

**MINUTES OF THE JULY 13, 2021
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

July 13, 2021

1. Opening Items

1.01 CALL TO ORDER

The special meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 9:00 a.m. in the Board Room of the Central Administration Building, located at 425 East Ninth Street; Reno, Nevada.

1.02 ROLL CALL

President Angela Taylor and Board Members Jacqueline Calvert, Jeff Church, Ellen Minetto, Diane Nicolet, and Kurt Thigpen were present. Superintendent Kristen McNeill, and staff were also present.

1.03 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chris Reich, Deputy Chief General Counsel, led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

2.01 INTERVIEWS BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES (BOARD) OF THE FOLLOWING LEGALLY-QUALIFIED APPLICANTS TO FILL THE VACANCY ON THE BOARD IN DISTRICT C WHO WERE SELECTED FOR SUCH INTERVIEWS AT THE JULY 6, 2021 SPECIAL MEETING: JOHN GWALTNEY, EDWARD KENDALL, CANDIE LORENZO, SEAN MCCAFFREY, VERITA BLACK PROTHRO, AND JOE RODRIGUEZ; DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPOINT ONE OF THE INTERVIEWED APPLICANTS TO FILL THE VACANCY

President Taylor reviewed the interview process the Board would use for the finalists for the vacancy in District C. Candidates would be provided 30 minutes to provide an opening statement, respond to questions submitted by the Trustees, and provide any closing remarks. The order of the candidates was determined through a random draw.

Joseph "Joe" Rodriguez chose not to provide an opening statement.

Trustee Church asked how the Washoe County School District could improve the quality of education. Mr. Rodriguez noted there would always be room for improvement. One of the areas he was interested in focusing on was ensuring a low student to teacher ratio. It was also important to ensure the social and emotional side of education was provided, including suicide awareness and tolerance.

Trustee Minetto mentioned the District was required to teach social justice. She wondered what a social justice curriculum looked like to Mr. Rodriguez. Mr. Rodriguez indicated since teaching social justice was the law, then the District had to comply. He believed the lessons would be similar to lessons regarding tolerance.

Trustee Thigpen asked how Mr. Rodriguez would work to ensure a safe, positive, accepting, and welcoming environment for the LGBTQ+ and BIPOC youth and staff. Mr. Rodriguez emphasized there should be an awareness in the classrooms that schools were safe places where students were able to express who they were without concern.

Trustee Calvert wondered what in Mr. Rodriguez's past showed that he was willing to listen to different views when making decisions. Mr. Rodriguez spoke about his volunteer experiences and how they had helped him to learn about negotiation and compromise. He felt his prior military experience provided him with opportunities to see and learn about different peoples and cultures.

President Taylor noted the Board had some leadership strengths and gaps. She wondered what Mr. Rodriguez thought the gaps on the Board were and how he would help to fill them. Mr. Rodriguez mentioned he had years of experience working and volunteering in the community. He believed the Board was young in terms of experience and that he would be able to bring his knowledge of compromise and teamwork to the Board.

Trustee Nicolet asked Mr. Rodriguez how Board Policies informed the work of the Trustees. Mr. Rodriguez commented that the Board Policies should provide transparency to the community in how the Board operated. The Policies dictated how the Board responded to situations and were what drove the District forward.

Mr. Rodriguez provided a closing statement, in which he emphasized his ability to work as a team. His years working in civil service had taught him skills in negotiation, reasoning, and compromise that would benefit the Board and District as a whole. He supported the building of new schools to alleviate overcrowding and was interested in focusing on safe schools, increasing teacher salaries, tolerance, and suicide awareness. If selected to represent District C, he promised to begin meeting with the parents and families in the District.

Vertia Black Prothro spoke about her work in the offices of Republican elected officials and how those experiences taught her to listen to different opinions and dissenting views in order to fully develop a product that would impact peoples' lives in meaningful ways. She believed leadership was bringing inspiring passion of an idea to others and bringing a sense of excitement that changed the status quo.

Trustee Church asked how the Washoe County School District could improve the quality of education. Ms. Prothro felt that for the Board to improve the quality of education, the Trustees had to work with the Superintendent and communicate better with the teachers.

Trustee Minetto mentioned the District was required to teach social justice. She wondered what a social justice curriculum looked like to Ms. Prothro. Ms. Prothro indicated it was important for educators to teach and talk about difficult topics in American history, such as Japanese internment camps during WWII and the work of Caesar Chavez for Hispanic farm workers. A strong history program would provide students with information on what made the country great, as well as the ugly side of history that had to occur to ensure all people in the United States were represented equally.

Trustee Thigpen asked how Ms. Prothro would work to ensure a safe, positive, accepting, and welcoming environment for the LGBTQ+ and BIPOC youth and staff. Ms. Prothro stated teachers had to foster an environment that was healthy and welcoming for all students and put a stop to any language that was not welcoming in their classrooms.

President Taylor noted the Board had some leadership strengths and gaps. She wondered what Ms. Prothro thought the gaps on the Board were and how she would help to fill them. Ms. Prothro remarked that she would be interested in working to improve the communication gap between the Board and the community. She would like to see the students and parents provided opportunities to talk about all the good that was happening in the District, instead of hearing a focus on the bad.

