

**MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 14, 2021
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

September 14, 2021

1. Opening Items

1.01 CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 2:09 p.m. in the Board Room of the Central Administration Building, located at 425 East Ninth Street in Reno, Nevada.

1.02 ROLL CALL

President Angela Taylor and Board Members Jeff Church, Ellen Minetto, Diane Nicolet, Joe Rodriguez, and Beth Smith were present. Superintendent Kristen McNeill, Student Representative Ivy Batmale, and staff were also present.

1.03 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ivy Batmale led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Consent Agenda Items

Trustee Church requested Consent Agenda Items 2.04, 2.05, 2.17, 2.19, and 2.20 be pulled for additional discussion.

President Taylor opened the meeting to public comment.

Roger Edwards expressed concern about Consent Agenda Item 2.06 and the donation made by Intuit. He wondered what attachments were made to the \$100,000 donation.

John Eppolito spoke to Consent Agenda Item 2.18 and the recent arrest of a counselor on suspicion of child pornography. He did not believe the Board was taking such personnel matters seriously because the issues were not discussed during Board meetings.

Bev Stenjem remarked that the Board should not approve any minutes from meetings where former Trustee Jacqueline Calvert was present because she was not living in the electoral district she was supposed to represent. She felt President Taylor and Chief

General Counsel Neil Rombardo should resign because she believed they were aware of the issue at least a month prior..

James Benthin agreed with Ms. Stenjem that the minutes should not be approved.

Dr. Fred Simon agreed with Ms. Stenjem regarding the minutes. He stated he would be filing a formal ethics complaint with the Las Vegas Bar based on the issue of former Trustee Calvert's residence because he believed both President Taylor and Chief General Counsel Neil Rombardo knew where she lived.

Shannon Coley agreed with the prior comments. She requested someone in the District look into if any of former Trustee Calvert's votes were legal, especially related to the appointment of Trustee Rodriguez.

It was moved by Trustee Minetto and seconded by Trustee Smith that **the Board of Trustees approves Consent Agenda Items 2.02 through 2.03, 2.06 through 2.16, and 2.18.** The result of the vote was Unanimous: (Yea: Jeff Church, Ellen Minetto, Diane Nicolet, Joe Rodriguez, Beth Smith, and Angela Taylor.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

- 2.02 The Board of Trustees approved the minutes of the April 13, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees.
- 2.03 The Board of Trustees approved the minutes of the April 27, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees
- 2.06 The Board of Trustees accepted the information collected from Intuit related to Nevada Revised Statute 386.390.
- 2.07 The Board of Trustees approved Change Order #1 to River City Plumbing for Marvin Picollo School for \$35,094.
- 2.08 The Board of Trustees approved Change Order #2 to Bid #21-57-B-02-DA, Exterior Paint and Guard Replacement, at Archie Clayton Middle School to Houston Smith Construction, Inc. for \$231,569.62.
- 2.09 The Board of Trustees awarded Bid #22-06-B-07-AA, Boiler Room Gas Solenoid Valve Additions at 28 Washoe County School District Sites, to S & S Mechanical LLC for \$527,400.
- 2.10 The Board of Trustees approved the award of Bid #07-B-07-22-JP, Certain Can Liners, to Ferguson Enterprises in the estimated amount of \$34,440, to Mega Link Dist. in the estimated amount of \$133,935 for an estimated

total of \$168,375 for a term of one (1) year beginning September 15, 2021 and ending September 14, 2022 with four (4) optional one (1) year renewals.

