority, and now we've heard that loud and clear - not just from your voices and public pronouncements, but from the silence of those who won't speak out against it.

You teachers KNOW what the board is doing by approving this ELA curriculum and placing emphasis on "EQUITY " throughout the entire district. Your silence in opposing the curriculum and the attempt to turn our children into social justice warriors isn't going unnoticed. Your silence has consequences. The public support that teachers USED to have is GONE - and it's not coming back until we see that teachers are actually educating not indoctrinating. Not until you start defending our children from those who would use them as political pawns.

We know that EQUITY is not the same thing as EQUALITY. Equity is simply a Marxist ideology that ignores personal effort and responsibility. The fact that this district even has an Equity Department is shameful. An American school district that supports and promulgates Marxism and Communism? It confirms that district employees and the board members who support it need to be removed.

There's a very large group of people outside this building right now who are done waiting for you to do the right thing. We're paying attention now and are ready to defend our kids. We're ready to remove all of you who have shown that our kids are nothing to you but puppets.

David Chamberlain
Reno, NV 89523

From: Julie Lee
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 4:42 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] May 25th Board meeting

Please note my opinion on the following items:

I am strongly against K-5 English Language Arts (ELA) curriculum supplementary materials and any middle or high school materials. I am against critical race theory, indoctrination and activation in the classroom. I believe that this creates an unsafe environment for all students.

I am also against the changes to the SHARE program. The content in this program is not appropriate for our kids and it is unacceptable to take parents out of the equation when it comes to our kid's health.

We should be fighting to protect our kids!!! There is no room for social justice or politics in our classrooms! Please do not put these programs in our schools!

Julie Lee

From: RC
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 4:54 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment

Trustees,

In order to build unity and abolish bias, the focus must be on the commonalities between people. This commonality, the attitude of there is no "them", but that there is an "us", is the heart of what is lacking in the Benchmark Social Justice curriculum. This particular curriculum focuses almost exclusively on differences and in doing so it promotes division. We want commonality for our children; don't you?

So very many people have been so very outspoken regarding this particular curriculum and the numbers keep growing. There has to be a real reason for this. Some trustees have even claimed there is no Critical Race Theory or 1619 principles in the Benchmark Social Justice curriculum. Please stop saying this. Denying it repeatedly doesn't mean it isn't there. If it looks like a duck, swims like a duck and quacks like a duck, then call it what it is. No one is being fooled by the claims of denial.

The passage of AB261 does not give this board carte blanche to adopt this Benchmark Social Justice curriculum. The people do not want this particular curriculum in this county. Period. As trustees you were elected to **represent** the people, not implement your own personal opinions. Do some research and find something less negative, less divisive, something more open ended which focuses on commonalities; commonalities is what brings people together.

Sincerely,
R Crump

From:
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 5:02 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public from Claribel Russell age 10 non-binary

Dear School Board Members,

I am a homeschooled 10 year old non binary autistic kid with ADHD. I am homeschooled because I did not feel accepted or supported at school. Most of the staff did not get my pronouns right and I was very stressed out going to school.

I would like my former classmates to learn about kids like me so that I can be accepted by them.

Thank you,

Claribel Russell

From: william j. barclay jr
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 5:15 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed Washoe County School District Curriculum Proposed Changes.

I William J Barclay Jr. in writing disagree with the tactics of some of those on the Washoe County School board radicalizing education for children in our schools.

I am against Critical Race Theory and the proposed changing of how Sex Education would be taught if this radical agenda passes.

While I do not have children who attend Washoe County Schools at this time I pay a significant amount in taxes that support and benefit Washoe County School District.

I am in favor of free speech and any teacher or citizen who in a civil and courteous manner speaks out against this radical agenda should be heard and not intimidated.

William J Barclay Jr.

From: Kim Gotcher
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 5:13 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Masks

I don not understand your policies on masks. I have a child in the 3rd grade who has a friend who is also in 3rd grade but was held back in a previous year. This child is 10 years old and in 3rd grade. She has been in person learning this entire year and currently because she is 10, is the only child in her class that is required to wear a mask all day. Not only does this lack any scientific standing it lacks common logic. This also points out to her entire class that she has been held back. This is pure insanity!! No child under the age of 18 should be required to wear masks!! Masks cause pneumonia and bacterial infections and long term effects, yet to be determined. TAKE THESE MASKS OFF ALL THE CHILDREN NOW!

Kimberly Wass
Legal Secretary



Durney & Brennan, Ltd.

Reno, NV 89509

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From: Alison Gaulden
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 5:20 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Sex Ed and ELA

Trustees

I ask that you fully support

- The new 6th grade SHARE (sex ed) lesson plans
- The updated ELA K-5 curriculum that includes new multicultural initiatives

While there are groups vehemently against both initiatives and a few of you encouraging their hateful rhetoric, the majority of Nevadans want young people to understand their sexual health, their sexuality and have tools to prepare them as sexual beings when they are adults. Treating sexual health with “just say no”, does not prepare young people to be sexually and mentally healthy adults. I see these young people when they come to college: they are ill-prepared to not make the mistakes of generations-sexual assault happens by “good guys” because they don’t know how to seek consent at every step of sexual activity. Their choices ruin lives-theirs and the young women the assault. It starts with education as early as sixth grade-they must be comfortable about the conversations. I was sexually assaulted at 16-I didn’t have the tools and neither did my perpetrator.

I fully support sex ed curriculum specifically with the inclusion of LGBTQ+ components, as well as multicultural efforts in the district.

Learning about structural racism doesn’t take any pie from the privileged group. But not exposing our young people to the history and different cultures making up our community perpetuates the problems unnecessarily.

It is time to stop the hate and disinformation for the well-being of all students. It’s time we, the adults, stepped up against this hateful and intimidating behavior from the SMALL group in opposition and support these measures.

Alison Gaulden, APR (she, her)
Lecturer, Reynolds School of Journalism

From: g russell
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 5:49 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Racial Justice and LGBTQIA

Hello Washoe County School Board,

I am sitting here with my 10 year old watching the public comments at the current meeting.

I have the privilege of being able to homeschool my child. I am a huge proponent of public education but I want you to think what it was like for my autistic, non binary child to go to school with the children and grandchildren of the bigots speaking to you now. This is why we home school. WCSD needs to protect the students like my kid, as well as BIPOC from these bigots. When you step up and protect my kid, I can consider re-enrolling them. But until then I'll consider you just as dangerous to my child as the bigots before you now.

Thank you,
Georgia Russell

From: Donald Phillips
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 9:59 PM
To: Church, Jeffrey; Minetto, Ellen; Caudill, Andrew B; Thigpen, Kurt L; Taylor, Angela; Calvert, Jacqueline M; Nicolet, Diane M; BoardMembers
Cc: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Education, not indoctrination

Dear,
Washoe County School Board,

For the record, I would like to ask each of you to cease and desist with the indoctrination of our children to your progressive , socialist agenda. This so called curriculum, has been allowed to proceed for far to long, and must stop immediately. Stick to teaching the skills that build character and confidence, along with the basics of history, reading, writing, and math. Then our children will out perform any in the world.

You continue to ask for more money to equal the spend per student of other states, yet we do not have progress in the state ranking. How is success measured? By developing a welfare dependent society? By spending more and gaining less in ranking? Just some things to think about.

Sincerely,

Donald Phillips
A concerned parent, grandparent, and tax payer.