Trustee Calvert wondered what in Ms. Prothro's past showed that she was willing to listen to different views when making decisions. Ms. Prothro reiterated her work in the offices of elected officials who were of a different political view than herself. She was proud of how she learned to listen to different viewpoints, even when some were angry and hostile.

Trustee Nicolet asked Ms. Prothro how Board Policies informed the work of the Trustees. Ms. Prothro indicated the Board Policies were the blueprints of how the Board should work together and with the Superintendent.

Ms. Prothro provided a closing statement. She spoke of the importance of teachers and education during the pandemic and how she was interested in making the District a better place for students, staff, families, and the community.

Sean McCaffrey introduced himself to the Board and community. He believed education was important to the community and that he had spoken with former Trustee Andrew Caudill on the needs of District C prior to his leaving the position.

Trustee Church asked how the Washoe County School District could improve the quality of education. Mr. McCaffrey spoke of the challenges of teaching during the pandemic and that there had to be a willingness by the District to address the learning gaps to make up for lost time. He mentioned that prior to COVID, the District still had a lot of work to do to improve the college and career readiness of graduates and align the needs of higher education and business to what was occurring in the District.

Trustee Minetto mentioned the District was required to teach social justice. She wondered what a social justice curriculum looked like to Mr. McCaffrey. Mr. McCaffrey indicated he would like to see a task force created to help the District meet the requirements of the state, while at the same time avoiding divisiveness.

Trustee Thigpen asked how Mr. McCaffrey would work to ensure a safe, positive, accepting, and welcoming environment for the LGBTQ+ and BIPOC youth and staff. Mr. McCaffrey felt every student had to have an opportunity to feel safe so they could learn and succeed.

President Taylor noted the Board had some leadership strengths and gaps. She wondered what Mr. McCaffrey thought the gaps on the Board were and how he would help to fill them. Mr. McCaffrey explained he would bring a parental lens to the Board that would add a different perspective to the decision-making process, as well as adding another voice of reason.

Trustee Calvert wondered what in Mr. McCaffrey's past showed that he was willing to listen to different views when making decisions. Mr. McCaffrey mentioned he had been able to speak with the principals in the elementary and middle schools in District C. He felt it was important for the Trustees to ensure alignment between what was occurring in the schools and gather community support. He spoke about his interest in hearing from stakeholders and his skills with relationship building and collaboration.

Trustee Nicolet asked Mr. McCaffrey how Board Policies informed the work of the Trustees. Mr. McCaffrey responded that it was important for the Trustees to determine the gaps in the policies and then work together to fill them because the policies direction the actions and drove the decision-making process.

Mr. McCaffrey provided a closing statement. If selected to fill the vacancy, he hoped to make positive changes in the District and community.

President Taylor recessed the meeting for 10 minutes.

Candie Lorenzo spoke of her coaching and mentoring of students in the District. She had previously worked in the non-profit community and had learned the importance of collaboration and willingness to listen to the viewpoints of others, especially if they were different from your own.

Trustee Church asked how the Washoe County School District could improve the quality of education. Ms. Lorenzo felt it was important for the District to ensure challenges related to school zoning, start times, and graduation rates were addressed, which would begin to improve the quality of education. It would also be important to focus on social and emotional skills and the barriers some students faced to education, such as access to technology. She would like to see improvements made to the clubs and sports in schools since those activities helped keep students in school. She was interested in seeing the Trustees spend more time meeting and talking with students.

Trustee Minetto mentioned the District was required to teach social justice. She wondered what a social justice curriculum looked like to Ms. Lorenzo. Ms. Lorenzo noted since the law required the teaching of social justice, it was incumbent on the District to be transparent with the curriculum and allow parents the opportunity to review, as well as provide input.

Trustee Thigpen asked how Ms. Lorenzo would work to ensure a safe, positive, accepting, and welcoming environment for the LGBTQ+ and BIPOC youth and staff. Ms. Lorenzo stated people should be treated like people and the job of educators was to provide opportunities for continued learning and growth. She also believed providing students the chance to get to know one another through various school groups and clubs would help combat ignorance.

President Taylor noted the Board had some leadership strengths and gaps. She wondered what Ms. Lorenzo thought the gaps on the Board were and how she would help to fill them. Ms. Lorenzo mentioned she would bring a diversity of thought and a passion for students in the District. She would also bring her experience in Human Resources and policy making skills if selected to serve.

Trustee Calvert wondered what in Ms. Lorenzo's past showed that she was willing to listen to different views when making decisions. Ms. Lorenzo remarked it was important to work with subject matter experts to create the best plans and programs to move forward.

Trustee Nicolet asked Ms. Lorenzo how Board Policies informed the work of the Trustees. Ms. Lorenzo commented the Board Policies should be a guideline and provide direction on procedures that should be followed to ensure proper communication and integrity.

Ms. Lorenzo provided a closing statement and spoke of her qualifications to serve on the Board of Trustees and thanked the community for the support they had shown.

Ed Kendall was a retired member of the Washoe County School District Police Department. He spoke of his experience as president of the Washoe School Police Officers Association and his skills in negotiations.