- 2.11 The Board of Trustees approved the Agreement for Professional Consultant Services between H&K Architects & Washoe County School District for the Agreement for Professional Consultant Services for the Seismic Feasibility Study for the Archie Clayton Middle School Gym and the Earl Wooster High School Gym and Buildings A&B in the amount of \$99,500.
 - 2.12 The Board of Trustees approved the Agreement for Professional Architectural Design Services between Architects Plus & Washoe County School District for design of Single Point Entry Improvements at (12) schools (referenced above) in the amount of \$124,800.
 - 2.13 The Board of Trustees approved the Independent Contractor Agreement between the Washoe County School District and the Food Bank of Northern Nevada to provide meals to students in the 21st Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC)/Team Up after school programs in the amount of \$112,500.
 - 2.14 The Board of Trustees approved the Memorandum of Understanding between the Washoe County School District and the Washoe School Principals' Association providing for approval of a fixed, range 42 placement for the principal position at Truckee Meadows Community College (TMCC) High School and North Star Online School.
 - 2.15 The Board of Trustees provided final approval to the proposed revision of Board Policy 4110, Talent Acquisition.
 - 2.16 The Board of Trustees provided final approval to the proposed revision of Board Policy 4117, Licensed Employee Probation and Evaluation.
 - 2.18 The Board of Trustees provided final approval to the proposed revisions to Board Policy 4160, Mandatory Self-Reporting by Employees: Arrest, Charge or Conviction of a Crime.
- 2.04 **APPROVAL OF THE APPOINTMENT OF JOE RODRIGUEZ, WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES, AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF CONTROL OF THE NEVADA INTERSCHOLASTIC ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION (NIAA) FROM THE WASHOE COUNTY**

**SCHOOL DISTRICT, TO FILL THE SEAT VACATED BY ANDREW CAUDILL,
WITH A TERM EXPIRING JUNE 30, 2022**

**2.05 APPROVAL OF THE APPOINTMENT OF BETH SMITH, WASHOE COUNTY
SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES, AS THE LIAISON FROM THE
WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT TO THE TRUCKEE MEADOWS
REGIONAL PLANNING GOVERNING BOARD THROUGH THE REMAINDER
OF 2021 TO FILL THE SEAT VACATED BY KURT THIGPEN**

President Taylor opened Agenda Items 2.04 and 2.05 to be heard at the same time.

Trustee Church expressed his frustration that he was not consulted or considered for either appointment.

President Taylor explained she made the decision to recommend the appointments remain with the electoral seat since it was so close to the end of the year.

President Taylor opened the meeting to public comment.

Janet Butcher stated she was identifying as Martha Washington and that President Taylor should have asked if other Trustees were interested in serving on the committees.

Roger Edwards remarked the president of the Board should reflect the will of the group and not establish precedent or procedures. He felt the Board should decide who served on committees, not a single person.

Debbie Hudgens agreed with the prior speakers and felt Trustee Church should have been considered for at least one of the appointments because of his experience and seniority on the Board.

Bev Stenjem called for President Taylor to resign because she did not consider Trustee Church for either of the appointments.

Valerie Fiannaca agreed with Mr. Edwards and felt President Taylor and the other Trustees were showing a lack of respect for Trustee Church.

John Eppolito agreed with the prior comments. He felt Board appointments to external groups should be done differently in the future.

Pablo Nava Duran expressed support for the appointment of Trustee Rodriguez to the Nevada Interscholastic Athletics Association Board of Control. He understood Trustee Rodriguez had a background in athletics and the appointment was appropriate.

It was moved by Trustee Minetto and seconded by Trustee Nicolet that **the Board of Trustees Agenda Items 2.04 and 2.05.**

President Taylor opened the motion for discussion.

Trustee Church read from Board Policy 9055 that the Board President had the ability to appoint Trustees to committees; however, he would like to see the Trustees being asked if they were interested in serving and that the item should not be under the Consent Agenda.

The result of the vote was 5-1: (Yea: Ellen Minetto, Diane Nicolet, Joe Rodriguez, Beth Smith, and Angela Taylor. Nay: Jeff Church.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

2.17 POSSIBLE ACTION TO PROVIDE FINAL APPROVAL TO THE PROPOSED REVISIONS OF BOARD POLICY 4125, EMPLOYEE RECORDS, SPECIFICALLY CHANGES TO CONFORM TO ADOPTED BOARD POLICY FORMAT, AND LANGUAGE CONVENTION

Trustee Church stated he would not be voting for the proposed revisions because he believed additional transparency was needed for employee records. He indicated there were a number of Board Policies that dealt with employee records and the Board should look to consolidate all policies because there were too many for people to follow.