Trustee Church asked how the Washoe County School District could improve the quality of education. Mr. Kendall stated the Trustees had to ensure both Nevada Revised Statutes and Nevada Administrative Codes were followed. The District should also work to ensure the most qualified persons were hired and retained as teachers and in all other positions that interacted directly with students, such as bus drivers, substitute teachers, and aides and assistants.

Trustee Minetto mentioned the District was required to teach social justice. She wondered what a social justice curriculum looked like to Mr. Kendall. Mr. Kendall mentioned it was important for teachers not to provide their opinions on social justice, but to teach the basics early on and continue to build upon what the students had learned the previous year.

Trustee Thigpen asked how Mr. Kendall would work to ensure a safe, positive, accepting, and welcoming environment for the LGBTQ+ and BIPOC youth and staff. Mr. Kendall noted all students and staff should have a safe and welcoming environment to work and learn. He believed that could be accomplished by teaching that people were people.

President Taylor noted the Board had some leadership strengths and gaps. She wondered what Mr. Kendall thought the gaps on the Board were and how he would help to fill them. Mr. Kendall believed it would be important for anyone who filled the vacancy to ensure the legacy of former Trustee Andrew Caudill and work to continue to move the Board and District forward through meaningful discussions. He did not believe it was important for everyone to agree all the time, but to be respectful and willing to compromise and collaborate.

Trustee Calvert wondered what in Mr. Kendall's past showed that he was willing to listen to different views when making decisions. Mr. Kendall spoke of his experience serving as a School Police Officer. He would always try to teach everyone with respect,

no matter their mood, and was able to show students he cared through finding common ground and building rapport.

Trustee Nicolet asked Mr. Kendall how Board Policies informed the work of the Trustees. Mr. Kendall mentioned the Board Policies provided guidance on how the Board operated.

Mr. Kendall provided a closing statement, in which he spoke of his experience in the District and readiness to fill the position on day one.

Dr. John Gwaltney spoke of his strong commitment to education and his history of serving on various education boards in the past. He would like to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Board and help bridge the gaps in education emphasized by the pandemic.

Trustee Church asked how the Washoe County School District could improve the quality of education. Dr. Gwaltney felt it was important for the District to provide more opportunities and experiences for students who were not college bound. He would also like to see the schools become more diverse in their staffing to reflect the community and more amenable to cultural discussions.

Trustee Minetto mentioned the District was required to teach social justice. She wondered what a social justice curriculum looked like to Dr. Gwaltney. Dr. Gwaltney remarked that he did not have a definitive answer at the present time; however, social justice was a subject that needed to be explored and developed. It was important for the Board to stay out of whatever the current politics were in the community because that was of no benefit to the students.

Trustee Thigpen asked how Dr. Gwaltney would work to ensure a safe, positive, accepting, and welcoming environment for the LGBTQ+ and BIPOC youth and staff. Dr. Gwaltney stated the safety of the students and staff was the first priority and someone's lifestyle should never be judged. He added that discussions about what was occurring in society did need to occur in the schools so students were prepared and able to treat everyone with respect.

President Taylor noted the Board had some leadership strengths and gaps. She wondered what Dr. Gwaltney thought the gaps on the Board were and how he would help to fill them. Dr. Gwaltney indicated he would be interested in focusing on having open and honest debates, while respecting everyone's opinion.

Trustee Calvert wondered what in Dr. Gwaltney's past showed that he was willing to listen to different views when making decisions. Dr. Gwaltney cited his work with the

State Board of Education. It was important to listen to those who disagreed with you because it allowed for an opportunity to think about a topic in a different way.

Trustee Nicolet asked Dr. Gwaltney how Board Policies informed the work of the Trustees. Dr. Gwaltney commented that he would need to learn more about Board Policies since they were critical to making good decisions.

Dr. Gwaltney did not provide a closing statement.

President Taylor recessed the meeting for 10 minutes.

President Taylor opened the meeting to public comment.

Valerie Fiannaca spoke in support of Mr. Rodriguez because of his interest in working with the community.

Pablo Nava Duran spoke in support of Ms. Lorenzo because of her prior work in customer service, which required the ability to listen and work as a team.

John Eppolito urged the Board not to select any candidate who was an advocate because that would show the community the Board was only interested in a having a certain political perspective dominate the discussions.

Shannon Coley expressed concern over Ms. Prothro and believed she would encourage the teaching of Critical Race Theory in the schools.

Chris McAvoy wondered why the District was required to teach social justice and was concerned about how that became the law.

Chip Evans spoke in support of Ms. Prothro.

The Board received emails from the following members of the community:

- Eric Curtis
- Sean McCaffrey
- Robert Chisel
- Maria Flores
- Candelaria Alvarez
- Robyn Noble
- Frank Perez
- Richard Nachtsheim
- Melanie Scott and John Hervey
- Noemi Martinez
- Gregory Reed

Marika Moore

John Winters

The Board conducted a discussion on their top preferences and ranked their top three candidates.

The individual Trustee rankings were as follows:

Trustee Calvert

Joe Rodriguez – 3

Verita Black Prothro – 2

Ed Kendall – 1

Trustee Church

Sean McCaffrey – 3

John Gwaltney – 2

Joe Rodriguez – 1

Trustee Minetto

Sean McCaffrey – 3

Ed Kendall – 2

Joe Rodriguez – 1

Trustee Nicolet

John Gwaltney – 3

Sean McCaffrey – 2

Candie Lorenzo – 1

President Taylor

Joe Rodriguez – 3

John Gwaltney – 2

Vertia Black Prothro – 1

Trustee Thigpen

John Gwaltney – 3

Joe Rodriguez – 2

Candie Lorenzo – 1

The totals were as follows:

John Gwaltney – 10

Joe Rodriguez – 10

Sean McCaffrey – 8

Vertia Black Prothro – 3

Ed Kendall – 3

Candie Lorenzo – 2

Since the top two candidates were tied, the Board conducted a second round of voting with just the top two candidates.

It was moved by Trustee Thigpen and seconded by Trustee Minetto that **the Board of Trustees conducts a second round of rank voting with the top 2 candidates who received the greatest total from the first round of rank voting: John Gwaltney and Joe Rodriguez.** The result of the vote was 5-1: (Yea: Jacqueline Calvert, Ellen Minetto, Diane Nicolet, Angela Taylor, and Kurt Thigpen. Nay: Jeff Church.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

The individual Trustee rankings for the second round were as follows:

Trustee Calvert

Joe Rodriguez – 2

John Gwaltney – 1

Trustee Church

John Gwaltney – 2

Joe Rodriguez – 1

Trustee Minetto

Joe Rodriguez – 2

John Gwaltney – 1

Trustee Nicolet

John Gwaltney – 2

Joe Rodriguez – 1

President Taylor

Joe Rodriguez – 2

John Gwaltney – 1

Trustee Thigpen

Joe Rodriguez – 2

John Gwaltney – 1

The totals were as follows:

Joe Rodriguez – 10

John Gwaltney – 8

It was moved by Trustee Thigpen and seconded by Trustee Calvert that **pursuant to Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 386.270, the Board of Trustees appoints Joe**

Rodriguez to fill the vacancy on the Board of Trustees in District C to serve in the position until January 2, 2023 at midnight.. The result of the vote was Unanimous: (Yea: Jacqueline Calvert, Jeff Church, Ellen Minetto, Diane Nicolet, Angela Taylor, and Kurt Thigpen.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

President Taylor issued the Oath of Office to Joe Rodriguez and he was seated as the Trustee representing District C.

3. Closing Items

3.01 PUBLIC COMMENT

John Eppolito, Protect Nevada Children, expressed concern over the contents and amount of information stored on students by Infinite Campus.

Shannon Coley spoke against the teaching of social justice in the schools.

The Board received emails from the following members of the community:

Pablo Nava Duran

Laurie Newman

3.02 ADJOURN MEETING

There being no further business to come before the members of the Board, President Taylor declared the meeting adjourned at 1:24 p.m.

Angela D. Taylor, President

Ellen Minetto, Clerk

From: Eric Curtis
Sent: Wednesday, July 7, 2021 9:04 PM
To: Batchelder, Jennifer; Public Comments
Cc: eric Curtis
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Consideration of Candie Lorenzo for the vacant trustee position

Dear Honorable Trustees,

I am a parent of multiple students within the Washoe County School District in the North Valleys area. As many parents I know in this school district, I have been very disappointed in how the past two years have been handled which has resulted in my children losing two years of education. This will put a strain on the American Dream and lifestyle. I believe there needs to be positive change and it is my understanding that Candie Lorenzo is up for consideration for the vacant Trustee position.

I have known Mrs. Lorenzo since 2008 when I started coaching her daughter in the North Valleys AYSO soccer league. She was an asset as a parent and assisted with multiple facets of the league which she still continues to contribute to at this time in a leadership role.

During the time I have known her over the last 13 years, I have come to know her professionally in her role of management at Kohl's and then her role within the city of Reno as she is involved in the Human Resources department. She is a very ambitious and truthful person who worked her way through her schooling while raising her family of three children who also attend school in the Washoe County School District. She also continues to contribute to her community in leadership roles with youth sports.

Mrs. Lorenzo would provide a fresh and extremely important perspective as well as her ethics and integrity to help build a positive path in the development of our children in this school district.

Please, evaluate this responsibly for the sake of our communities children and appoint Mrs. Candie Lorenzo to the vacant Board of Trustees Position. I know if she is appointed she will work diligently for the betterment of our children which they truly need after the last two years.

Thanks you for your time.

Eric Curtis
Washoe County School District Parent
Local Law Enforcement Officer

From: Sean McCaffrey
Sent: Friday, July 9, 2021 10:32 AM
To: BoardMembers; Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Stating my position on equality

Good morning, WCSD Board of Trustees!

I am compelled to refute derogatory and untrue statements regarding my position on equity and equality. In January of this year, I shared this Wall Street Journal opinion piece on my personal Facebook page: <https://www.wsj.com/articles/joe-bidens-first-day-began-the-end-of-girls-sports-11611341066>, which has caused some groups to openly label me various things.

You have a major decision to make next week and I thought it prudent to clearly state my position so you can make an informed decision.