It was moved by Trustee Minetto and seconded by Trustee Rodriguez that **the Board of Trustees provides final approval to the proposed revision of Board Policy 4125, Employee Records and Information.** The result of the vote was 5-1: (Yea: Ellen Minetto, Diane Nicolet, Joe Rodriguez, Beth Smith, and Angela Taylor. Nay: Jeff Church.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

2.19 POSSIBLE ACTION TO PROVIDE FINAL APPROVAL TO THE PROPOSED REVISIONS OF BOARD POLICY 4214, DRUG FREE WORKPLACE, SPECIFICALLY CHANGES TO CONFORM TO ADOPTED BOARD POLICY FORMAT AND LANGUAGE CONVENTION

Trustee Church mentioned he did not believe the proposed changes went far enough and he would like to see more information included related to treatment and support. He would also be interested in seeing the ability of the District to conduct drug testing on employees and students.

Superintendent McNeill provided information on the Employee Assistance Program that provided opportunities for employees to ask for help and seek treatment. Depending on the services requested, the program was free of charge.

It was moved by Trustee Rodriguez and seconded by Trustee Nicolet that **the Board of Trustees provides final approval to the proposed revision of Board Policy 4214, Drug Free Workplace.** The result of the vote was 5-1: (Yea: Ellen Minetto, Diane Nicolet, Joe Rodriguez, Beth Smith, and Angela Taylor. Nay: Jeff Church.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

2.20 APPROVAL FOR THE OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL TO APPEAL THE DECISION IN THE WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT VERSUS WASHOE COUNTY LITIGATION RELATED TO THE INCLINE VILLAGE TAX CASE

Trustee Church requested additional information on the appeal process. Neil Rombardo, Chief General Counsel, explained the next steps in the appeal process related to the legal case against Washoe County regarding the Incline Village Property Tax Settlement.

Trustee Church indicated he would be interested in waiting for additional information before making a final decision on an appeal.

Trustee Nicolet wondered when the residents of Incline Village would begin to be paid. Mr. Rombardo stated the reimbursement checks had already started to go out.

Trustee Church asked when the District would see any losses to revenue. Mr. Rombardo mentioned the District received revenue from Washoe County on a quarterly basis. He recommended approval of a possible appeal due to the workload of the Board over the coming months and the upcoming holiday season.

It was moved by Trustee Smith and seconded by Trustee Rodriguez that **the Board of Trustees approves the appeal.** The result of the vote was Unanimous: (Yea: Jeff Church, Ellen Minetto, Diane Nicolet, Joe Rodriguez, Beth Smith, and Angela Taylor.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

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

3.01 WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT BRIDGE YEAR REPORTING OF 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR METRICS RELATED TO THE FOLLOWING GOALS AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO PROVIDE DIRECTION TO UPDATE OR REVISE ASSOCIATED 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR RESPONSE TO RECOVERY MEASURABLE OUTCOMES AS NEEDED: GOAL 4, PROVIDE AND CONTINUOUSLY IMPROVE OPERATIONAL SYSTEMS THAT ARE EFFECTIVE, EFFICIENT, TRANSPARENT, AND ACCOUNTABLE BY USING MEANINGFUL STRUCTURES AND PROCESSES

The Board of Trustees received a presentation on the measurable outcomes related to Goal 4 of the Bridge Year Strategic Plan for the 2020-21 School Year. Information on Objective 4.3, Transportation; Objective 4.4, Facilities Management; Objective 4.5, Nutrition Services; and Objective 4.6, Information Technology, was reviewed. The successes and barriers to achieving metrics were presented.

Trustee Smith requested clarification of the definition of "accident" and who came up with the definition. Scott Lee, Director of Transportation, explained the District had come up with the definition and based it on if an incident could have been reasonably prevented.

Trustee Church wondered why schools were still considered overcrowded when additional portables had been added to schools. Adam Searcy, Chief Facilities Management Officer, stated the base capacity of the school would not change with the addition of portable classrooms because the capacity of common areas in the schools, such as the library or cafeteria, did not change.

Trustee Rodriguez asked if someone with prior experience in a particular area was required to start of the base salary. Pete Etchart, Chief Operating Officer, indicated staff would work with the Office of Human Resources to determine if an individual should be started at higher step.

Trustee Nicolet wondered if IT provided assistance to students enrolled in North Star Online Academy. Dr. Chris Turner, Chief Information Office, mentioned staff did provide assistance if the device the student utilized was District-issued. The District did have a family technology support line that could be used and District staff would provide some assistance if they had a problem with a non-District issued device.

President Taylor opened the meeting to public comment.

Pablo Nava Duran thanked the Board and District staff for their work on safety measures for students and staff. He appreciated the actions and conversations surrounding school overcrowding because they had led to a number of solutions.