I believe in the celebration of merit through fair achievement. I believe in equity, which is to say that every student have equal access to available opportunities. I believe in equality, which is to say that every student be treated equally and fairly. I also believe that equality is not a zero sum game. You cannot have equality at the expense of someone else. We are seeing changes around this country allowing unfair competition. When a young man participating in track and field doesn't perform well against his peers and then decides to compete against female athletes because he identifies that way, that creates an unfair advantage and I absolutely believe this is wrong and a disservice to the female athletes who have sacrificed and worked hard to compete at their best level. I stand up for Title IX and equal access to sports activities for both men and women student athletes.

We are getting into new territory with athletes identifying as other genders. As a species, we're continuing to evolve. Our social mores and attitudes of acceptance have to evolve too, which I appreciate. I look forward to the dialogue. I look forward to finding an equitable solution so all student athletes have an opportunity to compete. It just has to be fair and on a level playing field.

Thank you,

Sean McCaffrey
Candidate for District C

Robert Chisel

Reno, Nevada 89511

July 10, 2021

Board of Trustees
Washoe County School District
425 East Ninth Street
Reno, Nevada 89512

Dear School Board Members:

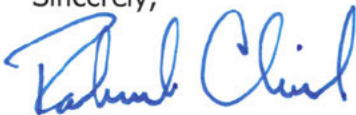
I am writing to express my support for the appointment of Candie Lorenzo to the vacancy on the Board for District C.

During my tenure as the Director of Finance and Administration for the City of Reno, I had the pleasure of being her manager and working with her at the City. I was highly impressed with her initiative and dedication to complete her Bachelor of Science Business Degree and Master of Science Degree while working and volunteering in her community. As a mother with one recent graduate from WCSD and one still in public school, bringing that perspective puts her ahead of other candidates.

I found Ms. Lorenzo to be a very intelligent, diligent, and self-motivated individual whom I believe will bring considerable knowledge and experience to the Board. Ms. Lorenzo has an open and active mind, and she keeps herself well informed on the many issues that face our region and our schools.

Overall, Ms. Lorenzo is a very intelligent and conscientious team member. Without reservation, I give my highest recommendations for Candie Lorenzo.

Sincerely,



Robert Chisel

July 10, 2021

Honorable Trustees
Washoe County School District
publiccomments@washoeschools.net
425 E. Ninth St
Reno, NV 89512

Dear Honorable Trustees,

My name is Maria Flores and I am reaching out to you in support of Mrs. Candie Lorenzo for the position of Washoe County School Board of Trustees for District C. I have known Candie for the last 15 years as she has been a close family friend. In this time, she has evolved in her career from working in retail at Kohl's, to working her way into upper management at Kohl's, later Scheels, and deciding to go back to school all while raising 2 and later 3 kids. Her career in retail gave her the skills and experience that led her to her job with the City of Reno. Her continuous push for learning and growth is contagious and inspiring.

I remember during my senior year of high school, when I was starting to look into colleges and scholarships, she went above and beyond to help me with searching for Hispanic/Latino specific scholarships. She helped me with my applications to different colleges, stepping in to help me navigate a world that I was unfamiliar with. Being the first in my family to have graduated from high school and the first one to be going to college, my parents were more than proud and supportive, but they did not know nor understand what they needed to do to help me as they had never gone this far with their education and being native Spanish speakers. Candie has always been a great mentor to me and my family. Always stepping in and helping where she can, especially with my parents and being able to translate and interpret for them

To this day, Candie continues to be a mentor in my life. She has helped me build my resume and guided me with interview practices as I also climbed the retail management ladder at my previous job. When an Office Assistant II position opened up with the City of Reno, she suggested I apply saying I fit all of the requirements and thought it would be a great career change for me. During this time she was finishing up her Master's degree and encouraging me to look into different programs for continuing my education. Candie has been a great mentor in my life and I wouldn't have gotten my job promotions and my current job without her help and encouragement. I know she will be a great fit for the position of Washoe County School Board of Trustees for District C and an asset in bringing in more of the Hispanic/Latino community's involvement with her bilingual skills. Her insight into the needs and concerns of the Hispanic/Latino community and her ability to communicate with them and for them will offer a voice and representation for this growing community.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter,

Maria J. Flores

11 Julio 2021

Honorable Trustees Washoe County School District

publiccomments@washoeschools.net

425 E. Ninth St

Reno, NV 89512

Hola,

Mi nombre es Candelaria Álvarez y soy amiga de Candie Lorenzo. Nosotros nos conocemos desde que éramos vecinos en la vecindad de la calle Neil Road. Las dos tuvimos hijos alrededor del mismo tiempo y ellos crecieron juntos. Candie siempre se ha esforzado para salir adelante por ella y sus hijos. Ella se ha involucrado mucho en las escuelas de sus hijos en la comunidad. Ella nos ha ayudado mucho en la traducción e interpretación de cosas que pasan con el distrito escolar cuando no hay opciones en español o traductores en español. La falta de traductores en las escuelas y en las juntas que el distrito y las escuelas ponen es muy importante para que los padres de la comunidad latina puedan estar más involucrados. Muchas veces vamos a estas juntas y no hay traductor para podernos comunicar y saber lo que está pasando. Candie se ha hecho disponible varias veces para acompañarnos y traducir por nosotros cuando son cosas importantes que queremos que nuestras voces escuchen. Tener representación en este comité del condado es muy importante para la comunidad hispana y más cuando la representación se puede comunicar con nosotros en nuestro propio lenguaje. Yo creo que Candie Lorenzo sería la perfecta candidata para esta posición.

Para personas como yo, que venimos a este país para tratar de darles mejor vida a nuestros hijos y queremos estar más involucrados en los estudios y en las vidas de nuestros hijos es importante podernos comunicar y saber lo que está pasando. Teniendo más representación para esta comunidad que es una gran parte de varias escuelas, sería el cambio que necesitamos para mejorar la relación que los padres tienen con el distrito escolar. Teniendo a alguien que nos pueda comunicar y representar lo que nosotros queremos para nuestros hijos sería muy importante para la comunidad entera.

Candie Lorenzo tiene mucha experiencia y mucho amor para su comunidad. Como madre de tres hijos que van a las escuelas del condado de Washoe, ella sabe lo importante que es tener los padres de la comunidad latina involucrados en las vidas y en las escuelas de sus hijos. Yo sé con todo el trabajo y el empeño que Candie hace en su vida profesional que ella va a trabajar y luchar por lo que es mejor para la comunidad.

Gracias,

Candelaria Álvarez

July 11, 2021

Honorable Trustees Washoe County School District

publiccomments@washoeschools.net

425 E. Ninth St

Reno, NV 89512

Hi,

My name is Candelaria Álvarez and I am a friend of Candie Lorenzo. We have known each other since we were neighbors in the Neil Road neighborhood. We both had kids around the same time, and they grew up together. Candie has always strived to get ahead for herself and her children. She has been very much involved at her children's schools and in the community. She has helped us out a lot in translating and interpreting things that happen with the School District when there are no options in Spanish or Spanish translators. The lack of translators in the schools and in the meetings that the district and the schools put together is very important so that the parents of the Latino community can be more involved. A lot of the times we attend these meetings and there are no interpreters for us to be able to communicate and know what is going on. Candie has made herself available several times to accompany us and translate for us when it is important things that we want our voices to be heard. Having representation on this county committee is very important to the Hispanic community and even more so when the representation can communicate with us in our own language. I think Candie Lorenzo would be the perfect candidate for this position.

For people like me, who come to this country to try to give our children a better life and we want to be more involved in the Studies and in the lives of our children, it is important to be able to communicate and know what is happening. Having more representation for this community that is a large part of various schools would be the change we need to improve the relationship that parents have with the school district. Having someone who can communicate to us and represent what we want for our children would be very important for the entire community.

Candie Lorenzo has a lot of experience and a lot of love for her community. As a mother of three children that attend schools in Washoe County, she knows how important it is to have parents from the Latino community involved in the lives and schools of their children. I know with all the work and commitment that Candie does in her professional life that she is going to work and fight for what is best for the community.

Thank you,

Candelaria Álvarez

From
Robyn Noble

Reno, NV 89506

Dear Honorable Trustees,

My name is Robyn Noble. I am the parent of a Washoe County School district fifth grade student. I am currently the secretary for the Silver Lake Elementary PTO and have been a member for the last three years. I am also the assistant cub master for cub scout pack 88 and the Nevada Area Council popcorn fundraising commissioner for the Zephyr district. It is my pleasure to write a letter in support of Candie Lorenzo being added to the Washoe County School Board of Trustees.

I met Candie Lorenzo through cub scouts and she has become a very dear friend of mine. When we met, I was in charge of organizing the pack's main fundraiser and was looking for volunteers to help me. She offered her time and assistance whenever I needed it and it was through these experiences that I came to know her as someone I could count on in a time of need. Her leadership skills are apparent in her everyday actions, and so when it came time to sign my son up for soccer, I joined her in the American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO) and requested that she be his coach. It was there that I saw her true dedication and selflessness shine through. Midway through my first season with her, a couple of coaches were unable to complete their obligations to the league, leaving several teams without a coach. Instead of issuing an apology and a refund, Candie stepped in and started coaching those teams herself in addition to the two teams she was already in charge of, taking on a total of *six teams* for the league until the season was over. She gave up her time willingly and without complaint to make sure those children got the experience that they deserved. Her ability to work efficiently and effectively under stressful conditions speaks volumes about her work ethic, determination, and her composed demeanor.

Candie has a master's degree in management and leadership. She uses these learned skills in both her professional and personal relationships and earns the respect of those around her by being both personable and dependable. I have had the pleasure of speaking to several of Candie's co-workers and have seen firsthand the great working relationships she has with these professionals.

I believe that Candie would be an asset to any organization. Her approachability, tenacity, reliability, and passion would make her a wonderful addition to the Washoe County School Board of Trustees. I strongly recommend Candie Lorenzo for this position. I am available for further comment if desired.

Thank you for your time,

Robyn Noble

July 12, 2021

Honorable Trustees
Washoe County School District
publiccomments@washoeschools.net
425 E. Ninth St.
Reno NV 89512

My name is Frank Perez, I write this letter in support of potential school trustee Candie Lorenzo. I have known Mrs. Lorenzo in a professional capacity since 2017. I know she is a person who will bring a much-needed voice to school board. She is the parent of 2 school-aged children that attend local schools in District C. She holds a master's degree in Management and Leadership and works in a career that is related to human resources and personnel. These are strong skill sets that would greatly benefit the school district.