John Eppolito expressed concern over the metrics under Objective 4.6. He felt there were too many devices being used by students and the amount of data being collected on the students because no one knew how the information could be used against the students in the future. He would be interested in hearing a discussion by the Board on if technology helped or harmed students.

It was moved by Trustee Nicolet and seconded by Trustee Minetto that **the Board of Trustees accepts the updated measurable outcomes as presented relating to**

Goal 4, Objectives 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, and 4.6 of the Bridge Year Strategic Plan. The result of the vote was Unanimous: (Yea: Jeff Church, Ellen Minetto, Diane Nicolet, Joe Rodriguez, Beth Smith, and Angela Taylor.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

President Taylor recessed the meeting for 25 minutes.

3.02 **PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ON REDISTRICTING FOR THE TRUSTEE DISTRICTS FOLLOWING THE 2020 UNITED STATES CENSUS AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO ADOPT PRINCIPLES TO GUIDE ANY POTENTIAL CHANGES TO DISTRICT BOUNDARIES**

The Board of Trustees received a presentation on the preliminary population numbers from the 2020 United States Census and the guiding principles the District was interested in using when looking at possible changes to Trustee election districts based on population.

President Taylor opened the meeting to public comment.

Pablo Nava Duran thanked staff for the information provided. He felt the changes to electoral districts should be non-partisan and not based on the number of registered voters from any political party. He urged the Board to approve the proposed Redistricting Principles.

President Taylor thanked staff for the information and the recommendation related to the Redistricting Principles because it made the process easier for the Trustees.

Trustee Nicolet requested clarification on “similar or common interests or affinities” and what that meant. Lindsay Anderson, Director of Government Relations, explained the terms had been used in legal challenges related to the redistricting process. The intent was that there was some other similar or common interest groups had that would show why they should be grouped together. Neil Rombardo, Chief General Counsel, provided additional context related to changing a line that would divide a neighborhood that had a large common interest, such as the area surrounding the new Proctor R. Hug High School.

Trustee Smith asked how the information on possible changes would be provided to the community. Ms. Anderson mentioned the District did not have immediate plans to contact families since specific changes had not been considered and the intent was to provide options to the Board for consideration. The District did have information regarding redistricting on the website.

It was moved by Trustee Smith and seconded by Trustee Minetto that **the Board of Trustees approves Redistricting Principles as outlined by staff in order to**

move forward in the required updating of Trustee Districts A-G in accordance with Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 386.165. The result of the vote was Unanimous: (Yea: Jeff Church, Ellen Minetto, Diane Nicolet, Joe Rodriguez, Beth Smith, and Angela Taylor.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

4. Reports

4.02 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

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

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

3.03 DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO REVIEW AND PROVIDE DIRECTION ON CURRENT COVID-19 MITIGATION MEASURES IN EFFECT FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR INCLUDING FACILITIES MANAGEMENT, TRANSPORTATION, STAFF AND STUDENT EXCLUSIONS, AND FACE COVERINGS FOR DISTRICT FACILITIES AND SCHOOL SITES BASED ON CURRENT FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL GUIDANCE

The Board of Trustees received an update on the current community risk of COVID-19 and the continued supports being provided to the schools. The collaborative efforts with the Washoe County Health District continued and both groups were working on understanding expectations and changing guidance provided to schools regarding contact tracing. The District was not seeking any changes to current direction regarding mitigation measures.

President Taylor opened the meeting to public comment.

Katie Kunze was a teacher at Greenbrae Elementary School and provided her personal experience as to what was occurring in the classrooms and schools. She emphasized she was not pressured to provide comments to the Board but wanted to reassure them and the community the students were following the rules and mask breaks provided throughout the day.

Victoria Myer remarked that only 10 states had schools with mask mandates. She believed students and parents were afraid to report harassment and abuse by District staff in the schools regarding COVID, masks, and vaccinations. She provided examples of what she had heard was occurring in the classrooms and with athletes.

Cindy Martinez expressed concern and frustration over the required use of masking, vaccination, and social distancing requirements. She claimed the mainstream media

was misrepresenting what was actually occurring in the hospitals related to overcrowding and lack of beds.