Additionally, she is involved in the community through youth athletics, mentorship, church, and service-based organizations. We need these types of persons who are rooted in the community in these types of roles.

Mrs. Lorenzo is proudly supported by leaders across our community as you may have noted in the letter that sent for the previous special meeting. I personally know that there is a great need to have a trustee who can communicate with the Spanish-speaking parents in our community. We have an incredible opportunity here to fill a much-needed void. There should be a bridge between the trustees and that community.

I understand that the board will make the decision that they feel will fulfill the board's needs. I hope that person is Candie Lorenzo.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Frank Perez

July 12, 2021

Honorable Trustees
Washoe County School District
publiccomments@washoeschools.net
425 E. Ninth Street
Reno, NV 89512

Dear Honorable Trustees,

It is my privilege to strongly recommend Candie Lorenzo for the position of Washoe County School Board Trustee for District C.

I am Richard Nachtsheim, a former Safety and Training Division Chief for the Reno Fire Department. Among my former duties was administration of entry level firefighters. I started working with Ms. Lorenzo during the hiring process for firefighters, and we subsequently collaborated on many other projects involving hiring firefighters and promotional examinations for the Reno Fire Department and other departments within the City.

Ms. Lorenzo's organizational skills stood out, as she was able to take processes with many independently moving parts and oversee and coordinate the overall effort and resources so that tests and exams proceeded smoothly and efficiently. Ms. Lorenzo worked with me to continuously evaluate our testing process and to make sure it was meeting the City's goals, including diversity, and when areas of improvement were identified she used her expertise to integrate new methods into the process that would help improve the outcomes. I also learned from newly hired firefighters that Ms. Lorenzo was responsive and attentive to their queries. This ability to respectfully consider the viewpoints of those she served would be very meaningful as a School District Trustee.

Ms. Lorenzo was also the catalyst for Reno Fire Department outreach to the community in the north valleys, including interactions between fire crews and the local soccer league and scouting, providing an opportunity to demonstrate to children who might not ordinarily consider a career as a firefighter that a career as a public servant was available to all.

Ms. Lorenzo's work with groups with disparate interests and outlooks on these projects was highlighted by her ability to work harmoniously with diverse stakeholders, stay on mission, and accomplish goals.

Having spent five years as the Chief of Training for the Reno Fire Department, working side by side with Ms. Lorenzo, I find that her strengths as a positive team builder, her efficient and hardworking manner, strong organizational skill set, and especially, her ties to the community would make Candie Lorenzo a perfect fit as a School Board Trustee for Washoe County.

If more information is desired, I would be happy to provide it.

Sincerely,

Richard Nachtsheim

Richard Nachtsheim

From: Pablo Nava Duran
Sent: Monday, July 12, 2021 12:10 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] 1:1 device school

Dear Board Members,

I want to inform you that one to one device schools can have positive impact of students who likely to knowledge or technology and be ready for the real world. One to one schools device is necessary to have digital learning since most workplace has be shifting more technology. Having digital learning will likely to get better grade and better knowledge in the real than traditional schools. Desert Skies, Sky Ranch, Traner, Vaughn, and Marce Herz MS are one to one schools.

My sister will going to Pine MS beginning next month and Pine MS is not a one to one device school and I will thinking about buying laptop to my sister. My question is, what type of laptop they using?

In conclusion, teaching digital learning is important and necessary because workplace are changing and my sister need to be self proficient on learning technology and prepare for the real world.

Sincerely,

Pablo Nava Duran

From: Melanie Scott
Sent: Monday, July 12, 2021 7:07 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] District C candidates

Greetings WCSD Board Members,

We are registered voters in District E. Please select the candidates that support the teaching of social justice principles and certain inconvenient historical truths in the K-12 curriculum. Students need to be taught different perspectives in order to make informed decisions.

Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie Scott
John Hervey

Reno, NV 89503

From: Laurie Newman
Sent: Monday, July 12, 2021 8:17 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] General Public Comment WCSD Mask Policy

Dear Washoe County School District School Board,

I am writing to ask that the district mask policy be revisited before the start of school this August. The CDC is stating that "masks should be worn indoors by all individuals (age 2 and older) who are not fully vaccinated. Consistent and correct mask use by people who are not fully vaccinated is particularly important indoors and in crowded settings, when physical distancing cannot be maintained." School is both indoors and crowded. Last year on a hybrid schedule, the students were more spread out. That will not be the case this year as both middle and high school return to a full in person model. I know that in Nevada as per Governor Sisolak that masks for ages 9 and under are only "recommended"; however, it was also stated that entities may abide by rules that are more stringent than that given by the state. The Delta variant is more transmissible and affects much younger people. Furthermore, just yesterday, RGJ stated that only 19% of 12-15 year olds and 34% of 16-19 year olds in Washoe County are fully vaccinated according to the Washoe County Health District. Children under the age of 12 are not even eligible to receive a vaccine. This leaves a whopping 66-100% of students fully unprotected from Covid-19. Because it's highly unlikely that a homeroom teacher (yet a teacher with many classes and students) would be able to remember who is or is not vaccinated (and therefore who would or wouldn't need to wear a mask), I would advocate that ALL students and staff continue mask wearing. Masks have been proven to reduce the risk of contracting Covid-19. Other countries realize this and are advocating for mask wearing for all citizens, not just those that are unvaccinated. It is negligent to drop a mask mandate when the risk of Covid-19 is still so real, especially in a largely unvaccinated population. Thank you for your time and I hope you will consider my recommendation. I have attached the CDC guidelines as per an article published in NPR just this week for your consideration as well.