Pablo Nava Duran expressed support President Biden's message to have businesses with 100 or more employees to require vaccines. He urged the Board to consider implementing a vaccine mandate for District employees.

The Board received emails from the following:

Morgan Kolvet

William Lynch

Kristin McAfee

Jack Banks

Trustee Minetto expressed her thanks and appreciation for the work of staff during the pandemic. She knew everyone in the District had taken on additional duties and responsibilities and wanted them to all know how much their actions were appreciated.

Trustee Church noted the number of cases was continuing to track upwards. He wondered if the District should consider closing schools because the data showed Washoe County was at or near the same levels of cases during the peak of the pandemic. He asked if there was a point where staff would recommend closing the schools. Dr. Paul LaMarca, Chief Strategies Officer, stated the District was doing everything they could to keep schools open safely. Isolation took a toll on students, staff, and families during full distance learning and the hybrid model. His recommendation was to keep kids in school as much as possible, as long as it could be done safely. It was important to remember the economy was also open, which was not the case when schools were initially closed. If schools were to close or a student excluded, someone would need to be home with the younger students.

Superintendent McNeill noted the Board had adopted guiding principles as part of the *Response to Recovery*. One of those principles was to keep schools open as much as possible because in-person learning was the best overall for students. The mitigation practices and protocols were the best way to keep schools open.

Trustee Nicolet expressed concern over the increase in cases in children 0 – 4 years of age and wondered what the impacts were on the youngest students in the District and their teachers. Dr. LaMarca mentioned the District had seen very few cases in District-sponsored preschool classes; however, he would provided additional information to the Trustees through the Superintendent on the exact numbers.

Trustee Church remarked that he was not advocating for the closing of schools, but in spite of all the mitigation measures, cases were increasing in Washoe County.

Student Representative Batmale indicated there was a lot of confusion among students who were not athletes and if there were opportunities for them to get tested. Dr. LaMarca noted the District was working on providing testing to additional students because there was confusion and it was not easy for non-student-athletes to get tested at the present time.

4. Reports

4.01 BOARD REPORTS

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

4.03 SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

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

5. Closing Items

5.01 PUBLIC COMMENT

Shelly Bradley spoke against Critical Race Theory and social justice being taught in schools because she believed it was Marxism. She stated the parents had the right to decide what their children were taught, and they did not agree with the students being indoctrinated.

Terri Donohue was a grandparent of four students in the District. She felt the Board was following the direction of what those who provided money to the District wanted and not what the people wanted. She did not believe it was appropriate for the District to teach children to hate each other and urged all grandparents to speak out about what was occurring.

Roger Edwards welcomed Trustees Rodriguez and Smith to the Board and wished the luck. He reminded the Trustees that the community was present because they cared about what was happening in the schools and that they should listen to the public.

Valerie Fiannaca urged the Board to look at the mission statement from 1958 when the Washoe County School District was formed and go back to developing each child to his intellectual capacity and develop competency in the fundamental skills and tools of learning.

Shannon Coley mentioned she had spoken with multiple teachers about the struggles they were having during the current school year because they had to bridge the gap between what students actually learned while on distance learning and what they were supposed to learn. She had heard teachers did not have time to teach math and reading and were frustrated that Superintendent McNeill was spending time for a supplemental materials task force and not on student recovery.

Katie Kunze was an elementary school teacher, urged the community members to learn about what was happening in the classrooms, and she invited the Trustees to her classroom. She spoke about how she collaborated with other teachers in her schools and how they would work together to provide the appropriate instruction levels to students so they could get back to grade levels by separating the students by level so they could all help each other. She admitted the struggles were real, but that the students knew they were loved and cared for by their teachers.

Cindy Martinez expressed concern the prior remarks because she believed the teacher had described how students were using other students to teach other and the teachers were not doing their job. She spoke against the idea of vaccine mandates because of what was happening in Israel. She found it difficult to believe former Trustee Calvert was unaware that her new residence was out of the District.

Melanie Sutton claimed District staff and coaches were harassing students and athletes to get vaccinated. She mentioned the children should not know the political leanings of the teachers.

Ruiping Sun spoke against the teaching of Critical Race Theory in the schools because he believed it was the brainwashing of children. He provided information about what his experiences were while growing up in China.

John Eppolito, Protect Nevada Children, expressed concern over the number of data breaches that had occurred in companies the District contracted with that stored student data. He did not believe there was enough concern by the Trustees over how student data could be protected and the amount of data being collected on students. He claimed the Board and District were misleading the parents on what was occurring related to student data.

Victoria Myer believed the Board was supporting the radicalization of students towards socialism, including the segregation of students. She urged parents to pull their children out of the District because of what was occurring related to COVID mandates and what was being taught in schools.

Cathy Kennedy Reyes claimed the Board and District were responding to fear tactics related to COVID and the students had lost a year of school because of it. She asked

how the Board planned to increase grades and test scores in the District because it seemed all they wanted to focus on was social justice.

Donald Gallimore stated he had worked with the Nevada Legislature to develop a multicultural curriculum that would provide Nevada students with an appropriate education and understanding of history. He highlighted Critical Race Theory was not included as part of the curriculum and was not something that existed outside of graduate level classes in higher education. He urged the Board to listen to Mr. Eppolito related to data collection.

Petra Niederberger appreciated the members of the community who attended the meeting to speak their minds, even when they knew their viewpoints were in the minority of those in attendance. She thanked the Trustees for bringing the concerns of the parents to the meeting. She urged the Trustees to conduct a town hall meeting to allow for a dialogue between the Board and community.

Kristin Shates was a teacher at Greenbrae Elementary School and worked alongside Ms. Kunze. She thanked the Board and Superintendent McNeill for their support and willingness to listen to the concerns of teachers and school staff. She reminded the community that the Washoe County School District opened the schools last year, when so many other school districts remained closed or on full distance learning. She noted there were gaps in what students needed to learn, but everyone was working to close those gaps and get all the students to grade level. She clarified that students were pulled from other classes and grouped with other students of similar proficiency levels so the students could be provided with the appropriate lessons for their academic level.

The Board received emails from the following:

- Pablo Nava Duran
- Gloria Martin
- Viola Guzman
- MariLou
- Brittany Bland
- Lindsey Radford-Price

5.02 **NEXT MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT**

The next Regular Meeting would take place on Tuesday, September 28, 2021

5.03 **ADJOURN MEETING**

There being no further business to come before the members of the Board, President Taylor declared the meeting adjourned at 6:41 p.m.

Angela D. Taylor, President

Diane Nicolet, Clerk

From: Pablo Nava Duran
Sent: Thursday, September 9, 2021 7:19 PM
To: Public Comments; Jeffrey.Church@washoeschool.net; Smith, Elizabeth A; BoardMembers@washoeschool.net
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting and Northwest Reno zoning

Dear Board Members,

I wanted to inform you that I will not be attending the WCSD board meeting on Tuesday September 16th, but I will attend Zoning committee meeting in next Thursday September 18th in Verdi. Since Beth Smith left the Zoning Committee for becoming board member, the zoning committee need to find the replacement to replace her. Also, I hear rumor about redistricting Board of Trustees on district map that can affect my neighborhood (Neil Road Area). In this email, I will take about North west Reno rezoning, replacement for chairman/woman for Zoning Committee, and redistricting for biard members.

In package of zoning committee, these are area who live in 4th street corridor who currently zoned for Verdi ES and Billinghamst MS, but split to go to Reno HS that is vertical realignment problematic; and they travel nine miles to go to Verdi ES, but travel nine miles to high school is fine, for elementary school is not very fine for very young students whi have to travel long distance to school. Rezoning to Roy Gromm ES and Swope MS is a best options for students at they can go to school closer, emililate split feeder in HS and better vertical realignment up to Reno HS. I would like other options for west 4th street corridor students to what does the number look like if these students rezoning to Warner ES and Clayton MS instead, similar to opening of Desert Skies MS rezoning. Warner ES feed to Clayton MS, but I don't know which HS could Warner ES goes to. Gromm ES will be relieved by taking sixth graders to Swope MS next school year and moving GT program to other school. Swope MS is currently underutilized and there are space for 4th street corridor students. Additional, there are area whi split feeder for HS in Southern Verdi area. They currently zoned for Verdi ES and Billinghamst MS but they zoned for Reno HS. Since addition Huffaker ES, Reno HS is getting overcrowding, and need to relieve and eliminate split feeder by rezoning southern Verdi area to McQueen HS.