<https://www.npr.org/sections/goatsandsoda/2021/07/09/1014543918/coronavirus-faq-whats-the-latest-advice-to-protect-kids-in-school-and-on-vacatio>

Sincerely,
Laurie Newman

From: Noemi Gomez Martinez
Sent: Monday, July 12, 2021 9:14 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Candie Lorenzo

Hello,

My name is Noemi Gomez Martinez and I am writing to express my sincere support to Mrs. Candie Lorenzo for the vacant position for a school board member. With her endless support and contributions to our community and our underrepresented population, I have no doubt that Mrs. Lorenzo will be a strong member and truly represent our community with dignity and pride.

Many thanks,

Noemi Gomez Martinez

From:
Sent: Tuesday, July 13, 2021 1:21 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Washoe County School Board Meeting

Folks,

I hereby enter the following for consideration of Board appointees:

We are seeing a rise nationwide in anti-Democratic actions by an extreme political faction that is determined to corrupt and even overthrow our government and our elections, based upon repeated lies by those who seek to destroy our country and our treasured institutions like public education.

The order has now been sent out for these supporters of Insurrection and Seditious to fan out around the nation to corrupt our school boards and educational systems for the purposes of whitewashing history, silencing truth about racial and ethnic issues, and to even burn books which these racists and extremists don't like and don't want students reading or consider through critical thinking and analysis.

This is the move toward mass indoctrination that is being pushed by the radical Trump-RINO Party.

Now they are infiltrating and corrupting our local school boards.

These are the same people worshipping at the altar of lies of the Former Oval Executive Donald Trump. Their living in denial of reality and truth is an illustration of their less than sincere intentions, reduced mental acuity, and heavily decimated critical thinking capacity. Some might say there's some mental illness attached to such denialism of reality and truth.

Anyone infected by such a mental affliction who is aspiring to Washoe County Schools administration or oversight, or any institution dealing with our community's students, should be automatically disqualified from consideration for service because they are not engaged in the quest for bettering the students of Washoe County or for educating them.

They are engaged in an agenda of self-promotion to power, force their narrow, hate-filled ideologies upon the institutions of education for their own purposes of extreme indoctrination and denialism of truth and reality as regards history and current human environments.

Please bear this in mind during your thoughtful considerations.

Thank you.

Gregory Reed

Sparks, NV 89431

From: Marika Moore
Sent: Tuesday, July 13, 2021 6:07 AM
To: Board Policy Committee; Public Comments; McNeill, Kristen; hchlarrison@lcb.state.nv.us; BoardMembers; Admin Generic Mailbox; Church, Jeffrey; Minetto, Ellen; Taylor, Angela; Calvert, Jacqueline M; dnicole@washoeschools.net
Subject: [EXTERNAL] My choice for WCSD Board Members

Good morning everyone,

Thank you again for all of your service.

I have researched candidates and my family will be directly impacted by your choice as we have two young children in District C.

I strongly oppose the hateful, ignorant and immature tactics of Verita Prothro and Candie Lorenzo. I hope to continue to send my children to public school but I am going to a workshop to homeschool my children and will pull them if either of those candidates are chosen. In addition, I will pull them and support the class action lawsuit with seemingly thousands of others if they are forced to wear masks. Ms. Prothro and Ms. Lorenzo should be reprimanded instead. I have seen the evidence of their fake promotion of social justice. They are full of documented racist and hateful remarks.

I fully support the integrity, background and capability of Sean McCaffrey. I sincerely hope you choose him as he will bring a strong supportive presence to our community and the Board.

--

Marika Moore
Owner, Moore Than Locks

Your local locksmith and more

From: John Winters
Sent: Tuesday, July 13, 2021 9:32 AM
To: Public Comments; BoardMembers
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Interview Question Regarding Employment

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

From: **John Winters**
Date: Tue, Jul 13, 2021 at 9:23 AM
Subject: Interview Question Regarding Employment
To: Taylor, Angela <ATaylor@washoeschools.net>, McNeill, Kristen <kmcneill@washoeschools.net>, Calvert, Jacqueline M <jacqueline.calvert@washoeschools.net>, Nicolet, Diane M <DNicolet@washoeschools.net>, Minetto, Ellen <EMinetto@washoeschools.net>, Church, Jeffrey <Jeffrey.Church@washoeschools.net>, Thigpen, Kurt L <Kurt.Thigpen@washoeschools.net>

Hello,

I have tried to find information on Ms. Verita Black regarding her current employment. I have heard that she is a Social Justice consultant for various organizations/businesses. I believe the other applicants have disclosed their employment. Can you please ask her this question during the interviews? The degree in which she is involved in this work will impact her opinions regarding the degree of implementing and supporting CRT/Social Justice in our District which is a concern for many citizens.

Thank you very much!

Respectfully,
JW