In Clayton MS area, there are split feeder among elementary schools that split to different HS. Clayton MS are split three HS (McQueen, Reno, and Hug HS). North of Mccarran and Southern Panther Valley there currently zoned for Peavine/Elmcrust ES, Clayton MS, and Hug HS, that is a vertical realignment problem. It make sense to rezoning Southern Panther Valley area from Peavine/Elmcrust ES and Clayton MS to Lemelson ES and Traner MS to have better realignment though HS. Lemelson ES and Trainer MS are Hug feeder schools and reduce Clayton MS split to two HS (McQueen and Reno HS).

Since Beth Smith resigned as a ZAC chairwoman for Board of Trustee, zoning committee need to have new chairman/woman to replace her. I will speak about replacement of chairman/woman and I will announce my top three candidates or zoning members who should be chairman/woman or vice chairman/woman.

Since the 2020 census is over, there are talk about redistricting Board of Trustees district map. I did saw the district map and it does not make sense. I live in District A and F at-large and Neil Road area is gerrymandering and divided between district A/D. Here my proposal for redistricting: District A and D: rezone Huffaker area from District A to District D (Holcomb Ranch Ln) exchange for rezone Meadowood area from District D to District A; rezone rest of Neil Road area from District D to District A to eliminate gerrymandering. As the South Reno is growing rapidly, rezone Donner Springs and Hidden Valley area from District A to District D to equal population. District A and E: rezone rest of Verdi area from District A to District E. District B and D: rezone south of I-80 from District B to District D. District B, C, and E: rezone rest of Sun Valley and Wildcreek area from District C and E to District B. District C and E: rezone North Valleys area (except Panther Valley area) from District E to District C. District D and E: rezone North of 1-80 from District D to District E.

District F and G: rezone Brown area (Southern Damonte Ranch area) from District F to District G. Remain South Virginia is divided (East - District F/ West District G). Here my prediction for redistricting for next ten years.

Sincerely,

Pablo Nava Duran

From: Morgan Kolvet
Sent: Friday, September 10, 2021 12:28 PM
To: kmcneill@washoeshools.net
Cc: Covington, Tami; BoardMembers; Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Discrimination- Masks - CDC Recommendations

Good afternoon,

I am emailing you regarding discrimination regarding the illegal mask mandate.

As parents we are having to fight for our children since the "heads" of WCSD are refusing to protect the children's best interest. In doing that, my children have the right to breathe fresh air and not be subjected to breathing in constant bacteria in a heavy material mask.

My children and many others I've seen have been given mesh material face coverings that cover their nose and mouth, which satisfies the governors illegal directive.

However, there is NO existing law that requires a mask for one, two with this mandate there is NO law that states what the material must be. The CDC Website "recommends" many different styles which includes even plastic face shields which many schools are allowing; especially the charter and private schools.

I have brought this up with my daughters Principal and his response was:

The following is the directive given to me by WCSD:

"Students and staff must wear masks that are made of some kind of fabric, unless they have a medical exemption that has been approved through Health Services or Risk Management. Decorative masks that are see-through/mesh do not meet the requirement of wearing a mask."

This is another over step by WCSD as the governors mandate does not specify this. Which is why I assume it's not publicly posted, nor did the district send this out to all parents. It would go against the directive.

Additionally, I asked the Principal if WCSD is going to implement "recommendations", then why are you not using the recommended proper protocols for masks across the board?

The CDC & Washoe County Health Department recommend proper protocols for mask removal to include:
Removing, folding, storing and immediately washing hands.

It was confirmed this is not the case at all, therefore you are picking and choosing what "recommendations or guidelines" to follow and are further discriminating. Many schools are picking and choosing their rules and it's harming children. You were chosen to protect our children and do what's in their best interest yet, none of the "heads" of this district seem to be fighting for what's best.

Which is why at least 3 of 4 of our children will be pulled from WCSD and encouraging many others to do the same. Private, charter, homeschool or outer districts are better options than WCSD, which is unfortunate - but it's board created.

I will be forwarding this information to the attorneys fighting for our kid's best interest however I am asking that you stop discriminating and making up your own bogus rules and inform your district employees to allow kids to wear the

face coverings their parents feel is in their best health and interest, whether that is mesh, plastic shields etc. I would hope you stop over stepping on your employees as well and allow them to wear what's best for their own health too.

Thank you.

Morgan Kolvet

From: GLORIA MARTIN
Sent: Friday, September 10, 2021 1:27 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] 9/11

Having lived outside NYC during 9/11 and experiencing the devastation to the city and our neighborhoods, never, ever did I imagine our schools would let this horrid action be forgotten, and yet, that's what has happened. Why such a relevant event is not part of every schools curriculum is incredibly unAmerican and our county, Washoe County School District, is guilty of this.

I hope this very important piece of history, so fresh and painful in so many minds, will be added to the curriculum by this seated Board Of Education.

Thank you,
Gloria Martin

*Congratulations to those teachers who stepped up to the plate and brought this to their curriculum. They should be honored by the community!

From: Guzman, Viola
Sent: Friday, September 10, 2021 7:14 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment: Plastic used in school lunches

Dear school board:

I would like to tell you about what I think is a major problem in the district. I think that Washoe County School District should use less plastic.

Plastic, we think it is an amazing resource and you can make many things out of it but look a little closer and it is deadly.

Reason one, it takes longer than a human lifetime to biodegrade. It takes 2000 years to biodegrade minimum.

Reason two, it harms us, toxic chemicals are in plastic and when the plastic is dumped into landfills or is burned those toxic chemicals get into our air, our food, and our water. This hurts us and gives us ailments.

Reason three, plastic hurts nature. Animals get tangled in plastic, eat plastic, and even get it in their noses. They are severely harmed by plastic.

Solution, we could leave plastic behind us and use recycled paper, sporks, plates, etc. This is much more environmentally friendly.

Therefore, I believe our district should use paper instead of plastic.

Take care,

Viola, 5th grade



From: William Lynch
Sent: Monday, September 13, 2021 2:59 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Un-mask the students

Please stop playing into the fear and look at some actual numbers. This virus obviously does not impact children at any significant level. Muzzling the students is far more dangerous and damaging. Let the parents decide for themselves. You are destroying children's school experience and forcing them to live in fear for no real, true, scientific reason. You should be ashamed of yourselves.

Sent from my iPhone

From: Kristin_McAfee
Sent: Monday, September 13, 2021 9:09 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Remove mask mandates and stop student exclusion

Maybe it's isn't clear to you but the use of masks is repugnant.... If you are excluding students who tested positive and those who are in close proximity, you are all but admitting that the masks don't protect anyone from anything... Because, if the masks worked then students would be able to come to school and wear their muzzle and not be afraid of getting sick or passing along the illness! But since we all know they don't work they are pointless, this is especially true if you are still planning on excluding entire classrooms or schools. Maybe it's because you were educated here in NV and critical thinking is not something that is taught, you might want to try really hard to use those few brain cells you seem to have to really try to understand basic logical concepts.

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: Jack Banks
Sent: Tuesday, September 14, 2021 4:45 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public comment

I am a longtime school bus driver two quick comments 1st is you would be able to keep drivers if you bump the pay up like the pay scale instead of a 17 bump them up to a 20 it's not fair when you have a new hire get as much as a driver who has been here for a while.

2nd with these sports teams and covid we tell them to ware a mask but none of them listen not even the coach they have mask onvbut the take them off when they sit down the coaches say nothing they and the AD'S need to be more accountable.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: marilou
Sent: Tuesday, September 14, 2021 6:09 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bus drivers

My husband is a school bus driver his bus is equipped with a out side camera I think the district should look into those cameras taking a snap shot of the license plate each time a vehicle runs a bus stop lights once these drivers start getting tickets in the mail they will think twice and its extra revenue for the school district the technology is there just try and not pay a toll at a bridge in calif. You will get that ticket in the mail. At 305\$ a ticket and the amount of people that run a school bus stop sign you do the math on what the school district can make in a year

From: Brittany Bland
Sent: Tuesday, September 14, 2021 6:18 AM
To: Public Comments
Cc: BoardMembers
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Stop social justice, minimal standard already met

Dear WCSD Board Members-

Please watch this video below from a Dad, who is a direct descendent from the North American slave trade. And please remember CRT is categorized under "Social Justice" here in Reno.

Also, just a reminder that the Social Justice standard in our school district is already fulfilled under Social Studies.

<https://youtu.be/SG3s4mkHGzI>

Thank you,
Brittany Bland